



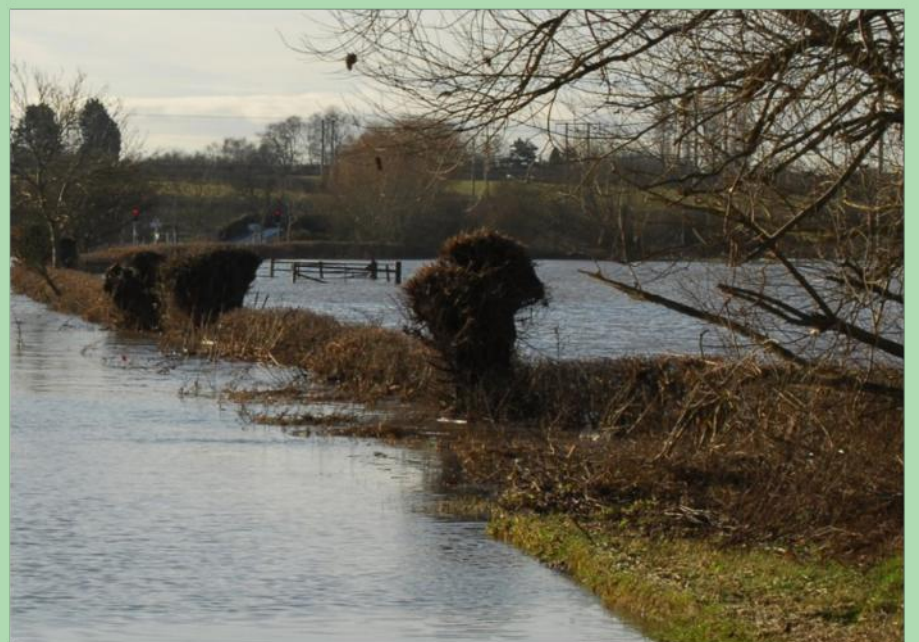
Why are hedgerows so important?

Hedgerows are an important habitat for our wildlife.



They act as 'Nature Corridors', connecting other fragmented habitats.

They can help prevent flooding, by reducing run-off on farmland and increasing water infiltration.



Hedges capture carbon at twice the rate of woodland and England's hedges already store 9 million tonnes of carbon!

Where should I plant a hedgerow?



Anywhere you can! Particularly where a hedge could connect with other hedges, woodlands and habitats.



You must choose the best native hedge plants for your area and soil type.

You can look at what grows well nearby to help you decide.

A mixture of plants will increase biodiversity and create a more resilient hedge. Common plants include: Hawthorn, Hazel, Field Maple, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Dog Rose, Spindle & Holly.



You can find out more by using this QR code or by visiting:

**[suffolktreewardens.org.uk/
alive-in-five](https://suffolktreewardens.org.uk/alive-in-five)**



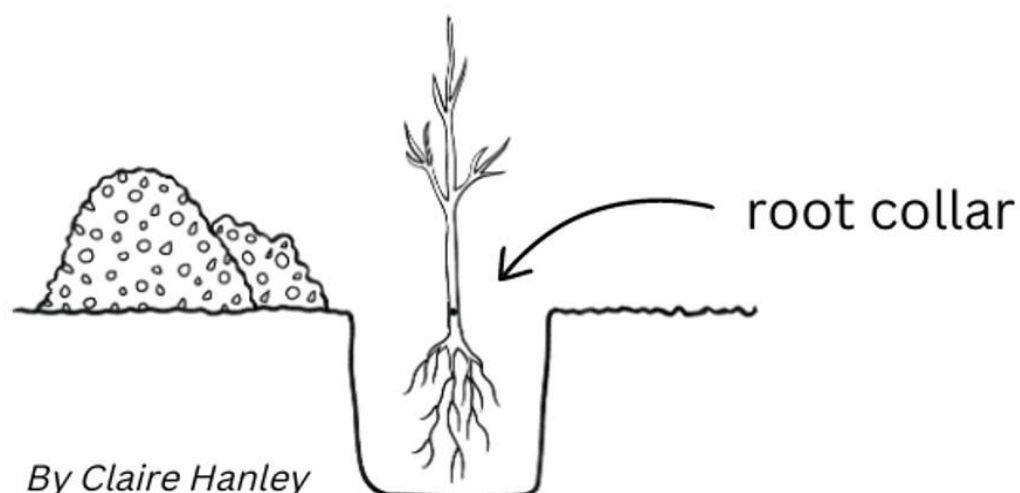
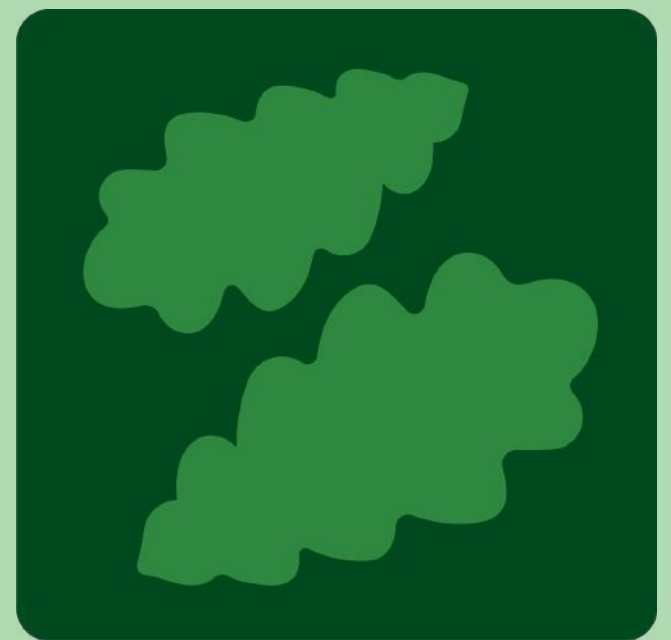
How do I plant a hedgerow?

Treat new saplings with care, making sure to keep their roots moist and protected from wind and frost.



For thick traditional hedges, plant 5 saplings per metre in a double staggered row, with 50cm between each row.

The best time to plant is when the saplings are dormant between November & February.



Make sure the roots are completely buried. Wait for the ground to thaw if it is frosted or snow-covered.

How do I care for a new hedgerow?



New hedges can't be left alone, they'll need care for at least 5 years after planting.



Tubes, spirals or fencing may be needed to prevent grazing from deer and rabbits.

Young hedges will need watering during dry periods. Spreading mulch, straw or wood chip can retain moisture and prevent competition from other plants.



- Check your hedge regularly:**
- . Weed in and around tubes**
 - . Replace broken/missing tubes**
 - . Replace dead plants over winter**
 - . Recycle or dispose of tubes when they are no longer needed**

Don't leave tubes on this long!



How do I manage a hedgerow?

A healthy hedgerow that supports lots of wildlife needs to be thick and bushy. Where possible, standard trees should be allowed to grow every 5-10 metres.



The bird nesting season runs from February to August, so hedgerow cutting should be done outside of this time. Most hedgerow plants only fruit on 2 year old wood, meaning it is beneficial to trim hedges every other year.

It's important to leave wide wild flower and grass margins adjacent to hedges, ideally 2m wide.



Older straggly hedgerows may require coppicing and new planting to fill gaps.



For more information on hedgerow management, scan the QR code.

