



PEMBERTON NATURE AREA

These briefing papers describe sustainability actions at the University of Bradford as part of the development of our Ecoversity programme.

These papers are developed through The Sustainable Education Directorate together with the University staff and students featured inside, and are part of our commitment to improving communication around Ecoversity.

Comments and feedback are welcome and should be sent to: ecoversity@bradford.ac.uk

Why is it called the Pemberton Nature Area?

The Pemberton Nature Area is a small wooded area behind the Pemberton Building. As you will see when you walk around campus there are many small wooded areas, most of these are in lawned areas which are regularly mown. The Pemberton Nature Area was fenced off in 2005 and left undisturbed to allow for the site to develop.

It looks a bit overgrown and messy?

Allowing the site to grow undisturbed inevitably means that it will look less formal and managed than other areas on Campus. The undergrowth is dominated currently by nettles and brambles, which are aggressive colonizing species and a sign of a high level of nutrients in the soil. This makes it hard for other species such as wild flowers to establish. In fact many wild species thrive best in low nutrient soils. The site also suffers from litter which blows across the Campus car park and catches in the undergrowth, but is also the result of people throwing cans and bottles into the site. A litter clean up and new recycling bins will be introduced this year.

Are there plans to manage the site differently?

A recent ecological survey of the Campus has identified the Pemberton Nature Area as currently having relatively low species diversity but having the potential for considerable ecological enhancement. Options for enhancement include cutting back the bramble and nettles twice a year to reduce the soil nutrients and allowing other species opportunity to become established; felling one or two of the more spindly trees to let in more light, and thirdly, to increase the number of plant species and habitat by extending the site into the areas that are currently grassed.

What else is happening on Campus?

The Peace Garden was the first major project on Campus to incorporate an ecologically-led planting scheme (see briefing paper no.10.) The Estates Gardening Team have created a small wildflower meadow on the grass opposite Theatre in the Mill. This area was sown with a grass and wildflower mix, and flowers from May to July. An annual survey also takes place to identify the different species of birds on Campus.

The new car parks on Longside, behind the Communal Building, have created a series of areas for new planting. An ecologically friendly planting scheme is currently being developed to include a wide variety of insect-friendly edible plants, shrubs and trees. The design for the new Sustainability Centre includes a very distinctive green, living wall, and other horizontal and vertical planting projects have been designed.

Further Information

For further information or communication on Ecoversity or this briefing paper email ecoversity@bradford.ac.uk

For more detail on Ecoversity:
www.bradford.ac.uk/ecoversity

Selected Tree species on Campus

SILVER BIRCH BETULA PENDULA	35
WHITEBEAM SORBUS ARIA	10
ROWAN SORBUS AUCUPARIA	50
SYCAMORE ACER PSEUDOPLATANUS	41
LIME TILIA SPECIES	15
HOLLY ILEX AQUIFOLIUM	2
HAWTHORN CRATAGUS MONOGYMA	12
ASH FRAXINUS EXCELSIOR	15
BEECH FAGUS SYLVATIGA	5
SINGLE LEAFED ASH FRAXINUS DIVERIFOLIA	1
LOMBARDY POPULAR POPULUS NIGRA	2
RED MAPLE ACER CAPILLIPES	3
CHERRY PRUNUS SPECIES	36
ELM ULMUS SPECIES	2
RED MAPLE ACER RUBRUM	1
ASH LEAFED MAPLE ACER NEGUNDO	1
WILLOW LEAFED PEAR PYRUS SALICIFOLIA	1
ALDER ALNUS SPECIES	19
ALMOND PRUNUS SPECIES	1
FIELD MAPLE ACER COMPESTRE	4
ROBINIA ROBINIA SPECIES	4
WILLOW SALIX SPECIES	1
PILLAR APPLE MALUS TSCHONSKII	2
EUROPEAN LARCH LARIX DECIDUA	13
MONTEREY PINE PINUS RADIATA	8
PEAR PYRUS COMMUNIS	3
CEDAR OF LEBANON CEDRUS LIBANI	1
SIKTA SPRUCE PICEA SITCHENSIS	2
NORWAY SPRUCE PICEA ABIES	2
WEeping WILLOW SALIX BABYLONICA	10
SCOTS PINE PINUS SPECIES	5
LONDON PLANE PLATANUSX HISPANICA	1
TURKEY OAK QUERCUS SPECIES	1
ENGLISH OAK QUERCUS RUBRA	1
CRAB APPLE MALUS SPECIES	2
MAPLE ACER SPECIES	2
GINKGO BILOBA	1
BLUE CEDAR CEDRUS ATLANTICA	1
ATLAS CEDAR CEDRUS SPECIES	1
RED OAK QUERCUS RUBRA	3
RED SYCAMORE ACER PURPERCUM	1
TULIP TREE LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA	1