The government department, Communities and Local Government, is backing The Tree Council’s Tree Warden Scheme with a grant from its special grants programme in support of the Government’s ‘Cleaner, Safer, Greener’ agenda. This funding is helping to extend Tree Wardening further into towns and cities.

National Grid, one of the world’s largest utilities, has worked in partnership with The Tree Council since 1990 and supported its Tree Warden Scheme since 1997. The expert advice National Grid receives from The Tree Council, together with the support of Tree Wardens, is vital in helping the company to manage trees in a safe and sustainable way.

How Volunteer Tree Wardens Make a Difference

National Grid

The Tree Council, the UK’s lead tree campaigning partnership, works with its member organisations, Tree Wardens and others for more trees, of the right kind, in the right places; for better care for all trees, of all ages; and to inspire effective action for trees. Its goal is to make trees matter to everyone – and Tree Wardens are key to achieving this.

(Registered charity no. 279080)
Volunteer tree champions
The Tree Warden Scheme gives people who feel that trees matter an opportunity to:

- champion their local trees and woods
- plant and care for trees
- carry out woodland management
- set up tree nurseries using seeds collected locally
- survey trees and gather information about them
- provide early warning of threats, disease, decay, or vandalism
- involve their neighbours in tree projects
- get together with like-minded people for training and field trips
- spearhead Tree Council initiatives, such as its Hedge Tree Campaign to reverse the decline of trees in hedges.

These volunteers work closely with tree officers and conservation bodies, who are key to the scheme’s success.

Action for local trees
As local tree champions, Tree Wardens are the eyes and ears of their neighbourhoods. Community involvement is a central aim of the scheme.

Some Tree Wardens work with local schools or groups, developing imaginative projects to encourage others to value the community’s trees and woods. Involving children and youth groups helps to reduce vandalism.

Many wardens lead guided tree walks – often as part of the national Walk in the Woods festival that The Tree Council organises each May – and give talks to local groups.

Tree Wardens help farmers to lay hedges or tag hedge trees. They also encourage local environmental improvement projects and plan tree planting for The Tree Council’s National Tree Week.