



BORDERS TREE PLANTING GRANT



About the Borders Tree Planting Grant

This project is part funded by Forestry Commission Scotland, Woodland Trust Scotland, Scottish Borders Council and Fallago Environment Fund and is administered by Tweed Forum and Borders Forest Trust.

Its purpose is to encourage the planting of individual or small clumps of trees which add landscape and biodiversity value to the Borders countryside for the benefit of people, communities and wildlife. We are losing trees to disease and old age and we wish to encourage people to plant new trees.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The Project is open to any organisation or individual that can suggest a planting project less than 0.25ha that will enhance the landscape and biodiversity of the Borders and make a contribution to improved public amenity. It is designed to be complementary to other natural heritage projects that may have conservation, commercial or amenity aims.

FUNDING

We can give assistance in two different ways to suit the specific project:

- Up to 100% of material costs (ie: for trees and appropriate shelters, guards, stakes, fencing, mulch mats etc) for private applications from: farmers, landowners and individuals (excluding VAT if reclaimable).
- Up to 100% of materials and labour costs for non- profit making organisations such as schools and community groups (including VAT if not reclaimable).

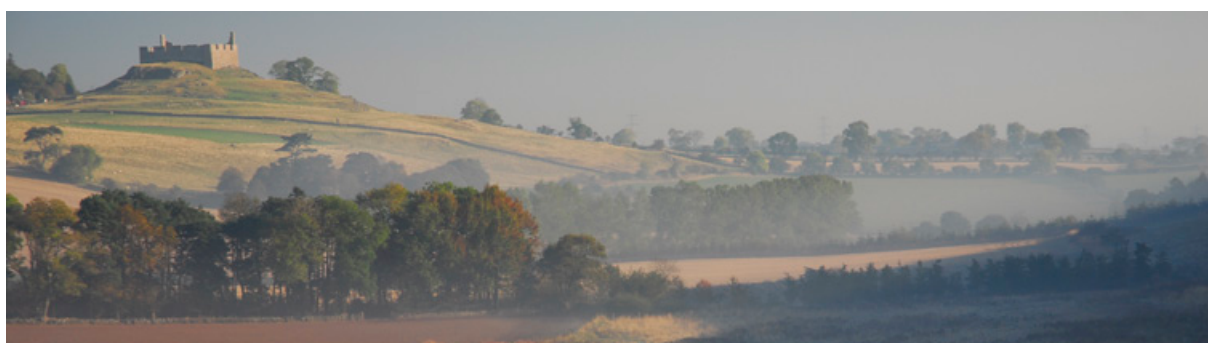
The maximum grant available is £1,000 per applicant per year.

APPLICATIONS

The application process is on-line and forms can be downloaded from the Tweed Forum and Borders Forest Trust websites at www.tweedforum.org and www.bordersforesttrust.org.

These organisations can give guidance and advice with the planting designs. Before submitting your application, you should:

- Obtain the landowners consent if you do not own the land that you wish to plant
- Check for presence of services such as gas, water pipes or telephone and electricity cables. (Tree planting should not be located within 10m of a power line)
- Obtain the approval of Scottish Borders Council if planting is proposed within 5m of the edge of a public road or might impair road safety.
- Check for any existing Planning restrictions or site designations such as those relating to archaeology



WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

- The site should normally be less than 0.25ha.
- The planting will normally be of native species and be appropriate to the locality (See eligible tree species list).
- Where appropriate, non - native species may be accepted and planting to maintain a Tree Preservation Order will also be considered.
- Ornamental planting within the curtilage of a garden, planting to screen new developments or housing schemes, or planting required as a condition of Planning Consent will NOT be eligible for assistance.

WHAT ITEMS ARE ELIGIBLE?

The application can include:

- Site preparation (for community groups)
- Purchase of plants, tree shelters, stakes and ties.
- Herbicides
- Protective fencing materials.
- Planting costs (for community groups) including contract labour or applicants own labour.
- Professional fees (no more than 10% of total costs)

WHAT ARE MY OBLIGATIONS?

It is part of the conditions of the project that you will maintain and replace trees and shrubs as necessary for a period of 5 years after planting, at your own expense. The Steering Group reserves the right to visit the site for inspection purposes. If the planting fails due to neglect, the Steering Group will take steps to recover any monies paid. You will need to supply a photograph of the planting site pre commencement and post completion of works.

WHEN SHALL I HEAR?

Applications will be registered on receipt and shall be assessed on a first come basis. You should hear within 4 weeks whether your application has been successful and when you can start planting. You must not commence any works until you receive an offer of grant letter.

FURTHER INFORMATION

See contact details below for further details regarding the scheme.

Contact details:

Tweed Forum
South Court, Drygrange Steading, Melrose
Roxburghshire TD6 9DJ,
E info@tweedforum.org
T 01896 849 723

Borders Forest Trust
Monteviot Nurseries, Ancrum, Jedburgh TD8 6TU
E enquiries@bordersforesttrust.org
T 01835 830750

This grant is part funded by the following organisations:

Photographs by Derek Robeson

