

FORTH VALLEY ORCHARDS' INITIATIVE

CERTIFICATE IN ORCHARD CARE & MANAGEMENT 2011 / 2012

The Course

As part of the Forth Valley Orchards' Initiative programme, funded by the Central Scotland Green Network Development Fund 2011, **Forth Environment Link** is working in partnership with **Elmwood College**, Fife, to pilot a new course that aims to expand the base of orchard management expertise across Forth Valley's orchards and develop local expertise to provide communities support for developing orchards.

Entry Requirements

Priority on the course will be given to anyone living or working within the Clackmannanshire, Falkirk or Stirling Unitary Authority areas. As the course is intended to expand the base of orchard management expertise across Forth Valley, participants should make a commitment to sharing their knowledge and expertise gained from the course, with members of their community – individuals or groups – as requested. No formal qualifications or prior knowledge of orchards are required but participants should have a passion for, and commitment to, learning about orchards.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered over a period of 6 months, one day per week for eight days in total. The course is mainly practical-based and visits to orchards across Forth Valley will be made. Participants will have a choice of joining a Monday or a Saturday group.

Course Fees & Resourcing

Participants will be required to pay £50 towards the course. Travel costs to the venues are not included in the course fees and will be the responsibility of the participant. There are three Assisted Places available for young people or people who are registered as receiving State Benefits. All protective shoes / boots, gloves, tools & equipment, and hard hats & goggles (if required) will be provided. Participants will be required to bring their own waterproof clothing, and packed lunch.

For further information, please contact: Diane Alderdice, Project Officer, Forth Environment Link, Offices 5 & 6, Earls Gate House, St Ninian's Road, Stirling, FK8 2HE, Tel: 01786 449215, Email: diane@forthenvironmentlink.org, Mob: 07761 088 505.

ATTENDANCE	PART-TIME (including Saturdays)
DURATION	6 MONTHS
START DATE	24 OCTOBER 2011
END DATE	12 MARCH 2012
SCQF	UP TO LEVEL 3
AREAS of STUDY	
Tree Cultivation and Management (two days)	
Vegetative Propagation 1	
Pest, Disease and Disorder Identification and Control	
Weed Identification & Control	
Species Specific Pruning (ie Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum or general)	
Pollination Workshop	
Harvesting & Storage Practices	

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CERTIFICATE IN ORCHARD CARE & MANAGEMENT 2011 / 2012 COURSE APPLICATION FORM

Name:		Telephone:	
Address:		Mobile:	
Post Code:		Email:	
Please tell us why you would like to apply for this course:			
Please tell us how you would pass on your expertise learned on this course to other members of your community:			
Eligibility			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a *resident / work in *Clackmannanshire / Falkirk / Stirling Unitary Authority Areas (please delete as necessary)			
Assisted Places			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am applying for an Assisted Place <input type="checkbox"/> I am in receipt of State Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> I am a young person between 16 and 25 years of age			
Declaration:			
I apply to become a course participant in the Certificate in Orchard Care & Management from October 2011 to March 2012.			
Signed: Date:			
Please return this application form to:			
Diane Alderdice, Project Officer, Forth Environment Link, Offices 5 & 6, Earlsgate House, St Ninian's Road, Stirling, FK8 2HE. Tel: 01786 449215, Email: diane@forthenvironmentlink.org .			



The Forth Valley Orchard Initiative is funded by the Central Scotland Green Network Development Fund. The Central Scotland Green Network Orchard Grant Scheme 2011/2012, which is part of the initiative, covers the whole of the CSGN area.

About Forth Environment Link

Forth FEL began life in 1989 as the Kippen Nature Club, to provide environmental activities for local children. The club won several prestigious awards that allowed it to expand to become Kippen Environment Centre. The organisation has continued to grow and became Forth Environment Link, a registered company with charitable status, in 2004. It is now a leading provider of environmental education and action for sustainable living in the Forth Valley area and beyond.

The ethos of FEL is to deliver successful programmes at grassroots level with the aim of informing and encouraging environmental awareness and more sustainable lifestyles.

Our aims are:

- To raise awareness, appreciation and understanding of the natural world
- To explain sustainability and biodiversity through direct demonstration, education and action
- To engender informed attitudes about sustainability and biodiversity

Our objectives are:

- To promote, support and develop education and action towards sustainable living
- To work in partnership with local authorities, organisations and formal and informal community groups
- To compliment the work of government agencies in encouraging sustainable living

Visit http://www.forthenvironmentlink.org/about_fel.htm.

About Elmwood College

Elmwood College is a further education college based in the heart of North East Fife. The College's portfolio of courses includes a range of landbased niche market golf-related specialisms and a range of more traditional courses, which meet the needs of the local community. It is also the Scottish Centre for Production Horticulture.

The College has a student population of over 1000 full-time students and between 3000 and 5000 part-time students each academic year. In the region of 75% of students come from Fife, while the remaining 25% are drawn from across the UK, Europe, USA, India and China.

The College has been in existence for more than 55 years and was originally a landbased college delivering courses in agriculture, horticulture, engineering and agricultural secretarial courses.

In recent years the College has diversified and introduced new curriculum areas including hair and beauty, healthcare, multimedia, art and design, interior decoration, visual merchandising, golf and greenkeeping, golf management, gamekeeping, sports coaching, hospitality and conservation.

Many of our courses are taught from National Certificate level to Higher National Certificate and Higher National Diploma levels or equivalent.

The College has proven progression routes to Higher Education courses and articulation agreements are in place with a number of Scottish Universities, allowing students to progress in their chosen field.

Contact: Elmwood College, Carslogie Road, Cupar, Fife, Scotland, UK, KY15 4JB Tel: 01334 658800 Fax: 01334 658888.

(Source: <http://www.elmwood.ac.uk/about/about-elmwood-college>).