



Green Gown
Awards 2013

Finalist's case study

Dissemination supported by:



Nottingham Trent University Facilities and Services NTU get down to earth

Section 1 About the project

Summary

Nottingham Trent University's (NTU) estate comprises over 240 hectares of land across our three campuses, ranging from city center to farmland. The university is working hard towards conserving and continually improving biodiversity found on and around the estate. Staff, students and the local community get involved to help NTU achieve a rich and diverse environment.

Project partners

Working together a number of NTU departments have come together to achieve and adopt improved practices which enhance the biodiversity across the estate. NTU have also worked with the Nottingham Trent Student Union to organise schemes involving students and to expand the nature trails.

Section 2 The results

The problem

With a diverse estate comprising of 240 hectares over three campuses, enhancing biodiversity was not a one size fits all scheme. Mitigating the effects of major estate regeneration on the environment is a value that NTU are committed to and the university strive to provide top standard facilities whilst maintaining and protecting the surrounding environment.

The approach

Changes in farm practices and landscape management across the estate have led to increased staff awareness about the environment that they are working with. In addition to developments in practice, efforts to arrange activities with a range of communities illustrates that NTU are going beyond minimal legislative requirements when protecting habitats and protected species, and are involving those who are closest to the issue.

Our goal

NTU's goal is to enhance and protect the biodiversity of the estate in line with legislation, policy and with improved staff and student awareness and engagement.

NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY

Profile

- HEI
- 28,000 students (includes full and part time students)
- 3000 staff
- Mixed urban and rural campuses

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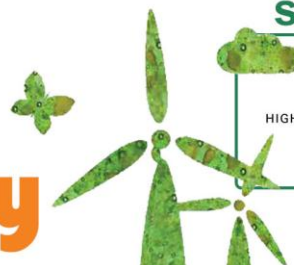




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Obstacles and solutions

Expanding and developing campus	A range of stakeholders are involved with development plans.
Diverse estate	Varied approaches taken to suit the environment
Large urban areas	Working with local schools to highlight urban potential.

Performance and results

Efforts made have led to some of the highest Biodiversity Index levels ever recorded highlighting that the changes made across the estate have been valid and of great contribution to the enhancement of biodiversity. Staff volunteering events have commonly taken the route of planting trees and assisting with the implementation of the nature trail across one of the three campuses and there have been in excess of two million hits on the falcon cam website with viewers logging in across the globe. Two of the three campuses have been awarded Green Flag status.

Lessons learned

NTU are able to illustrate to the sector and other organisations that regardless of the landscape in which you are located a variety of features can be managed and introduced. These efforts will improve the quality of the outdoor space and biodiversity for the environment, staff, students and surrounding communities.

Sharing your project

The project has been shared with a range of people from the staff and students of NTU, local schools and communities as well as the local city council. During campus regeneration contractors take part in toolbox talks to ensure their awareness of potential biodiversity aspects are highlighted. Students and staff are invited to partake in activities throughout the year that enhance their personal skills and awareness of the topic. NTU also invite local schools to develop the landscape planting with native species and local communities are invited onto campuses to partake in Open Farm Sunday and Clifton's Nature Trail. Local media report on the activities of the falcons residing on NTU's feature Newton building and this is available internationally, drawing in people from across the globe. NTU are also taking a lead on the green space biodiversity audit for Nottingham city centre, including parks and schools using the Biodiversity Index.

What has it meant to your institution to be a Green Gown Award finalist?

Being listed as a finalist within the 2013 Green Gown Awards is recognition of the hard work put in by so many different departments and individuals at NTU, NTSU and local organisations. It highlights to surrounding communities that NTU are committed to protecting local biodiversity for the benefit of everyone.

Further information

www.ntu.ac.uk/ecoweb/biodiversity