TREES BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO
TOWNS & CITIES

TREES FOR CITIES

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PAUSE. BREATHE.

Picture yourself outdoors, underneath a tree.
Feels good, doesn't it?

For the 80% of the UK population who live in towns and cities, trees create green spaces which improve the quality of our urban environments. They give us a sense of belonging, wellbeing, calmness and a vital connection to nature.

Yet, in many of our coastal towns and cities, these environments are threatened like never before. Against a national target of 15% canopy cover for coastal areas, some are now as low as 4%.

Without trees, our physical and mental health suffers. We breathe dirty air, watch our towns and cities flood, struggle with rising temperatures and see our urban biodiversity depleting.

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE.
TREES CAN BE A CATALYST FOR THIS CHANGE.

Trees breathe new life into our towns and cities.
They create healthier, happier environments. They unify communities and inspire positive action for the disengaged.
They can create new green jobs and skills and regenerate health and wealth for today and tomorrow.

We want our coastal towns to experience this transformational power. Planting just one tree starts a positive ripple effect through a community that spans generations...
Our aim is to plant thousands.

At Trees for Cities, we believe urban trees are for everyone. We are committed to improving lives in towns and cities by reaching a minimum of 20% canopy coverage in urban areas across the UK and 15% in coastal areas.

Isn't it time for trees to breathe new life into the places which need it most?

ISN'T IT TIME TO BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO YOUR AREA?

WHAT CHALLENGES ARE COASTAL TOWNS FACING?

Up and down the country, coastal communities are in desperate need of support to kickstart a new green economy.

Many of the coastal towns and cities we work with have very few trees, which can lead to harsh grey environments which are prone to flooding.

Coastal trees face a harsh growing environment, battered by salt-laden wind and a strong summer sun. They're also particularly vulnerable to tree pests and disease.

Local authorities often lack the capacity and resources to increase and improve their urban trees and woodland, but Trees for Cities can help!

THE POWER OF TREES

Trees are strong and sturdy things - there's a reason we call it the mighty oak. But their power goes beyond the physical. Their roots run much deeper than you might think.

Trees hold the power to connect us with the natural world. To bring us peace and comfort. To provide us with shade. To create employment and improve health. To guide us through the year. To invite visitors. To mark a new chapter in history.

THE POWER TO UNITE A COMMUNITY

Urban trees bring many benefits to our towns and cities. They release oxygen, keeping the air clean, and mitigating the effects already felt by the climate crisis. They provide shade, shelter and habitats for wildlife, and create beautiful, tranquil spaces for all species to enjoy.

By planting many different types of trees, we can enhance the structural and functional diversity of woodlands and city streets, as well as building resistance to tree pests and disease.

TREES BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO
COASTLINES

'Forgotten Places: Greening Coastal Towns and Cities' is Trees for Cities' project to establish more trees in seaside towns and cities, breathing new life into these communities.

Trees for Cities harnesses people power to plant and protect urban trees, helping to increase local skills, create green jobs and boost tourism. We support local authorities in hitting their climate change targets and reaching at least 15% tree canopy cover.

During the first year of 'Forgotten Places: Greening Coastal Towns and Cities', we planted 55,000 trees in seven iconic coastal towns: Stockton, Hull, Great Yarmouth, Ramsgate, Bexhill, Brighton and Portsmouth.

This was all achieved through community tree planting events. These give local people the chance to connect with nature, inspiring new generations to plant, protect and promote urban trees, and take local action against the global issue of climate change.

As well as tree planting, Trees for Cities teamed up with the Field Studies Council to offer valuable training and job opportunities to those interested in the environmental sector. Participants learned new skills to improve their employment prospects and further their careers.

We have also worked with Forest Research to create new Tree Planting Guidance for local authorities in coastal communities.

OUR WORK IN ACTION

TREES FOR
HULL

As part of our 'Forgotten Places: Greening Coastal Towns and Cities' project, we planted an unbelievable 40,945 trees in Hull. The City Council partnered with Rewilding Youth to make it happen, bringing key green jobs and skills to the city. This was led by 3 project staff and a further 10 employees, who were found through the DWP Kickstart programme, including Ground Conservationists who ran outdoor activities to engage the local community with urban trees and nature. These activities, including bushcraft, helped locals, especially those aged between 16 and 24, to gain the skills and knowledge to supplement their new careers in the environmental sector.

TREES FOR
BEXHILL

Our community engagement team built strong relationships with the residents of Bexhill across numerous planting days and tree training opportunities, which led to 3983 urban trees being planted in the area. These community activities saw residents learning how to plant and care for trees alongside our tree experts. This led to a groundswell of grassroots enthusiasm, culminating in the first ever Bexhill Tree Festival in October 2022. Organised in partnership with Rother District Council and East Sussex County Council, the event celebrated urban trees, and showcased local art, storytelling, workshops, music, and crafting activities for all.

Trees can't grow without sunlight, soil and water. Likewise, Forgotten Places: Greening Coastal Towns and Cities can't evolve without three vital components:

LAND

Without the physical space for trees to grow, our work would be impossible, so we're always on the lookout for more places to plant. If you're a landowner based in one of the areas where we're hosting a planting day, we would love to hear from you.

FUNDING

One thing that makes our work so unique is that it yields rewards that don't cost the public a thing to appreciate. Sadly, those benefits don't come for free, from materials and maintenance costs to printing and distribution of marketing in local areas.

From local authority funding to donations from businesses who want to give something back to their community, we would greatly appreciate any financial assistance that organisations can offer.

YOU

Trees might be our heart, but people are the soul of Trees for Cities. Whether you want to help us make connections with local authorities or press, are a member of an environmental group, or simply participate in one of our planting days, our door is always open to new recruits.

GET
INVOLVED

We're always looking for people to help us take action. If you have land, funding or time to give us, get in touch:

→ **treesforcities.org**

→ **info@treesforcities.org**

→ **020 7587 1320**

→ **@treesforcities**

TREES FOR CITIES

For more information about what we do,
and how you can get involved in the
Trees Breathe Life campaign, get in touch:

→   **treesforcities.org**

→   **info@treesforcities.org**

→   **020 7587 1320**

→   **@treesforcities**

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