

Community Pollinator Fund

Project Ideas

Where to get started...

We want you to take ownership of your projects to improve or create habitats to help pollinators thrive.

In case you need some inspiration, we've created some examples for the kinds of projects that will work well with this Fund.

All the examples provided are indicative and costs can vary greatly. These projects may not be suitable for every site so please do your own research when planning your project. We want to see your own community stamp on your project so feel free to take some pointers and shape it best for you.



Project 1

Converting an unused and unloved area into a large native wildflower meadow.

This project looks to make a big impact by creating a largescale habitat for pollinators. This is a vital wildlife habitat and can provide a range of foods for pollinators from May to September. Creating one involves cutting and collecting the grass, before seeding with yellow rattle to prevent the grass from re-growing. The ground can be seeded in Autumn with native wildflower and grass mixes, and you can choose between an annual or perennial wildflower meadow. Both produce spectacular wildflower displays with annuals blooming the year they are sown and will grow new plants the next year, whilst perennial meadows can take longer to establish but can continue for years to come.

Complete the site with an informative sign and barked paths to allow access. One side of the field can also be planted with flowering hedges to provide shelter, food, and nest sites for wildlife. Any hedge offcuts can then be used to make a dead hedge habitat.

Item	Quantity	Cost
Recycled bark	3	£360
Native wildflower seeds	60kg	£11,800
Yellow rattle seeds	20kg	£6,800
Signage	1	£750
Hedging plants	250m	£2,000
Total		£21,710

Suitable for area size: **11 acres**



Project 2

Revamping existing green spaces in school grounds for pollinators.

This project looks to make use of spaces across the school and aims to engage pupils with nature. A range of pollinator food sources can be planted across large areas of the school grounds, including wildflowers in raised beds, culinary herbs, native fruiting trees and perennial plants. Pollinator shelters can be installed such as bug hotels, dead hedges, compost heaps and log pile habitats, alongside signage explaining the project. Children can be encouraged to design their own solitary bee nests using hollow bamboo canes and help design what they think a 'pollinator-friendly' school would look like.

This project can make use of recycled and repurposed materials, including using general offcuts, garden pruning and branches from grounds maintenance to create the wildlife habitats. At the end of the project, the school will have multiple mini-gardens next to classrooms so every child can engage with nature.



Item	Quantity	Cost
Natural logs	250kg	£100
Picnic benches	3	£500
Native wildflower seeds	3kg	£300
Tools	1	£300
Signage	3	£2,250
FSC wooden posts	1.2m	£35
Native tree saplings	20	£100
Bug hotel material	2	£200
Compost bins	2	£230
Plug plants	700	£525
Raised beds	6	£280
Herb seeds	1000	£5
Bamboo canes	40	£15
Total		£4,840

Suitable for
area size:

2 acres

Project 3

Planting pollinator-friendly plants in a community garden and making it accessible to everyone in the community.

The garden aims to create a safe space for different groups to come together in the community, share ideas and connect with nature. To make the space welcoming and accessible to people with disabilities and health issues, wheelchair-friendly tabletop gardens can be created, along with wider walkways, ramps and seating. Locals can be encouraged to help care for the space which will be a focal point for volunteering and community education.

A patch of long grass can be allowed to grow, providing shelter for wildlife and a breeding site for butterflies and moths. A mini wildflower meadow can be planted with a variety of nectar and pollen-rich flowers and shrubs. An array of habitats will also be installed including log shelters, a bug hotel and a compost zone with piles of grass clippings. Alongside this will be a dense shrub habitat adjacent to a partly-shaded wildlife pond, complete with a rockery for easy access for wildlife.



Item	Quantity	Cost
Benches	3	£540
Native wildflower seeds	1kg	£100
Tools	1	£300
Pond liner	1	£45
Signage	1	£750
Raised beds	8	£370
Shrubs	100	£1,800
Native tree saplings	20	£100
Bug hotel	1	£100
Hedge plants	200	£630
Stones	550kg	£90
Natural logs	150kg	£60
Compost bin	2	£230
Wheelchair ramps	2	£100
Total		£5,215

Suitable for
area size: **1 acre**

Project 4

Converting an empty recreation ground into an orchard and wildlife haven.

This project begins by changing the management techniques of the area by stopping the use pesticides and fertilisers, and closely cutting the grass in Autumn using traditional scythes. The grass can then be allowed to grow longer and to flower, and areas of nettles and bramble can be managed on rotation. This provides food and cover for insects and other wildlife. Native annual and perennial wildflowers can be sown in strips along the edge of the grounds and plug plants can be planted alongside native flowering shrubs. To control grass growth, yellow rattle can be sown in Autumn.

A large partially-shaded pond can be created with aquatic plug plants which will benefit several species of invertebrates and other wildlife. Pollinator shelters such as bug hotels and bee banks with green roofs can be installed. A mini orchard can be planted with longer lived trees from a range of varieties and fruit types. Any standing deadwood can be retained, and felled timber should be kept on site to provide habitats for fungi and invertebrates.



Item	Quantity	Cost
Pond liner	1	£45
Native wildflower seeds	12kg	£1200
Yellow rattle seeds	4kg	£680
Tools	1	£300
Sand mix (bee bank)	1	£65
Signage	3	£2,250
Green roof soil	1	£30
Native tree saplings	120	£600
Bug hotel material	2	£200
Plug plants	3500	£4200
Aquatic plants	25	£30
Total		£ 9,600

Suitable for **5 acres**
area size:

The small print

Please use these as inspiration and as a guide, but it's important to do your own research and make the site work for you.

Make sure to do your research before applying. The figures provided here are approximate as costs can vary over time, by supplier and can depend on the specification you need. We are expecting a lot of interest in the Fund, so basing your application on one of these projects does not guarantee funding.

We are looking for the projects with the biggest impact for nature and the community, and we're looking for clever and cost-effective ways to improve the environment for pollinators, so be creative!

Instead of buying a new raised bed, can you make one out recycled pallet wood, or can you make your own bee hotel using natural materials collected from your local park? The more recycled and reclaimed materials you can use the better.

If you have a great idea but are not sure if it would be eligible for funding, please email us at bee.bold@westofengland-ca.gov.uk and check out the projects we've funded in the first round [here](#).



Useful websites

Please visit these websites if you need extra ideas for your project or some practical advice. They have an abundance of free, online resources on how to make your space pollinator-friendly.

Bumblebee Conservation Trust - Bee the Change

<https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/beethechange/>

Butterfly Conservation Trust

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/>

Avon Wildlife Trust - Team Wilder

<https://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/team-wilder>

