



## redroseforest

community forest  
environment tourism  
sustainability access  
community economy  
regeneration health  
biodiversity inclusion  
greenspace renewal



**Red Rose Forest** is an environmental regeneration initiative in Greater Manchester and is one of 12 Community Forests being developed in England. With the help of many partners, Red Rose Forest is planting 25 million trees over 40 years, to bring the many benefits that well managed trees and woodland can offer to an urban landscape.



## But trees are only part of the story

This massive commitment to increase woodland cover within the Forest area is just the first step in Red Rose Forest's full programme of regeneration and renewal, having a significant impact on the economy, health, education, tourism, regeneration, job creation and local communities.

Red Rose Forest is stimulating growth in all these areas and driving forward a vision of a truly Greater Manchester.





**Red Rose Forest is one of 12 Community Forest initiatives in England. Together, these Community Forests reach half of England's population, creating high-quality environments for millions of people, and delivering environmental, economic and social regeneration right across the country.**

Red Rose Forest is the second largest, and most urban of all the Community Forests, with its work affecting the lives of over 3.2 million people. Working alongside its neighbouring Community Forest - The Mersey Forest in Merseyside and North Cheshire - Red Rose Forest is part of an impressive vision to radically transform the landscape and communities of the North West of England.



## Woodland creation

### The North West of England has one of the lowest levels of mature woodland in Europe

Red Rose Forest has a commitment to work with partners to plant 25 million trees over 40 years to help rectify this problem. It is well on its way to achieving this target, with tree planting figures rising and projects constantly developing new, innovative ways to plant trees within an urban environment. This means that trees are now being planted on streets within city centres, on derelict land and on former landfill sites, to maximise the potential of these areas and act as a reminder that trees can be an integral part of even the most industrial landscapes.



Red Rose Forest understands that a woodland is not just about trees, and so a lot of work has been invested in creating and encouraging healthy, diverse environments, including wildflower meadows and wetlands, wildlife, good levels of community access, safe pathways and informative signage.



## Communities

**As the name might suggest, communities are at the heart of community forestry. By encouraging communities to take ownership of where they live and work, the local environment remains well cared for and sustained in the long term.**

Red Rose Forest is uniquely positioned to do this, thanks to many strong links with hundreds of community groups, schools and residents as well as its partnerships with local authorities and many volunteer and environmental organisations. Red Rose Forest acts as the centre pin - tying all these people together, inspiring them with the Forest vision and enabling them to work together to make real, sustainable changes to their environment.





## Regeneration

**“Economic, environmental and social regeneration cannot proceed without one another”**

Lord Thomas of Macclesfield,

Patron of Red Rose Forest and The Mersey Forest

Red Rose Forest is the most urban of all of the Community Forests. Incorporating the major cities of Manchester and Salford and many other large towns, urban regeneration is at the heart of Red Rose Forest’s work. The Red Rose Forest Partnership is delivering practical regeneration projects on the streets of towns and cities, on derelict and neglected land and on the edges of major conurbations, making community forestry the obvious way to link economic, environmental and social regeneration for the benefit of the whole region.





## Economy

**It has been proved that greenery - from street trees to urban fringe woodland makes areas more attractive to inward investment, helps existing businesses to prosper and thrive and can increase property prices.**

Red Rose Forest projects take full consideration of this, working with the business community to meet their needs and using community forestry as a means of boosting the region's economy.

Red Rose Forest also provides a range of services - from advice, support and contacts to access to funding - for the local woodland industry. By helping this sector to grow and thrive, community forestry in Greater Manchester is helping to secure jobs and investment in this part of the region.



## Health

**“Each blade of grass is worth its weight in gold in cost benefit health terms”**

Professor Roger Ulrich, director of the Centre for Health Systems and Design at A&M University, Texas

Trees and other greenery filter out air-borne pollutants, produce oxygen, provide shelter and shade and are conducive to a healthy, stress-free existence. Evidence also suggests that having access to green natural surroundings can improve patient recovery rates, lower blood pressure and have many other significant health benefits. By creating greener, sustainable environments, Red Rose Forest is championing healthier and more pleasant conditions for urban dwellers to live and work within.

The Red Rose Forest Partnership is also helping communities to access the local environment to improve their physical fitness. Forest projects facilitate the use of green spaces for exercise and relaxation - tackling problems like heart disease, obesity and sedentary behaviour and making community forestry an important player in the issue of health.



## Recreation and tourism

**Well-managed, community woodlands, natural open spaces and pockets of green on the urban landscape all offer great places for local people to relax and have fun.**

The Red Rose Forest Partnership doesn't just create these spaces, it also actively encourages their use, with projects and events making it easy for the whole community to get involved.

Red Rose Forest is also helping to turn Greater Manchester into a prime tourist location, by using community forestry to create high quality environmental facilities, lush green city centres, visitor-friendly urban fringe woodland that all attract, and leave a positive lasting impression on, visitors to the region.





## Education

**The only way to create sustainable environments is by ensuring everyone is educated to the value of trees and greenery within their community.**

The Red Rose Forest Partnership works closely with hundreds of schools within Greater Manchester; through projects that inform and inspire children to embrace their local environment.

Red Rose Forest is also working to educate the whole community about the value of trees and green spaces. Projects offer on going information, training, advice and inspiration to all, enabling everyone to develop the skills and confidence to play a real part in their local environment.





## Sustaining the effort

**Red Rose Forest is guided by a 40-year plan, helping to ensure that any work carried out is maintained over the long term.**

Red Rose Forest is delivered thanks to some very strong partnerships, with local, regional and national organisations, local authorities, the private sector and local communities. It's these partnerships that help ensure that any changes are sustainable and keep meeting the needs of local people and changing regional and national priorities.



Red Rose Forest is already well on its way to achieving incredible positive changes to the landscapes, communities, economy and well being of a large part of Greater Manchester. In its first ten years of operation, The Red Rose Forest Partnership increased woodland cover in the Forest area, delivered many successful projects and thousands of events. Red Rose Forest will continue to deliver community forestry to the people of Greater Manchester and providing an inspiring model for environmental and social regeneration.



Red Rose Forest is a partnership of The Countryside Agency, the Forestry Commission and the Metropolitan Boroughs of Bolton, Bury, Trafford and Wigan and the Cities of Manchester and Salford. A wider partnership is actively involved in developing the Forest in many different ways across the Forest area. This partnership includes landowners, businesses, Government agencies, environmental and voluntary bodies, countryside services, communities, schools and many individuals.

**redroseforest**

Dock Office Trafford Road  
Salford Quays Salford M50 3XB

tel 0161 872 1660

fax 0161 872 1680 team@redroseforest.co.uk

[www.redroseforest.co.uk](http://www.redroseforest.co.uk)



Printed on recycled stock using vegetable based inks.