

Street Tree Award commended project: Ealing Street Tree Initiative

The award was given for the project that improves the street scene and is valued by local residents and/or businesses.

The Ealing Street Tree Initiative was commended for being an excellent example of collaboration between local people and a Local Authority to plant and care for trees in streets and public places, improving the streetscene and benefiting communities.



John Simpson, BBC World Affairs Editor with the Ealing Tree Wardens at the Awards evening at London Living Room, City Hall on the 15th May 2013

Ealing's cabinet member for environment and transport, Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, said: "I am delighted our tree warden initiative has been formally recognised and I'm sure it will encourage even more people to get involved. The project only started up at the end of 2011, so it's fantastic that it has already made such a difference in the community. The initiative would not be so successful without the enthusiasm and dedication of the wonderful local people who take part, and the support of Gristwood and Toms Ltd and the Tree Council. Thank you and well done to everyone involved."

Pauline Buchanan Black, Director General of The Tree Council, said "It has been a delight to work with Ealing Council to establish the Tree Warden Network in the borough. The enthusiasm of their Tree Wardens is infectious, as is that of the staff involved, and they have undertaken some excellent projects since the Network was developed. We look forward to continued working with this dynamic partnership and know they will achieve great things together over the next few years".

The Ealing Tree Warden Network

The Tree Council's volunteer Tree Wardens and key staff from Ealing Council worked together and developed a mutually beneficial relationship that shows others the great potential to get volunteers involved in tree planting and maintenance that will have a major positive impact on neighbourhoods as they become greener and more attractive places.

Ealing was the first London Borough to introduce a Tree Warden Network as part of the 'Londoners Love Trees initiative' in December 2011. The Tree Council co-ordinates the Tree Warden Scheme nationally and works with local authorities to establish networks locally.

The Tree Wardens in Ealing play a key role in helping to maintain the new street trees that are planted, helping to ensure that they survive through their more vulnerable early years. Common maintenance work includes watering the trees, keeping the trees weed free and checking the stake is secure.

The Tree Wardens have also planted fruit tree orchards and pruned orchard trees as well as cleared rubbish from woodland areas.



Training has been provided to volunteers, to build their tree knowledge and practical skills.

They have been involved not only in the work but also the decision making process – for example, having a say in where future trees are planted and what species to plant.

The project has been a great success, with their success rewarded by an invite to the House of Lords for their hard work. The project continues to attract more volunteers and they are maintaining more trees over time.

Ealing was once known as the Queen of the Suburbs, and this could be achieved again with volunteer help!

Further information

- Emilie Armstrong www.ealing.gov.uk
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- [Photos on Flickr](#)
- The [RE:LEAF Partnership](#)

The 2013 Awards were organised by the Forestry Commission and Mayor of London, received sponsorship from Gristwood & Toms, Woodland Trust, The Tree Council and Barcham Trees, and had assistance from a range of RE:LEAF partners

