



This Tree Planting project is run by the Faringdon Churches' **EARTH & FAITH** group, supported by **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**. It is a local action against climate change, something we can all do to share our hopes for the future of the Earth. The aim is to plant a lot of trees, starting in November 2021, to coincide with the UN COP26 Climate Conference in Glasgow.

TOP TIPS for planting TREES

PLAN WELL

Choose a good space to plant.

Trees like to be in the ground. They do not flourish in a pot.

They need light and air. Do not plant them close to a building, under existing trees, or close to an existing hedge.

If the soil is poor, you can enrich it with peat-free compost.

Consider how your tree will look when full-grown, and how it will affect you and the neighbours.

Keep clear of underground cables and pipes.

CHOOSE WELL

What trees are suitable for your site? Check first how tall they will ultimately be, and how wide their branches and roots will spread.

Is your site big enough? There are plenty of attractive trees for small spaces, and if space is very tight you can choose shrubs or hedging instead. Explore your options. There is good advice from the Woodland Trust, or www.rhs.org.uk and tree nurseries.

Find a reliable supplier - always check that the tree you buy has been sourced from Great Britain or Ireland, to avoid the risk of bringing tree diseases across international boundaries. Look for Plant Healthy certification, or the OHAS Grower Standard.

When you order your tree, order some protection for it as well: a spiral guard supported by a cane for a small bare-root tree, or a stake and cage for a larger tree.

FARINGDON BRANCHES OUT is planning for tree planting to start in November, to coincide with the United Nations Climate Conference ([COP26](#)) in Glasgow, 1-12 Nov. 2021.

A GOOD TIME TO PLANT

November onwards is a good season for planting trees.

Most young trees are sold as small 'whips' with bare roots, which are easy to plant without damaging the tree. These must be planted in the winter, when the tree is dormant – any time between November and March is good if the ground is not frozen. They will be very small to start with, but they will establish well and with care they will put on good growth in a few years.

Some trees are sold with a root ball, and these can be planted in the ground at any time. They will be a few years old, and will make a difference to your site immediately. They will still need care until they are well established.

HOW TO PLANT

For a small whip, make a slit in the soil, keep the slit open with your spade, and carefully place the tree roots into it, before lifting out the spade and firming the soil gently with your foot. Add the cane and the spiral guard. Water well.

For a larger tree with a root ball, dig a hole, not very wide but deep enough to take the roots. Push the stake into the soil and water the hole. Put the root ball in the hole at the same depth it had in its pot, and fill the soil around it. Firm it down with your foot, tie the tree to the stake, and water well. Fit the protective cage around the tree.

CARE AFTER PLANTING

For the first 3 years after planting your tree will need:

Watering throughout the year, and especially in dry weather.

Weeding to keep the soil clear around the trunk.

Protection from rabbits, deer and mowers.

BRANCH OUT WITH US IN 2021!

We hope you will decide to plant a tree this winter, for Faringdon and for the planet, and that it will reward you with years of joyful connection with the living planet all around us.

We'd love to hear from you so we can see how the project is going. Tell us your plans or send us your comments or questions using one of the contact forms on the [Faringdon Branches Out web page](#)

Thank you!