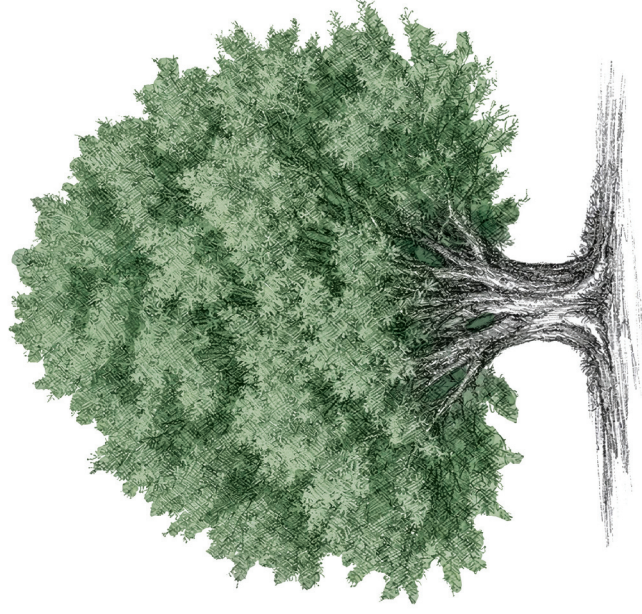




Wymondham Town Tree Trail



www.greeningwymondham.org

1 Whitebeam *Sorbus aria*

The Whitebeam at the Market Cross is a feature of Wymondham's cultural and historic landscape. Its central location makes it a popular meeting place for people, and birds, who love its scarlet berries. The Whitebeam is common in urban spaces due to its tolerance to air pollution, dry conditions and poor soil.

2 Gallery Ornamental Pear *Pyrus calleryana*

The slender, ornamental pear tree on Market Place was probably planted at the same time as the ones in Wharton's Court, as a row of five. The dark-green foliage (turning vivid red in autumn), creates a wonderful foil for the mass of fragrant white flowers in March-May. These attract pollinators making it an ecologically significant tree.

3 Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

This young Alder in Chandler's Hill is a resilient UK native tree, supporting much wildlife. Its leaves are eaten by caterpillars of several moths and the small woody cones containing seeds remain on the tree during winter, loved by Siskin, Redpoll and Goldfinch. The roots have nitrogen-fixing nodules, conditioning the soil and improving soil fertility.

4 Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*

This impressive Sycamore dominates Wymondham Abbey's west entrance, providing valuable habitat for wildlife including the site's resident bats. Believed introduced to Tudor Britain, Sycamores are adaptable, resilient and can live to 400 years. With deep roots, 'helicopter' seeds, quality wood and shady canopies of palmate leaves, Sycamores may be valued increasingly as our climate changes.



About Greening Wymondham

We are an active, welcoming group of volunteers who enjoy working on projects to improve the environment in and around our town. We encourage people to join our conservation work, including woodland management, growing a community orchard, river testing, litter-picking, and a varied programme of activities for all ages.

Working towards a sustainable future for our children, we have given a tree to every final year primary school child in Wymondham since 2021.

Our Town Tree group aims to increase awareness and appreciation of trees, and to create interesting tree trails throughout the town for residents and visitors.



We hope you enjoy exploring our tree trail. Please scan the QR code for an online version.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact us via:
www.greeningwymondham.org
greeningwymondham@gmail.com



Accessibility

Please be aware that some parts of the trail may be difficult for wheelchair users, due to uneven surfaces and narrow pavements.

© Greening Wymondham 2026
Design and illustration by Natalie Scurll
Printed locally by Anglia Print, on a waterless press, powered by 100% renewable energy and printed on recycled paper.

5 English Oak *Quercus robur*

Oak is an iconic native tree of the British Isles, rooted in both landscape and imagination. Standing with quiet dignity in Wymondham Abbey churchyard, the Millennium Oak was grown from an acorn gathered in nearby Kimberley Park and planted in March 2000. It already shows the sturdy grace for which the English oak is beloved.

6 Yew *Taxus baccata*

Two groups of ancient Yew stand within the Abbey grounds: at the junction of Church Street and Vicar Street, and beyond the West Porch. Yew is one of Britain's native conifers; its seeds, bark and foliage are poisonous to humans but provide food for insects, shelter for wildlife, and have a high resistance to pollution.

7 Copper Beech *Fagus sylvatica x purpurea*

Copper Beech is a cultivated form of Common Beech with foliage that shifts from bronze to deep purple through the growing season. Although reduced in size in 2025, the tree is still impressive, with a broad, densely branched canopy that offers welcome shade and helps keep the courtyard cool during hot summer days.

8 Norway Maple *Acer platanoides*

The Norway Maple is native to Europe and western Asia. This deciduous tree grows up to 30m, with grey ridged bark and spotted slender twigs. Tolerant of pollution, its leaves absorb CO₂ efficiently. Yellow scented flowers and winged seeds support wildlife. The well-shaped Priory Gardens specimen is the 'Crimson King' cultivar with beautiful red foliage.

The importance of trees

Trees are essential for people, wildlife and the environment.

They are dynamic entities that help to enhance our environment and maintain ecological balance by purifying our air and water, enriching our soils, offering habitats for wildlife, contributing to biodiversity and supporting our health and wellbeing.

What do trees do?

- Help us to connect with the natural world
- Enhance the beauty of our environment
- Provide shade, reducing urban heat by 2-8°C
- Improve air quality by filtering out pollutants
- Produce oxygen which helps us to breathe
- Take carbon dioxide out of the air and store it, which helps to stop climate change from getting worse
- Support biodiversity by providing habitat, food and shelter for many species. Oak trees can support 2,300 species including beetles, bats and woodpeckers
- Prevent soil erosion and enrich the soil
- Communicate with each other through mycorrhizal fungi
- Intercept rainfall, which reduces run-off and flooding

What can we do?

By planting and caring for trees, we can add to the beauty of our towns and cities, communities and countryside, and contribute to the welfare of our children and grandchildren.

We hope this leaflet inspires you to celebrate the importance of trees in Wymondham and beyond.

10 Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Planted to mark the opening of the library in 2009, the tulip tree flowered for the first time in 2025. Its greenish-yellow flowers resemble a tulip flower, and its leaves have a tulip-shaped outline, turning orange and yellow in Autumn. Originating in North America, it was introduced to Britain in the 17th century.

11 Red Horse Chestnut

Aesculus x carnea

Introduced to Britain in 1616, the horse chestnut can live for 300 years. Four red horse chestnuts line Back Lane, while white-flowered trees grow near The Fairland and the town car park. Large leaves and candelabra flowers make them distinctive. Squirrels spread the trees by burying shiny conkers taken from their spiny seed cases.

12 Common Lime

Tilia x europaea

The Limes on The Fairland act as a welcoming green gateway to Wymondham. From Spring with their heart-shaped leaves, through Summer with their flower clusters, to yellow Autumn leaves and their majestic outline in Winter, they help us appreciate the changing seasons. Limes provide impressive shade and have high wildlife value, attracting many insects and birds.

