



Forest For Cornwall - Forest For My Place Celebrate with a Landmark Tree Application Guidance

The Forest for Cornwall team is pleased to offer a free celebratory Landmark Tree to all Cornish communities.

The aim of this initiative is to offer communities the opportunity to celebrate their community through planting a 2-2.5m (6-8') tree which will be supplied free by the [Forest for Cornwall](#) with support from the [Woodland Trust](#) through their [Emergency Tree Funding](#) of the Forest for Cornwall's Forest for My Place.

Planting a tree or trees to mark an event or celebrate a person has been a long tradition. We hope this offer will help communities celebrate what or who is important to them through planting a tree and capturing those stories for the future and sharing those stories with us. By doing so we hope it will create a 'community of celebratory trees' across the length and breadth of Cornwall which are 'rooted' in what is important to each community. We are also hoping these Landmark trees will be an entry point to encourage those communities not already involved to engage with trees and tree planting, and to the [Forest for Cornwall](#) and its Forest for My Place initiative.

The Forest for Cornwall is gathering 'Tales from the Forest' – a way of capturing the importance of trees to our residents and communities and laying down the 'annual rings of the forest' as it grows – and your community stories will be an important element of that.

The tree can be planted to commemorate / celebrate an individual or event in the community and could also be used as part of the [Queen's Green Canopy](#) to celebrate the Jubilee, the [Plant for Our Planet](#) initiative or logged as part of [Countryfile's Plant Britain](#) initiative.

1. We are setting a deadline of 9am Monday 2nd August for applications to be submitted online through the Let's Talk Cornwall 'Celebrate with a Landmark Tree' portal. This deadline is needed to ensure ordering and delivery of trees for this winter's planting.
2. A special application link will be provided directly to local councils.
3. The Let's Talk platform includes the online application for submission, useful guidance and links, and FAQs.
4. We are encouraging councils who are not in a position to plant a tree this winter or would like a little more time to consider their celebratory tree, to register an interest by 2 August to plant a tree next year (winter 2022 – 23).
5. It's the same Let's Talk platform link to apply for a landmark tree to plant either this winter 2021-22 or next, 2022-23.

6. 1 tree per parish (due to cost and funding). All parish, town, city, community council and parish meetings for Cornwall's civil parishes are eligible to apply. If a community wishes to plant more, there are several options you could consider (e.g. [Woodland Trust free trees for communities](#) and the Forest for Cornwall guidance on [Sources of Free Trees](#)), and we welcome that if you have the space and support locally.
7. We're asking councils to submit the application on behalf of the community, or the council can nominate another community group e.g. school, to submit it.
8. If you nominate another community group to make the application you will need to let us know using the 'Ask a Question' tab on the Let's Talk application platform and share the Let's Talk application link with the group. (Please note that the application platform is not accessible without the link, which has only been shared with local councils).
9. If you're registering an interest for 2020-23 planting you won't be able to complete all the questions on the online form – please complete what you can and put 'info not yet known' into any you can't, making sure you have put a response in all the '* mandatory' questions.
10. Trees – we have drawn up a short list of trees for communities to consider in the table below. This is a list of tree species which tend to grow well in Cornish conditions, will suit different circumstances (e.g. exposed sites), are either native or commonly occurring and we believe we can source in sufficient numbers. We are asking you to list 3 preferences on the application in case of difficulties in sourcing. If a community particularly wants another tree and are content it will grow well in your context then you can ask us to consider that tree species, but you may have to source it yourselves. This will be agreed later.
11. As well as the suggested tree list we are extremely lucky to have 20 smaller (60-90cm, 2-3ft), young oak saplings grown from acorns from Cornwall's oldest oak, the Darley Oak. This tree is estimated to be between 500 and 900 years old. If a community would like to be considered for one of these saplings for planting this year then you can indicate that as part of the application.
12. Parishes/communities will need to supply their own tree protection based on local circumstances as their contribution and confirm that in the application – to ensure the trees survive and thrive. Links to more info on how to protect the trees are available on the Let's Talk platform.
13. We are unable to individually advise the parishes on the suitability of their planting location or species but there is a guidance document about Tree Planting and Aftercare on the Let's Talk platform and it may be worth engaging with your local Tree Warden (if they are able to), or community members who have expertise. If having looked at the guidance and sought local advice, parishes still need some help to decide which species to plant we are hosting an online Q&A session for people who would like some general advice about their tree choice on 14 July 2-4pm. The booking link is via [Eventbrite](#). Places are free but numbers will be limited to allow

attendees to ask their question of the Cornwall Council Forestry Officer who will be leading the session. We ask that only 1 person from each council or community group making their landmark tree application books on the session.

14. We are planning to order the trees on behalf of the communities (unless you have asked for, and we've agreed a species which is not on our suggested list of trees; in which case we may need to ask you to order yourself). They will either be delivered to each parish directly or delivered to one of a number of local hubs for collection by the parishes from November. We will notify every one of the process for delivery/collection nearer the time and when the trees are available.
15. Trees supplied for winter 2021-22 (including the Darley Oaks) need to be planted between November 2021 and February 2022. Trees will be container grown.
16. We will look at rerunning the application process in spring/summer 2022 to give communities who didn't apply this year another opportunity.
17. The tree can be planted on any 'community accessible land' (e.g. parish, community or private with good community access) for which permission has been granted and an undertaking to care for its ongoing maintenance for 15 years has been made. Community access can include good 'visual' access. We are not seeking planting on Cornwall Council land.
18. The landowner's permission should be a letter confirming consent. (It will not be a charge against the title of the land if it's sold within that time).
19. The maintenance agreement can be a letter (scanned and uploaded into the Let's Talk platform) confirming that the tree will be maintained for a minimum of 15 years. If you need a little more time to confirm this you can let us know in the application form. In the application we do ask communities to confirm how they will look after the tree (e.g. watering the tree as it establishes, checking ties are secure but not cutting into the tree, stakes are firm etc.)
20. We will assess all the applications following the closing date of 9am on Monday 2nd August and successful applicants will be informed by email at the end of September.
21. There is a 'Clarification Questions' on the platform for people to ask additional questions.
22. If councils are unable to use the online format, you can contact us using the 'Clarification Questions' for other options but it will not preclude you from applying.

We are hoping these Landmark trees will be an entry point to encourage those communities who have not yet started planting to engage with trees and tree planting, and with the Forest for Cornwall and its Forest 4 My Place initiative. If communities have aspirations to plant more trees and hedges then there are a number of options available. Links to many of them can be found at [Free trees - Cornwall Council](#). This includes [Free Community Tree Packs](#) for schools and community groups from The [Woodland Trust](#) which can be ordered [here](#). We'd encourage you to order them by mid summer to ensure availability.

If councils or communities have other ideas for tree planting, or would like to tell us about trees they have already planted, to count them towards the Forest for Cornwall, they can contact the Forest for Cornwall team using our [contact](#) us form.

Tree Species Short List:

Common name	Botanical name
Sessile oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>
Small leaved lime	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i>
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
Common Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Holm Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment/countryside/forest-for-cornwall-programme/>