Woodland Creation
Planting for the future

How trees benefit your farm business

What support is available?

There are a range of incentives available for planting trees in England and carbon sequestration. These include:

**Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG):**
- Provides support to produce a UK Forestry Standard compliant woodland creation design plan for proposals of at least 10 ha.

**Countryside Stewardship – Woodland Creation Grant (WCG):**
- Up to £6,800 per ha
- Minimum planting area of 3 ha per application (1 ha per application for planting to improve water quality or slow flood flows)

**Countryside Stewardship - Woodland Creation Maintenance Payment**
- 10 years of £200 per ha per year maintenance payments (invite only following successful WCG planting)

**Woodland Carbon Fund (WCF):**
- Up to £6,800 per ha (up to £8,500 per ha in priority places if public access is allowed)
- At least 10 ha in one block
- A one-off payment of £1,000 per ha is available in year 5 following successful establishment

**Woodland Carbon Code (WCC):**
- Provides a standard way to measure the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) your woodland stores

**Woodland Carbon Guarantee (WCG):**
- Provides the option to sell your captured CO₂ to the government for a guaranteed price every 5 or 10 years up to 2055/56
- Offers an additional long-term income from your woodland

Visit [www.gov.uk/guidance/create-woodland-overview](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-woodland-overview) for more information on the grants and incentives available.

Who can help?

The Forestry Commission
Your local Forestry Commission Woodland Officer can help with:
- Information and support about grants
- Expert advice on woodlands
To find your local Woodland Officer, visit: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/forestry-commission/about/access-and-opening](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/forestry-commission/about/access-and-opening)

Catchment Sensitive Farming partnership
Your local Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer can also help with:
- Training and advice to reduce water and air pollution from agriculture
- Support for applications for Countryside Stewardship (CS) grants to improve water and air quality. For further information on CS grants visit: [www.gov.uk/rpa/cs](http://www.gov.uk/rpa/cs)
To find your local Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer, visit: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/catchment-sensitive-farming-officer-contacts](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/catchment-sensitive-farming-officer-contacts)

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Or search for #catchmentsensitivefarming to see the latest from the Catchment Sensitive Farming team.

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- Generate income from timber, woodfuel, fruit, nuts and tourism
- Provide shade and shelter for livestock
- Reduce soil and nutrient losses
- Store carbon to help combat climate change
- Create new habitats for wildlife
- Reduce flood risk
**Creating income from trees**

In the early years, you can sell the carbon your woodland stores and generate income from wood fuel from thinning and coppicing, adding value by supplying quality woodchips or substituting this for heating oil. Longer term, benefit from timber production. Trees also allow you to diversify your income via recreation and tourism and can increase the capital value of your farm.

1. **Upland woodland stores rainwater – reducing flood risk downstream**
2. **Timber and woodfuel production generates farm income**
3. **New woods buffer water from field activities and connect ancient woodland**
4. **Trees shelter livestock from sun and severe weather**
5. **Locating simple leaky woody dams in woodlands in the upper catchment helps slow run-off**
6. **Well located new woods on chalk hills help to improve drinking water quality**
7. **Trees provide dappled shade to keep rivers cool for fish**
8. **Hedges with trees and hedgebanks slow run-off and provide wildlife habitat**
9. **Woodland and tree shelter belts capture ammonia emissions from livestock sheds**
10. **New woodland filters run-off from the farmyard**
11. **Trees and woodland provide a thriving wildlife habitat**
12. **Trees stabilise river banks and provide important new habitat**
13. **Planting new woodlands in field corners is a good use of space, especially if they lie wet or flood prone**
14. **Agroforestry or orchards give opportunities for livestock grazing, woodland hens, or growing fruit and nut trees alongside crops**
15. **Trees planted across the slope capture soil run-off from fields**
16. **Woodland or short rotation coppice are viable crops and can be planted on fields prone to flooding**
17. **Trees along watercourses capture eroding soils and nutrients, buffering the river**

**Where could trees fit on your farm?**

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**Reducing flood risk**

Woodland in the right place slows the flow of water and reduces flood peaks by up to 65%. Upland woodland can increase storage capacity by capturing more rainwater than grassland, and floodplain woodland can temporarily store floodwater – both reducing the risk of flooding downstream.

**Protecting soil, water and air**

Even small areas of strategic tree planting can bring huge benefits. Located along rivers, trees can reduce pollutant losses to water by reducing: sediment 90-100%, nutrients 20-80%, pesticides 60-100%. Tree shelter belts also reduce soil blow and can capture 10-25% ammonia from slurry stores and livestock housing.

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