

Devon Living Churchyards Project

Ash Dieback in Churchyards

The Devon Ash Dieback Resilience Forum recommends the following eight key principles in relation to replacing lost ash:

1. Act now to minimise the landscape impact of ash tree loss – start promoting new trees and taking better care of existing trees.
2. Use the Devon 3/2/1/ formula: at least 3 new trees for loss of a large tree, 2 for a medium tree and 1 tree for a small tree.
3. Promote natural regeneration wherever possible, particularly in woodlands.
4. Grow the ***right trees in the right places in the right ways***, and give them the *right aftercare*.
5. Encourage a diverse range of trees to develop a resilient landscape.
6. When choosing species, consider local factors such as what trees are characteristic of the area, soil type, management requirements, local stresses, etc.
7. For wildlife, landscape and woodfuel, choose native species, or those well established in the British Isles such as sycamore, wild pear, crab apple or white willow. In urban areas it is more acceptable to use species from other parts of the world.
8. Reduce the risks of introducing new diseases by only planting trees grown in Britain.

