



**Birmingham &
Black Country**
Wildlife Trust

Opportunities for Landowners in Nature Recovery

**Restoring nature, supporting your farm, and
unlocking financial opportunities**

**Discover how your land can play a role in restoring
the natural world.**

www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/PurpleHorizons



BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN

- A national initiative requiring developers to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state after development.
- Landowners can enhance biodiversity, support wildlife corridors and more.
- Earn between £5,000 - £25,000 per Ha by enhancing habitats and selling BNG credits.
- Period of commitment: 30 years to ensure long-term biodiversity improvement.

Key Benefits for Landowners:

- Generate income by creating and maintaining biodiversity-enhancing habitats.
- Access funding to support long-term environmental stewardship.
- Strengthen ecosystems and boost local wildlife populations.

How to Get Started:

- Identify potential habitats on your land that could be enhanced or restored.
- Contact the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust for support in the process of identifying current habitats, with potential for a free BNG survey & baseline BNG report.
- Develop a Habitat Management & Monitoring Plan and register for trading BNG credits.

BNG can increase habitat value by 10% while providing farmers a sustainable income stream.



COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

- Access grants for hedgerows, woodland planting, and habitat restoration.
- Improve water quality, pollinator habitat, and soil health.
- Earn up to £1,000 per hectare for conservation-focused land management.
- Period of commitment: 5 – 20 years.

Example CSS Payments:

- Nectar Flower Mix (AB1): £614 per hectare
- Winter Bird Food (AB9): £732 per hectare
- Permanent Grassland with Low Inputs (GS2): £132 per hectare
- Two-Year Sown Legume Fallow (AB15): £593 per hectare

Key Benefits for Landowners:

- Receive payments for improving water quality, air quality, and wildlife habitats.
- Access grants for managing hedgerows, woodland planting, and soil conservation.
- Support pollinators and other key species by creating flower-rich habitats.

How to Apply:

- Review available Mid-Tier, Higher-Tier, and Capital Grants.
- Contact Natural England advisors for guidance.
- Submit an application through the Rural Payments Agency (RPA).

Farmers in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme receive over £200 million annually to support habitat restoration, soil conservation and sustainable farming practices!



SUSTAINABLE FARMING INCENTIVE

- Earn payments for adopting sustainable farming practices
- Flexible action-based scheme that allows farmers to continue food production while enhancing environmental outcomes.
- 102 actions available from 2024, plus 14 additional actions from 2025.
- Period of commitment: 3 or 5 years, depending on the action.

Example SFI Payments:

- Flower-rich margins & in-field strips: £798 per hectare/year (3 years).
- 4m to 12m grass buffer strips: £515 per hectare/year (3 years).
- Hedgerow management: £13 per 100m/year (3 years).
- Soil health assessment & organic matter testing: £6 per hectare/year + £97 per agreement (3 years).
- Pond management: £257 per pond/year (3 years).

Key Benefits for Landowners:

- Improve soil health and reduce erosion by implementing sustainable farming methods.
- Increase profitability by enhancing land productivity sustainably.
- Access additional support for carbon storage and water quality improvements.

How to Apply:

- Review available SFI actions and choose what suits your farm.
- Start an application through the Rural Payments Agency (RPA).
- If managing SSSI land, consult Natural England before applying.

Farmers in England received over £50 million in SFI payments in the first few months of 2024, with thousands already benefiting from sustainable practices!



CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING SCHEME

- Grants available up to 100% of the costs for implementing water protection measures.
- Reduce agricultural pollution and improve water quality.
- Free specialist advice on soil management, nutrient planning, & farm infrastructure improvements.
- Period of commitment: 3 or 5 years, depending on the action.

Key Benefits for Landowners:

- Helps landowners reduce agricultural pollution and improve water quality.
- Provides free specialist advice on soil management, nutrient planning, and farm infrastructure improvements.
- Grants available up to 100% of costs for implementing water protection measures.
- Commitment period varies depending on actions, typically between 3-5 years.

How to Apply:

- Contact a Catchment Sensitive Farming officer for eligibility and guidance.
- Identify areas on your land where water pollution reduction measures can be implemented.
- Apply through Countryside Stewardship or specific grant schemes.

Over 80% of farmers who worked with CSF advisors reported improved water quality and reduced pollution on their land, leading to more sustainable and productive farming!

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES & SUPPORT

- Landscape Recovery Scheme: Significant funding for long-term habitat restoration.
- Facilitation Funding: Collaborate with neighbouring landowners to increase habitat impact and access additional funding opportunities.
- Advice, support, and surveys available to determine the best option(s) for your land.
- You may be able to apply for more than one of the available grants and funding schemes if you or your land are eligible.

*Please note all schemes and rates listed above are subject to change, and it's advisable to consult the latest guidelines from the Rural Payments Agency or Natural England for the most current information.



CONTACT US



07713 487409



kayla.p@bbcwildlife.org.uk



www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/PurpleHorizons



Birmingham & Black Country
Wildlife Trust



Black Country
Global Geopark



Staffordshire
Wildlife Trust



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



Environment
Agency



Walsall Council

Lichfield
district council