



Plant a Tree for our Future



Climate change is happening and rapidly and it affects us all, so we could actively be doing something to stop it or at least slow it down. It is time for the WI to take action. So, the Home and Garden Sub-Committee, with the approval of the Executive, is spearheading a project to fight climate change which will be carried out in two parts:

- All the Institutes will be asked to encourage and advise its members on how to reduce their carbon emissions - more of this later.
- Plant a Tree campaign

We are asking **every** member of WINI to plant a tree in their own, a friends or family's garden, or failing that in a pot.

The Institutes are asked not only to co-ordinate this in their locality but to seek land in which they can plant multiple trees at least one for each of their members.

Areas can bring together their Institutes to plant trees.

We are working with the Woodland Trust, who will advise on and supply the trees at a subsidised cost.

The challenge is to plant 10,000 trees.

Celebrate our 90th Anniversary by doing so.

Plant a Tree



The Woodland Trust advises that native, deciduous trees be planted. It can supply silver birch, hazel, rowan, crab apple and wild cherry saplings at a subsidised cost of 50p each. These trees are easily managed and require little maintenance. The hazel and crab apple will do well in a pot. The Trust will provide information on these trees and on where to plant them. The saplings are about 600 mm, 2ft, tall and so are easily handled and do not require stakes

What to Do

***Members** look for a suitable spot to plant a tree/s. Get your friends and family involved Give your

Institute the order for your saplings.

*** Institutes** encourage all your members to plant a tree, complete the order form for saplings and return with payment to Federation House by 13th August 2021.

***Look** for suitable ground in your locality to plant trees or a copse.

***Speak** to your Local Council and ask them for suitable land to plant trees, let us know as the Woodland Trust can help with the supply of the trees.

***Tell** your local media and ourselves what you are doing, send in photos.

We will place the order with the Woodland Trust and when the saplings arrive mid-Autumn, for planting from November, they will go to distribution points throughout the country for collection.

Those members who are in the farming community have a big role to play by encouraging landowners to plant trees. For areas over 0.2 hectares the Small Woodlands Grant is available from DEARA. which



cover the cost of the planting and provides a fixed income for ten years. The Woodland Trust can provide advice on the benefits of trees for farming and can give support though farm plans and help with grant applications.

Why Trees

Our most powerful weapon against climate change: trees

Trees are the ultimate carbon capture and storage machines. Like great carbon sinks, woods and forests absorb atmospheric carbon and lock it up for centuries. They do this through photosynthesis.

The entire woodland ecosystem plays a huge role in locking up carbon, including the living wood, roots, leaves, deadwood, surrounding soils and its associated vegetation.

**400+ tonnes
carbon per hectare**

That's how much a young wood with mixed native species can lock up in trees, roots and soil.

Putting a value on trees

In the UK, the value of trees for flood protection is estimated to be £6.5 billion, and £6.1 billion for urban cooling.

And trees do more than just capture carbon. They also fight the cruel effects of a changing climate. They can help:

Prevent flooding

Reduce city temperature

Reduce pollution

Keep soil nutrient-rich

It's not just new woodland. Carbon accumulation continues in woodland that's centuries old. Old-growth forests are actually carbon sinks, contrary to the long-standing view that they are carbon neutral.

Woods are our allies in the fight against a changing climate, yet just 13% of the UK's land area is covered by trees (compared with an EU average of 37%).

The bottom line is, we need more trees and we need to protect the ones we already have.



**WOODLAND TRUST
NORTHERN IRELAND**

We are the Woodland Trust in Northern Ireland and we stand up for woods and trees, looking after 50 woods across the country.

At only 8%, Northern Ireland has the lowest percentage woodland cover in Europe so we have planting projects throughout the country, our latest being a 98ha site on the Belfast Hills.

One of our key aims is to provide havens for wildlife resulting in the landscape becoming more resilient for native flora and fauna too.

We aim to protect and restore ancient woodland, create new woodland for people, nature and climate.

Find more information on:

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/northern-ireland

***Trees are a thing of beauty which
enhance our landscape.
They are our legacy for the future.***



ORDER FORM

Institute: _____ Area: _____

Name: _____

Email/phone _____

Species	Number	Total (Subsidised Cost 50p each)
Crab Apple		
Hazel		
Rowan		
Silver Birch		
Wild Cherry		
	Total	

Please return with your cheque for the total
£....., to Federation House by **13th August 2021**.

We will notify you when they are ready for collection.

Copies of this form can be found on the WI website and Facebook.