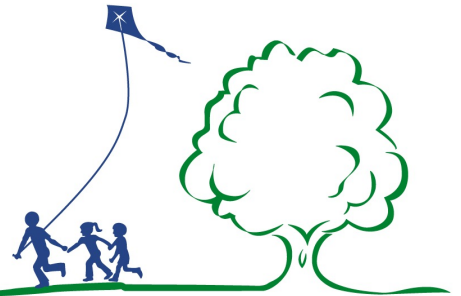


Warley Woods Community Trust



The Pavilion, Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, West Midlands, B67 5ED

Tel: 0121 420 1061 Email: admin@warleywoods.org.uk Web: www.warleywoods.org.uk

29th October 2007

Press Release

Volunteers needed to plant 850 trees at Warley Woods

Warley Woods Community Trust is looking for volunteers to help with a mass tree planting at Warley Woods.

The tree planting will be the culmination of the Heritage Lottery Project which has seen an extensive refurbishment of the park. New railings have been installed and a new driveway and paths. There have been new benches and bins and all hazardous trees have been dealt with. Some views have been reinstalled to restore part of the design by Humphry Repton, the landscape architect who laid out Warley Woods in the 1790s. There has also been a community archaeological dig when over 300 people took part. The project has been jointly funded by Heritage Lottery and Sandwell MBC.

The planting will be overseen by professional horticulturalists and the planting scheme is part of the Trust's Woodland Management Plan. Tree will be planted every year, but this year will give the regeneration of the woodland a headstart. Trees being planted will include beech, oak, ash, lime and sweet chestnut, alongside other native species. There will also be a number of trees planted by professional contractors along Abbey Road, to replace trees removed while the wall was repaired.

The tree planting days are during National Tree Week. Adult volunteers can take part on 25th November and 2nd December 2007. They should meet at the Pavilion, Lightwoods Hill at 10.30am. There will also be two tree planting days for school children during the week.

Viv Cole, Trust Manager, said "This will a fantastic finale to the Heritage Lottery Project. We have removed some trees during the year, but we will be planting many many more. This is a great opportunity for individuals to get really involved in ensuring that the fantastic space we all enjoy will be here for generations to come."

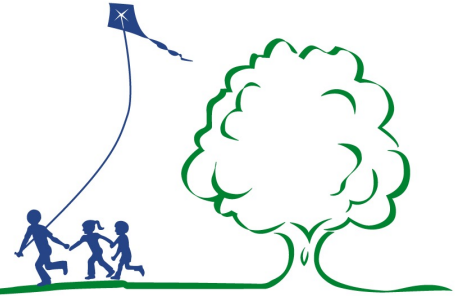
Anyone who would like to get involved, should register with the Trust on 0121 420 1061. Thirty spades will be available, but if you can bring your own spade or pick axe then there will be opportunities for everyone.

Ends

Notes

- For further information contact: Viv Cole, Trust Manager, 0121 420 1061, 07947 805746, trustmanager@warleywoods.org.uk

Warley Woods Community Trust



- Warley Woods Community Trust (WWCT) is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. WWCT is the only charity in the United Kingdom to have taken responsibility for an urban park. The organisation was formed to take action, following the long term neglect of the park by Birmingham City Council and to ensure local people had a say in what happened to their park.
- The park is leased to Sandwell MBC for 99 years and has been subleased to WWCT for the same period of time.
- It is managed by a Board of Trustees which is made up of local people. The Trust's membership now numbers around 700 individuals and there are over 60 active volunteers.
- The Park was named the People's Park after it was saved from becoming sold for housing by public subscription in 1906.