Are you a farmer or landowner who is interested in planting new hedgerows? Are you short of time or finance?

Lifelines is a large-scale hedgerow and tree planting project that brings people together across faith divides to plant hedgerows and woodland across the UK.

The project has a three-way focus:

- Planting thousands of metres of hedgerow and woodland to increase UK biodiversity, create carbon sinks, and reduce flood risk;
- Deepen people’s relationship with the natural world, particularly for those who may not otherwise have access to the countryside
- Bring people together across differences and divisions, in a unifying sense of service to the Earth, and honouring the sacred in nature.

The project supports farmers and landowners who want to plant new hedgerows, are short of time, and are interested in developing connections with well-trained groups of volunteers. Using a ‘train-the-trainers’ model, we will upskill diverse faith and community leaders to recruit and lead groups from their own communities.

Farms interested in participating in the project will be provided with:

- 20 trained and managed volunteers for a weekend planting new hedgerows or woodland as per your instructions;
- Free whips for up to 350m of hedgerows

Farmers / landowners will need to provide:

- A warm welcome to groups and toilet / refreshment facilities
- Preparation of the ground in advance
- A commitment to maintain the hedgerows, and occasional photos as they grow
How does it work?

Each farm will be paired with two trained volunteer leaders. They will discuss the plan for the weekend with you in advance, and will be responsible for managing their volunteers on the day.

Groups will stay in nearby/onsite accommodation. Accommodation will be organised on a farm-by-farm basis. If you are able to provide basic accommodation or camping, or any other services, such as food or educational activities, please let us know.

Who are the volunteers?

Volunteers will be from pre-formed groups. They will be faith groups (across all spiritual traditions), or groups of interest such as gardening groups. They want to make a positive contribution and increase their connection with land or nature. They should be welcomed warmly and have an enjoyable time, but they will also be expecting to work hard.

Project timeline

July - Oct
Sign up and submit a site map showing the length and planned location of hedgerow (up to 350m).
Attend a 1hr zoom gathering to meet with your volunteer group leaders

Nov - March (one weekend agreed at your convenience)
Prepare the ground
Receive whips (2 days before volunteers arrive)
Host the volunteering weekend, working alongside volunteers if possible