



Biodiversity Action Across Teignbridge Parishes

Conserve

Enhance

Protect



Widecombe Creating a Living Fence (or 'Fedge')

A local farmer had a willow hedge that had got out of hand!

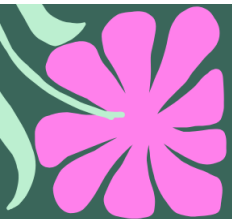
The overgrown willow hedge was thinned out by a team of volunteers and then bent over, to create a living fence or 'fedge'

In this example the willow was already at the site but new fedges can be created easily in sunny, moist areas that are positioned at least 10m away from buildings and drains.

Who Was Involved

The project was led by a local charity who advertised the event and supervised a group of volunteers.

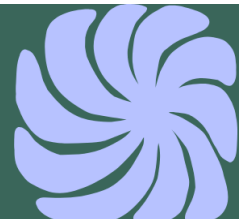




Conserve

Enhance

Protect



Cost

No cost - the willow was already growing on the site in this example.

However, willow can be sourced easily, and often for free, during the winter months or early spring.

Benefits and Outcomes

- Over time, the fedge will produce a fabulous wildlife corridor, unlike standard post and wire fencing.
- It will provide a wonderful new habitat for local wildlife.
- Some of the willow could be allowed to grow and mature into new hedgerow trees provide even better new habitats.
- The fedge will reduce the need for chemicals that are typically applied to traditional wooden fence posts.
- Making a fedge is a creative and enjoyable activity for all members of the community to take part in. The opportunity could be used to raise awareness and chat to locals about the value of new wildlife habitats.

Action

Is there a place in the parish where a new fedge could be created? Perhaps in a community space, sports field, school ground, park or communal garden.

This new habitat will support local wildlife and provide fantastic fun for the community!



Anna Leatherdale, Wildlife Warden in Trusham Parish
Action Climate in Teignbridge Wildlife Warden Scheme

