

# A-Z

of

THE GREAT  
BIG GREEN  
WEEK 

## event ideas!



**Let's swap together for good**

**7th - 15th June 2025**



# What is the Great Big Green Week?

The Great Big Green Week is a national celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature and people across the UK will host events and activities in their local area from 7th to 15th June 2025.

This year, a million people – just like you – will come together to be part of a wave of actions for friends and family, climate and nature under the theme 'Let's swap together for good'.

We can all make small swaps, large swaps and swaps that change the system, which contribute to making our communities better.

And it won't stop there. By coming together for good, we'll send a message loud and clear to our politicians and decision makers that transformative change, to swap old ways for better ways, is needed now.

When we unite to swap together for good, we can protect and restore nature, lessen the impact of climate change, strengthen our communities, and build a future we're proud to pass on to the next generation.

There are all sorts of swaps that can be made, such as those that improve lives such as cleaner air and warmer homes, or ending our throwaway culture. Or you could bring together different groups in your community to swap skills and knowledge, or work together for good to change an unloved area to one that thrives with wildlife.

As well as inspiring hope for our children's future, action is also needed at a political level. With 1 million people united in action for nature and climate, you will be part of a clear mandate for systemic change whether on the local or international stage.

We have lots of ideas to inspire you, and can't wait to hear how you are going to swap together for good.



# Let's swap together for good.

When we hear 'swaps' it's easy to automatically think of physical swaps - swapping objects, like clothes or books. But there are a number of other ways you can bring the theme to life, and highlight that when we come together for good, we can make a big impact.

Here are some of the other types of "swaps" that we can make together for people, climate and nature.

## Swapping skills, stories and ideas

We all have different skills, knowledge and ideas we can tap into to help create a cleaner, greener, fairer world. Some of these skills are even things we do on a daily basis, and may not even realise are making a positive impact! Think about **events**, like a **lunch and learn**, you could host to bring people together to swap some of these skills - **how to grow your own veg**, **repairing clothes and household items**, guidance on how to have a conversation with your decision makers about climate and nature, just to name a few.

Sharing stories and ideas is also a great way to have **new conversations**, approach the issues of climate change and nature loss in different ways, and **inspire action**. You could host events that create a space for open discussion, and encourage people to share their own stories about why they care about creating a better world for us and future generations, or workshop some ideas for how your community can work together on certain issues.

Working with people across your community is a great way to make your event more impactful - take a look at our outreach guide to help you come together with others.



## Swaps can have positive impacts beyond our communities

While swaps that you make clearly benefit your community, the positive impacts can ripple out and show decision makers the public are taking action to create a cleaner, greener, fairer future, and we want them to do the same.

By hosting events in your local community, you are **sending a message to politicians** that you care about certain issues and we need them to make **policy swaps that benefit our lives**, the lives of **future generations**, and **our planet**.

Hosting a clothes swap is more than reducing waste and promoting reuse. Collectively, through Great Big Green Week actions, **we can advocate to policy makers and big business that we need international agreements on waste reduction and circular economies**, creating fair and just policies for garment workers no matter where they live.

By swapping an unloved, paved area for a wildlife-rich community garden, you will help restore nature and provide a home for birds, animals and insects that need your help, as well as providing nutritious, local and seasonal food. With this happening across the country, **we can show decision makers the need to support nature friendly farming and farmers across the UK**.





We know that we need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Communities are already making the steps to **swap to renewable energy**, in schools and community centres. This not only helps to cut energy costs, it shows that you're part of a **global movement reducing dependence on fossil fuels**, sending a message to politicians that we need to make the swap to **renewable, clean energy**.

With hundreds of thousands of people united in action for nature and climate, there is a **clear mandate for systemic change**, whether on the local or international stage.



These are just a few categories to help you get started, but remember: **you will know best what will work in your community**.

The Great Big Green Week is a great chance for your community to build lasting connections, kickstart local activity and really get the attention of local decision makers - so your events should represent and speak to your community first and foremost!

For guidance on planning your events, have a read through **our Organisers' Guide** [on our resources page](#).



## Arts & Music Festival

Bring your community together with the power of art and music! Crossing Footprints hosted a Live and Online mini-festival of songs, art, poetry, media, debate, community connections, raising voices to protect our environment.

Titled 'Voices For Action', they worked with local Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities, and with low income communities, who presented the results of creative climate workshops from the previous few months.



# A

# B

## Beach Clean

Swap dirty, littered, polluted beaches for fresh air, community spirit, a sense of accomplishment and a tangible difference to your local beach that everyone can enjoy. But, it doesn't just have to be a beach! It could be your local river, street or mountain.

Our member, Surfers Against Sewage, are the beach clean pros so check out the [resources on their website](#).



## Bike Day

Bring together your local bike shops and repair cafes for a bike day. Let people try out electric bikes or a new commuting bike, encouraging people to swap cars for sustainable transport. Invite local bike maintenance services or volunteers to swap skills to help people service their bikes. End the day in a guided bike tour of the local area.



## Community Craftism

Get together with your community to host a craftivism activity! [Local WI groups](#) often host crafting sessions so why not team up with them? Could you host a crafting skills swap, or a green heart crafting session? Once you've crafted this green heart, you could share it with your local decision makers to show you care about climate and nature, or share it with a neighbour and start a conversation about Great Big Green Week!

You can find some ideas for crafting a green heart and guidance on how to have conversations about climate change [on our website here](#).

## Climate Conversations

Conversations can help inspire deeper connections and motivate action for people, climate and nature. [Use our conversation guide here](#) for tips on how you can speak with neighbours, friends, family, MPs and councils, using The Climate Coalition's green heart as a starting point!

# C







Credit: The Climate Coalition

## Clothes Swap

Clothes swaps are a great way to circulate clothes and accessories with other members of your community, and a fun way to refresh your wardrobe at the same time! You could even connect with your local charity shop, or school to organise a uniform swap.

## Discussion Panel

Are there local climate issues you want to celebrate or tackle? Host a discussion panel in your local area to open up the conversation! You could swap ideas on how your local area can take action on climate and nature, and share knowledge and experience to help achieve these ideas.

A panel event is also a great one to invite local politicians along to!

# D

## Electric Transport Showcase

Show off electric transport in your area. You could highlight hireable electric bikes or cars, or new electric charging points in your town centre. Why not connect with a local car dealership to provide an opportunity for people to learn more about swapping petrol vehicles for electric cars? You could bring in your bike shop to showcase electric bikes and scooters. Or use it as a moment to lobby for more!



Credit: Climate Cymru

# E

## Eat

Share food in all forms and eat together. Swap in plant-based feasts in cafes. Connect over recipes to help you reduce food waste. Share cooking skills and recipes, or swap stories about why you care about climate change over a shared meal.

Bring local farmers together to share their produce. Or, host a community event where people make and swap traditional dishes from their home countries, and learn from each other about experiences of climate change across the world. Campaigners in Scotland connected Fairtrade farmers in Rwanda and Uganda with local crofters in Scotland to talk about the future of sustainable growing in their areas.



Credit: Stratford Climate Action

## Faith

If you're a faith group or work closely with faith communities, then host a faith event during Great Big Green Week. Why not put on a Faith in Action event, and swap a local unloved area for a thriving wildlife

sanctuary, by clearing and planting with your community? Or host a Climate Service? You could even partner with others in your community to host an interfaith event. **Faith for the Climate** has a number of resources available to inspire faith communities to take action on climate change.

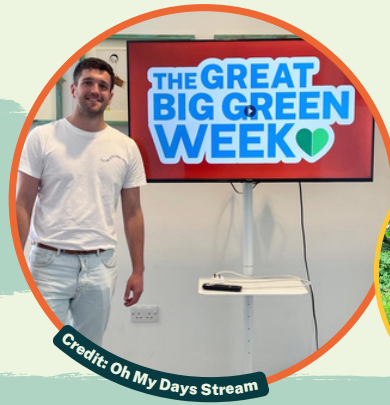


Credit: Michael Preston

# F

## Film Screening

Host a Film Screening of an environmental film - head to our resources page for some different film screening suggestions.



# G

## Green Week

Have you got a number of individual events planned during the Great Big Green Week in your area? Or know of other community groups who are hosting events? Then you've got yourself a Green Week!

Make sure to list your local Green Week on the website so it's easy to find all the events in your area.

## Grow your own skill swap

Do you know how to grow your own produce? You could run a skill swapping session to share your knowledge with others in your community, and invite others along to share their skills too!

Is there a local allotment that could open up for the day or week and give tours to local people, to swap knowledge and skills about growing fruits and vegetables, or even coordinate some workshops with tips on growing your own? Or get help with harvesting, planting overwintering crops or pruning from the community!



## Homes & Heating

Organise visits to local low-carbon homes to help your community learn more about swapping polluting and expensive fossil fuels for heat pumps, solar panels and other energy-saving improvements local people have made to their homes. Work with your local council to help signpost any grants or support available locally to help people improve their homes and reduce bills.

# H

## Intergenerational swaps

Bring together people of all ages by having conversations across generations. Could you run an event where generations swap skills and knowledge about tackling climate change and nature loss?

Can you make contact with local schools or youth groups? Or connect with charities that work with older people?





Credit: Climate Cymru



## Invite Local Politicians

Whatever event you are running, think about inviting your local politicians, from MPs to councillors. You can invite them along to see what you are doing, to meet people from the local community, and to hear about what you want them to do for climate and nature.

Through engaging your local politician, you can build a strong relationship based on common ground that will allow you to shape the climate agenda. You can find advice on how to organise a politically impactful event [on our website](#).

## Joy

Climate change can feel overwhelming, but taking action can bring us hope and joy for the future.

What swaps are your local community making that bring people joy? Can you bring some of this joy into your Great Big Green Week events?



# J

# K

## Kids

Get schools, youth groups and kids clubs involved! We have resources available on the schools page on our website to help you.



Credit: Jamie Clark - Rosehill Community Larder

## Lobby your local politician

Lobbying might sound intense but it simply means trying to persuade a politician to support a particular policy or campaign. Even if your MP or local politician can't come to your event, you can use Great Big Green Week as an opportunity to let them know about the important climate issues local to you, and the policy swaps we need to see.

Make sure to send them any press cuttings or photos from your event, so that they see what's been happening locally, and understand that their constituents want action. We have resources on our website to help you.



Credit: Penhurst School

Credit: South West Herts Green Week



## Litterpick

Organise a litter pick with neighbours of all ages! You could create heart shapes out of litter to highlight the amount of waste collected, and then finish up with a drink, cake and chat in your local green space or community hall. Make sure you connect with your local council so they can collect the waste.

# L

# M

## Market

Markets are a great way to get to know the community and take a moment to celebrate all the wonderful things happening locally. You could host a swaps market, with clothes and books swaps, or showcasing some of the swaps you can make in your home, with your community, and as a society to swap in a better future.

Transition Ilford closed off their street for a **Eco Community Market** for Great Big Green Week. They hosted 30 stalls including lots of local food, second hand wares and thermal cameras for assessing energy loss.



## Map

Share with The Wildlife Trusts where you want nature to recover in your community, or where nature is already recovering and

you want it to stay that way! Drop a pin on **The Wildlife Trusts' WildBelt map**, and add a note about the space and why it matters to you. If your community is helping nature to recover together, you can also add this to **The Wildlife Trust's map!**



## Nature Trail

Coordinate a Nature trail or walk in your neighbourhood to celebrate nature in your local park, nature reserve or green space. If you're not sure where to go, why not team up with your local **RSPB Reserve**, **Wildlife Trusts Nature Reserve** or **Woodland Trust Wood** and host an event at one of their sites?

Get creative and design a trail for people to make their way around with facts, activities or quiz questions. You don't have to be a nature expert - we've got plenty of members who can help you with that: The **RSPB's Bird Watching Guide** to help you identify birds, The **Woodland Trust's Tree Identification Guide** and The **Wildlife Trusts' Wildlife Identification**.

# N

## Outdoors

Get outside in any way! Host events outside. Get into nature. Just be outdoors and celebrate the wonderful green and blue spaces near you.

Could you run events that support local people who aren't often able to get outside to experience nature? There are some great organisations such as **Muslim Hikers** and **Black2Nature** who might have local groups you could connect with.

# O





## Planting

Create a community planting space! You could use this space in June to grow vegetables and wildlife friendly plants.

Or you could swap an unloved piece of land in a local community for a wildlife habitat, by planting and growing things that benefit nature and bring beauty to a community - prepare the spot for planting, and come together again in autumn to plant wildflowers and then again in spring to watch them bloom.

# P

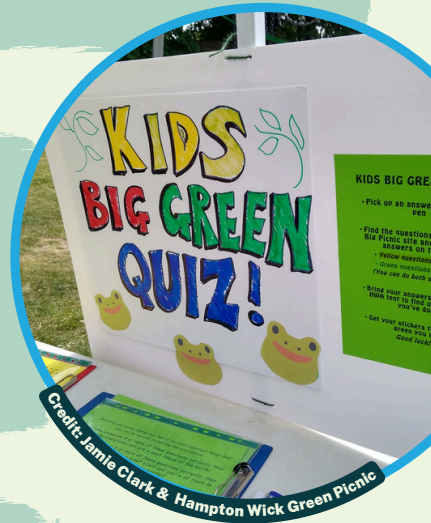


## Plastic free picnic

Could you host a plastic-free picnic to show how easy it is to swap plastics for reusable items, and the benefits of it? Leicester City Council hosted a Plastic-Free Picnic in the park with local Secondary and College students - students discussed climate issues and held a climate march which led them to the local park.

## Quiz

Host a climate themed quiz for friends and family, either in person or virtually! Or does your local pub host a quiz that could be climate and nature themed during Great Big Green Week? Plenty of our members have quizzes you can access for free, like [WWE](#).



# Q

## Repair Cafe Workshop

Have you got a local repair café in your town? Or a person who's just very good at fixing things up and repairing things? Host a Repair Café workshop where people can swap skills and bring old items that need fixing, learn how to darn their socks or make some old clothes into something new. Add in some tea and cake and you've got yourself a community repair café.

## Renewable Energy

Showcase local initiatives that swap out fossil fuels for renewable energy. Could you organise a visit to a local wind or solar farm? Or run a panel discussion with different people in your community who have installed solar panels and heat pumps in homes and community spaces?

# R

## Singing

Connect with a local choir and co-host an event or invite them to sing at your Green Week. At [Bridport's Green Week](#), amongst other events, they hosted a community singing event. It was an opportunity for people to get together and sing meditative songs to celebrate the Earth.

# S



## Sports

Do you often drive to your local sports fixtures? Could you and your local sports team use alternative forms of travel during the Great Big Green Week? Could you walk, cycle, run, scooter or skateboard?!

Previously, Birmingham FA ran a 'Pass on the Car' campaign during the Great Big Green Week for their Grassroots football clubs and were able to save 63,038.60kg of Carbon Equivalent, and attendees of Manchester United Foundation Street Reds sessions took part in a collective litter pick, collecting over 800 single-use plastic bottles for recycling!



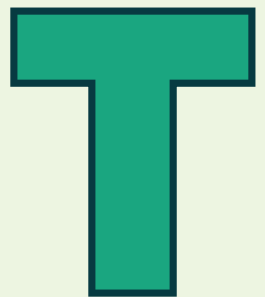
Credit: UK Health Alliance

## Theatre

Get together with your local theatre troupe or drama club to host a theatre production that has a climate theme or is inspired by the theme of protecting our planet.

## Travel

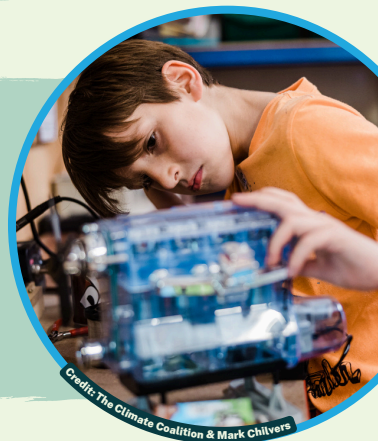
Swap out cars for sustainable travel! Could you arrange a walk or cycle to school event? Or do tours of some local community hotspots via public transport - getting to know your community and travelling sustainably!



## Upcycling Workshop



Are there items your community uses a lot of? Or a local business that has a lot of the same thing that goes to waste? Get creative and think about how you could upcycle these items. Perhaps they could go into creating one big mural in your community or lots of smaller items people could take home.



Credit: The Climate Coalition & Mark Chivers

## Vegetables

Pick veg! Eat veg! Share veg! Talk about why growing vegetables is so GREAT! You could work with local farmers to talk about how climate change is impacting their crops, connect with your allotment association to give demonstrations on planting to help you swap out buying imported to growing your own seasonal veg.



## Walk



Getting moving in nature is beneficial for your body and your mind. Walk barefoot in the grass, sand or in water and reconnect with nature. You could even run a 'Forest Bathing' walk where people can really slow down and relax in a local woodland.



Credit: Tice's Meadow



## Marks the spot!

Host a treasure hunt in your local park with eco-friendly prizes.

Make sure that there's a running climate or nature theme to your treasure hunt (it could be sites that are vulnerable to flooding, or plant species affected by climate change), and that people leave with a take-home message or action!



## Yippee!

Celebrate all the climate action happening locally! Let friends, family and neighbours know about your activities, share on social media using the hashtag **#GreatBigGreenWeek**, or even write to your local media outlets! You can find guidance on promoting your events and activities on our [resources page here](#).



## Zzz

Once you're done with the Great Big Green Week rest, recover and celebrate all the wonderful things you've done in your community.



We hope that's provided you with some inspiration for your own Great Big Green Week activities! If you're looking for more guidance, make sure you check out our organisers guide and other resources at [greatbiggreenweek.com](https://greatbiggreenweek.com)

Don't forget to **register your event** on the website too! It will be added to our events calendar, encourage more people to attend and will help to show the breadth and depth of activity taking place across the country. By registering your event, you'll also be able to order a **FREE pack of materials** including Great Big Green Week **posters, bunting, flyers** and more.

We can't wait to celebrate with you between **7th and 15th June!**