



During October we are running / hosting a series of events giving thanks for God's creation and focusing on our need to care for it. For more information [click here](#).

Each week we will look at a different aspect of God's creation. **This week – Trees.**

Verses and thought for the week:

Genesis Chapter 2 v9

The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground - trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food.

Trees are truly amazing! Without them the world would be a very different place. Not only are they beautiful, they also provide us with many benefits. They are the lungs of the earth taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. They also provide food and shelter as well as paper and fuel.

According to the Woodland Trust the UK's woods and trees are home to more wildlife than any other landscape. Unfortunately though the UK is the second least wooded country in Europe. Only 13% of the UK is covered by woods and forests, whereas Europe's average is 44%. Is there anything that we can do about this?

Ideas and action:

- Go for a walk in your local area and appreciate the variety of trees there. Investigate joining a local 'friends' group eg, Friends of Croham Hurst woods or Friends of Purley Beeches to support the area and help care for our local trees.
- Plant a new tree or sponsor a tree. Lots of national charities offer schemes to help eg, Woodland Trust and National Trust. You could also go local via www.treesforstreets.org which is currently running a sponsor scheme in conjunction with Croydon council.
- Reduce the amount of paper you use by only printing when necessary or printing on scrap paper or go double sided. Actively choose recycled paper products or paper based products instead of plastic. Have you noticed cans of soup or drinks 'wrapped' in cardboard rather than plastic? Seek out cardboard food boxes instead of plastic ones (often frozen products are cardboard based) .

FINALLY.... Sign up to be part of our [Community Day on Saturday October 9th](#) and help to care for our trees, grounds and the inside of our buildings too.

COMPETITION

During this month of Creation we are hosting an **Art Competition** which is open to anyone of any age. The art competition involves creating something in any medium that defines our **current climate and environmental crisis**.

The competition is running till the last day of October. If you wish to participate please hand in your finished artwork to our church office by 31st October. If you have any questions please feel free to email office@emmanuelcroydon.org.uk.

There will be prizes too- across different ages!