

# England's Community Forests

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## Trees for Climate case study

- Greenwood Community Forest
- Rainworth, Nottinghamshire
- Rufford No 3 Pit Tip
- Partners: Nottinghamshire County Council, Lockhart Garrett, Thomson Environmental



Fencing at Scale

### Rufford Tree Planting

Greenwood Community Forest ramps up woodland creation programme

Rufford is a restored former colliery pit tip owned by Nottinghamshire County Council on the outskirts of Rainworth with far reaching views across Sherwood Forest. The site was restored in the 70's to a mix of woodland and low-grade agricultural grassland.

A mixed native broadleaved woodland has been established to increase biodiversity, lock up carbon and provide new habitats for wildlife. Other future benefits include improve water quality and potential for public access. The planting scheme will also help Nottinghamshire County Council reach the target to plant 250,000 trees as part of their corporate environment plan.

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 **Greenwood**  
*Nottinghamshire's Community Forest bringing Sherwood Forest to your doorstep*

  
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## Summary of the project

- Rufford No 3, a former colliery pit tip was identified as an area that would benefit from woodland creation following a review of Nottinghamshire County Council land. A 16ha scheme was put together by the Greenwood team with help from Lockhart Garrett the ambition of improving biodiversity by connecting habitats and the creation of a new native broadleaved woodland.
- Combined with the wet winter weather, issues with tree supplies and limited contractor availability, there was a short time frame to deliver the scheme from completing the fencing to getting trees in the ground. With the help of Thomson Environmental Consultants and careful site supervision, the Greenwood team ensured the site was successfully established and met all the criteria required in the planning stage.
- Over 20,000 trees and shrubs have been planted across the site including oak, rowan, willow, hawthorn, blackthorn, holly and silver birch. These will provide shelter for wildlife, nesting and foraging habitats for birds and bats and fuel for timber in future years. Grass paths will benefit public access and there are links to the Sustrans route and Sherwood Forest to the north.
- Cllr Adams , the council’s Environment Ambassador said: “I was delighted to pick up a spade and plant the first tree – an oak tree – as this fantastic project at the old Rufford Colliery gets underway. When we consulted on our Council Plan, the public told us that the environment is really important and that’s why we have pledged to plant 250,000 new trees across Nottinghamshire in the next five years.”

## Project impact

### Natural flood management and water quality:

Tree planting at Rufford will help to retain water within the landscape, slowing down run-off and helping to improve water quality and natural flood management

### Public access and management:

The land is owned by Nottinghamshire County Council and will be managed by the NCC Greenspace team, creating public access opportunities and enjoyment of the countryside in the future

### Enhancing wildlife:

Establishing woodland in the place of low-grade agricultural grassland, the mixture broadleaves with open space will help to enhance the area for wildlife and provide connectivity with adjacent woodlands, providing more places for nature and biodiversity to thrive.

### Contribution to Net Zero:

This scheme contributes to nature-based solutions as part of an array of actions needed to reach the UK government target of net zero carbon by 2050.



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Councillor Mike Adams planting the first tree at Rufford with Nick Tucker, Greenwood Community Forest

## Contact details

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