

# How to generate carbon units in England and help tackle climate change through woodland creation, if you want to **retain management of your land.**

**1**  
Do you own (or plan to buy) land suitable for woodland creation?

YES

**2**  
Do you have a legal obligation to create woodland on that site?

NO

If this route doesn't work for you, take a look at our [other carbon routes](#) on GOV.UK to see if you are eligible.

**3**  
Consider working with a [project developer](#) to help with your woodland carbon project and preparation of the required documents.

**4**  
Is the woodland creation project eligible for grant support?

YES

Contact your [local Woodland Creation team](#) to discuss funding options, such as the [England Woodland Creation Offer](#).

Develop a [UK Forestry Standard](#) compliant woodland creation plan(s) following Environmental Impact Assessment regulations.

NO

**5**  
Check your eligibility for the [Woodland Carbon Code investment additionality test](#) (with/without grant support).

**6**  
Is the project likely to pass the investment additionality test? (checked at validation).

NO

Consider reducing the grant support (if relevant) or varying the woodland creation proposal (e.g. species composition, woodland design etc).

YES

Register your project and/or group with the [Woodland Carbon Code](#) before any woodland creation activity takes place.

**7**  
Would you like the option to sell your units to the government?

YES

The government will buy your carbon units for a guaranteed index-linked price. Visit the [Woodland Carbon Guarantee GOV.UK](#) page to find out when the next auction will take place and how to take part. If you are successful in the auction you will receive a conditional offer.

Your woodland creation activity can now begin on site (providing grant agreements are in place or Environmental Impact Assessment consent is given).

NO

**8**  
Once planting is complete, [validate your project](#) with an accredited organisation within three years of your Woodland Carbon Code project registration date.

**9**  
Choose how you will manage your units:

- sell as [Pending Issuance Units \(PIUs\)](#) – an estimate of future carbon capture
- sell as [Woodland Carbon Units \(WCUs\)](#) – your woodland's actual carbon storage, which can be sold privately on the open market or to the government through the [Woodland Carbon Guarantee](#), once your project is verified at year five and then every 10 years
- or offset against your own emissions by ['growing your own'](#) carbon units

A mix of the above options can be combined to suit your business needs.

Continue your carbon journey by visiting our [carbon collection page](#).