



## Help make a difference

### Tree Planting Carbon Footprint Offset

The EcoEnergy Group focuses on investing in sustainable & renewable energy generation & carbon footprint offset projects principally in the UK. We seek reliable, viable clean technology projects that contribute to a lower carbon economy and a more sustainable environment

EcoEnergy plant trees specifically in order to help reverse climate change, the effects of global warming and help individuals/organisations become carbon neutral.

We withdraw carbon from the atmosphere through the introduction of environmentally sustainable land management projects focused on beneficial tree planting.

Help us eliminate harmful greenhouse gas emissions, protect the global climate ecosystem, especially in the UK, and neutralise your carbon emissions and join our programme of tree planting.

### Aim

Our aim is to plant 1,000,000 trees per year in locations worldwide.

We help combat climate change and provide economic, social and environmental sustainability through community based forestry projects mainly throughout the UK, but also in selected countries worldwide.

With your help and in conjunction with corporate partners, government agencies, local authorities, community groups, charities and local communities, we believe that our planting target can become a reality.

### How it Works

Trees clean the atmosphere in a unique natural way by effectively absorbing carbon from the air and, not only do they absorb carbon dioxide, trees produce oxygen.

This method of absorbing carbon from our atmosphere is called carbon sequestration. A single tree will absorb approx 730kg of carbon per year.

By planting more trees every year and extending woodland cover, we can sequester more and more carbon and help the process of mitigating climate change.

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## Our Ecosystem, Our World

When oil, coal, gas or any fossil fuel is burned or used a by product is carbon dioxide. In the UK, the average carbon dioxide emissions for each person are over 10 metric tonnes per year.

This is called your 'carbon footprint' and mainly derives from annual energy usage and transport requirements including car travel, flights and commuter transport.

Increasing amounts of carbon dioxide are being produced and the CO<sub>2</sub> level is contributing to the global change of climate, but, to help counter act this effect, tree planting projects absorb carbon from the atmosphere.

## Official Statements

**Defra:** The UK has participated actively in negotiations to shape the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol. Both agreements require Parties to protect and enhance vegetation that absorbs and stores carbon dioxide. Under the Kyoto Protocol, carbon sequestered in new forests planted since 1990 count towards meeting developed countries' emissions targets.

The UK is committed to reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions by 12.5% of the 1990 total by 2012 which is equivalent to 21 million tonnes of carbon per year (MtC/yr), and has policies in place that are aimed at protecting and enhancing carbon sinks as a way of compensating for emissions from fossil fuels.

In fact [The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation](#) states "global carbon retention resulting from reduced deforestation, increased forest regrowth and more agro-forestry and plantations could make up for about 15% of carbon emissions from fossil fuels over the next 50 years." (2006)

[The Carbon Trust](#) has found that on average the UK uses products and services with a total footprint of 648 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year. This means that the average Briton's annual carbon footprint is 10.92 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, which result from products they buy, leisure activities, travelling & heating their etc..

## The Process

The objective of the carbon offset process is to neutralise the carbon dioxide emissions from the atmosphere that we are responsible for, and the process involves:

- **Measure** existing & current carbon footprint
- **Reduce** where practicable, present carbon emissions
- **Offset** & neutralise all CO<sub>2</sub>
- **Monitor** and assess carbon emissions regularly

Therefore, in addition to carbon sequestration and tree planting, we would recommend other practical ways of off-setting your carbon footprint, including:

- purchasing carbon dioxide credits and then not use them, which then stops other people, organisations and countries using them
- invest or make a donation to companies or organisations that are researching and developing renewable & sustainable technologies
- buying energy efficient technologies and donating them to developing countries
- becoming more energy efficient
- purchasing power from 'green' or renewable energy providers

## How Many Trees

### Individual

It is estimated that each tree planted in our projects will absorb and store about 730kg CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the course of its lifespan.

On average, the carbon footprint of the normal UK resident is calculated as approx 10.9 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Therefore, in order to offset individual environmental impact, the average person needs to plant approx 15 trees per annum to become carbon neutral.

### Corporate

The CO<sub>2</sub> emitted by any particular business, company or organisation is worked out by calculating the energy used & consumed by conducting all corporate activities at all locations.

The corporate carbon footprint is assessed and calculated by investigating the following principal areas including, but not exclusive to, all:

- company office buildings
- retail / shop unit operations
- industrial / manufacturing processes
- business travel & mileage (company cars, delivery vans, air, taxi & rail travel etc..)

Once assessed and defined, the carbon emissions will then be neutralised and offset by participating and contributing to a worthy carbon elimination project.

### **Where Trees are Planted**

Our trees are only planted in managed tree projects and chosen on a priority basis. Some projects require funds more urgently than others, and other projects require smaller amounts of funds.

Planting projects are selected primarily in the UK & Europe but can also include suitable projects in locations around the world and specifically in the developing world. Therefore, planting seasons may vary depending on time of year and between countries.

However, all projects provide a commitment to be fully transparent & managed and an obligation to ensure that the trees reach full maturity.

Without contributions, these trees would not be planted, and the carbon would still be in the atmosphere. Types of projects include forest restoration, community woodland & forestry schemes, urban forestry for carbon sequestration, aesthetics and shading, and research projects for education purposes.

A certificate & invoice will be raised showing which project your contribution has helped.

### **Project Integrity**

We ensure our promises are delivered by carefully selecting, measuring & reviewing each carbon offset project undertaken meet our carbon offset & reduction standards and that greenhouse gas emissions are actually eliminated.

Each offset project is specifically designed to have full transparency and have an audit trail of all documentation from start to finish.

Our guiding principals and criteria for carbon offset projects include:

- **contribute** to sustainable ecology schemes
- **create** new and aid existing conservation / habitats
- **access** rights & involvement for local communities
- **new** & additional emission reduction projects
- **long-term** & longevity of project results achieved
- **audit trail** & full documentary evidence
- **ensure future of our ecosystem**

### Project Verification

Our carbon offset portfolio of projects has procedures in place that ensures the credibility of each project, verifies the existence of carbon savings, records and traces all documentation.

The verification procedure investigates and continually reviews the performance of the carbon offset projects and this process includes:

- calculate expected carbon emissions offset by each project
- record actual project performance
- compare results with budget
- ensure any deficits in anticipated emissions neutralised achieved in other projects
- ensure any excess in anticipated emissions offset donated to a nominated charity
- continuous monitoring & reviews of projects & verification process

Once a contribution to one of projects has been received, an invoice and certificate is issued detailing the carbon being offset, which project was supported and where the project was located.

### Tree Planting Contribution

Our tree planting projects would welcome any size of contributions, with individual trees planted for a contribution of **£11.75 per tree**.

### Benefits & Results

Individuals and organisations can derive many advantages and direct and indirect benefits from participating and contributing to carbon offset projects, including:

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- Eliminate CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere
- Assist new forest restoration
- Counter the effects of worldwide deforestation
- Conserve & improve our existing landscape & countryside
- Create new habitats for birds & animals
- Reverse soil, water & air degradation
- Raise awareness of environmental issues
- Positive media exposure
- Excellent PR opportunity
- Meet corporate responsibility objectives
- Crucial funding of vital planting projects
- Become carbon neutral
- Help mitigate climate change

## Contact

To begin the offset process, please contact Adrian Skelton at [adrian@ecoenergygroup.co.uk](mailto:adrian@ecoenergygroup.co.uk) , and help make a difference.



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# The **EcoEnergy** Group

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## Company Details

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