

Blackpool Council

CORPORATE PRINT SERVICES

Carbon Capture: A Way of Life

Hello and welcome to our October Carbon Capture newsletter.

As you know autumn is an extremely beautiful time of year and arguably the best time of year to take those long relaxing walks in woodland areas. There are plenty of vibrant, colourful Woodland Trust sites to experience such as Nidd Gorge in Yorkshire and Millook Valley in Cornwall. It is with great pride that we are able to make such a positive impact on these beautiful woodland areas. By Carbon Capturing our paper purchase through Premier Paper and the Woodland Trust we have already contributed to the planting of over 53,000 trees throughout the UK!

It's through our commitment to the Woodland Trust that they are able to generate new native woodland at locations such as Heartwood Forest and the Peak District. The planting of woodland through the Woodland Trust reduces the level of pollution by 'capturing' carbon emissions,



improving the quality of life for us and for future generations whilst providing sustenance and safety to countless species of wildlife including those that have been red listed.

We strongly believe that a responsible and environmentally friendly approach to our commercial activity is a necessity in this day and age. Other than Carbon Capturing our paper purchases, how can we make a positive impact on the environment in our day to day activity? Following is a list of some small changes that can lead to big environmental gains in the long term:

- 🍃 **Checking our tyres regularly**
- 🍃 **Car sharing**
- 🍃 **Switching off electrical appliances at the wall when not in use**
- 🍃 **Opening a window instead of using air con**
- 🍃 **Switching off the lights when exiting a room**
- 🍃 **Regularly servicing our cars**
- 🍃 **Only boiling the water that we need**

Tree of the Month: Silver Birch

Silver birch is a popular garden tree and often hybridises with our other native birch, the downy birch, *Betula pubescens* which is more common in Scotland.

Mature trees can reach 30m in height, forming a light canopy with elegant, drooping branches. The white bark sheds layers like tissue paper and becomes black and rugged at the base.

Silver birch is monoecious, meaning both male and female flowers (catkins) are found on the same tree, from April to May.

Silver birch can be used to improve soil quality for other plants to grow. Its deep roots bring otherwise inaccessible nutrients into the tree, which are recycled on to the soil surface when the tree sheds its leaves.

Did You Know?

Why leaves change their colour in autumn

In the spring and summer months when the hours of daylight are at their greatest food is generated in the tree's leaves within cells that contain chlorophyll (which gives a leaf its green colour). Yellow and orange pigments also exist but are masked by the large amounts of green covering.

In the autumn months, as the daylight hours begin to shorten and the temperature begins to change, the leaves stop their food-making process and the chlorophyll (green pigment) breaks down, revealing the yellow and orange colours.

At the same time other chemical changes can take place which form the additional red and purple colours.

The spectrum of colours of autumn foliage is due to the mixing of varying amounts of the chlorophyll residue and other pigments in the leaf during the autumn months.