

EPPING FOREST Guardian

New 'carbon-cutting' green spaces scheme launched in Epping

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The City of London Corporation, which protects Epping Forest and its adjacent 'Buffer Lands', sowed the meadow as part of its new Carbon Removals Project, which aims to remove carbon from the atmosphere by creating new wildlife habitats across its open spaces.

Plants use the energy of sunlight, and through photosynthesis they remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the air.

In the process of converting CO₂ into plant matter they release oxygen into the air, and lock CO₂ into plant material.

The Carbon Removals Project is part of the City Corporation's wider Climate Action Strategy to achieve net zero carbon emissions for its own operations by 2027.

The wildflower meadow, at Patmore's Field in High Beach, planted on a previously cultivated but low quality arable field, will lock atmospheric carbon into the undisturbed soil beneath this new permanent grassland, and boost biodiversity by creating new wildlife habitats for a range of species, whilst improving water storage and soil health.

Work is underway to identify additional sites for new carbon removal projects on City Corporation owned land.

Chairman of the City of London Corporation's Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Graeme Doshi-Smith, said: "Scientific evidence shows that the climate is already changing and we need to act now if we are to limit global warming.

"Climate change is a serious issue affecting everyone on the planet. And it's clear green spaces can play a major role in cutting carbon from the atmosphere.

"This project demonstrates our commitment to tackling this global problem at a local level and it's exciting to be making pace with this work."

Source: <https://www.eppingforestguardian.co.uk/news/19669225.new-carbon-cutting-green-spaces-scheme-launched-epping/>