



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.

PLANT A TREE IN YOUR GARDEN!

This leaflet gives you useful information to help you make a start.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW

Think about the right position for your tree.

It will need light and air to grow well – not close to the house, and not under existing trees or near an existing hedge.

Make sure your tree will not be in the way, for you or your neighbours - how wide will the branches and roots get? - and underground, think about electric cables and drains.

Before you buy a tree, check what its ultimate height will be. There are plenty of attractive trees suitable for a small garden, and good advice from the Woodland Trust, or www.rhs.org.uk and specialist tree nurseries. If your garden soil is thin and dry, dig in some peat-free compost.

Find out what the tree will be like through the different seasons. Trees may have blossom or catkins in Spring, fruit in Summer and changing leaf colour in Autumn. All trees store away carbon, filter pollution from the air, provide cool shade in hot weather, and help to stabilise the soil. Trees are also attractive to wildlife, bringing birds and butterflies and other pollinators into your garden.

WHERE TO GET A TREE, AND HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Trees for planting in winter are sold as bare-root trees, which are small 'whips' about 20 – 60 cms tall. Though very small to start with, they are easy to plant without damaging the roots. They establish well in winter when the ground is damp (but do not plant in frost) and they will put on good height in a few years.

The Woodland Trust sells bare-root trees online. Prices start under £10. **APPLY NOW** for trees to plant this winter.

Local nurseries and garden centres may sell young trees that are a few years old, costing £20 and upwards. 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.

If you are part of a residents' association you may be able to get a pack of FREE trees to share with neighbours. See our leaflet:
TREES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS / BUSINESSES

HOW TO PLANT YOUR TREE

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.

CARING FOR YOUR TREE

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 the lawnmower.

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!