

Greenwood

news release

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Greenwood Grant To Plant Trees For Shade

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Autumn is almost here and it's time to start thinking about the tree planting season. Now with climate change predictions, it's even more important that we plant trees to provide shade and help lower summer temperatures close to buildings and in school grounds.

This year the Greenwood Community Tree Planting Grant scheme will focus more on helping schools and community groups plant trees for shade by offering funding of up to £250 per project.

The Trees for Shade project will have two main elements.

- *General tree planting* around playgrounds and school playing fields. The benefits include filtering UV light, reducing temperatures and providing safe, cool areas for play and outdoor study.
- *Targeted Planting* close to buildings, which will help reduce summertime temperatures in classrooms and around school buildings. This will provide a more comfortable working environment and reduce the need for energy hungry air conditioners.

The Trees for Shade project is an important step forward in adapting to climate change as scientists predict that by 2080, the average temperature will be 4° C higher, which will make us feel pretty uncomfortable as well as affecting our health.

Trees can help by providing shade and have a cooling effect through transpiration, which is water evaporating from tree leaves and other vegetation. Studies show that a 10% increase in tree cover can reduce temperatures in urban areas by up to 4° C.

Continued

To be eligible projects should lie within Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield or Newark & Sherwood and be on publicly accessible land.

Application forms for the 2009/10 planting season (November to March) are now available from the Greenwood team. Contact 01623 827322 or visit our website www.greenwoodforest.org.uk. Don't worry if you are not sure what you would like from your planting scheme as advice is available. The deadline for applications is 12th December, but we encourage groups and schools to apply early as funding is limited.

Over the last eight years, Greenwood Community Tree Planting Grants have helped groups and schools to plant over 10,000 trees and shrubs in over 100 tree planting projects, which have helped to improve the local landscape, enhance biodiversity and provide outdoor classrooms and orchards.

Ends

Further information contact Nic Wort on 01623 827328 or email nic.wort@nottscc.gov.uk

Images of last year's tree-planting events are available