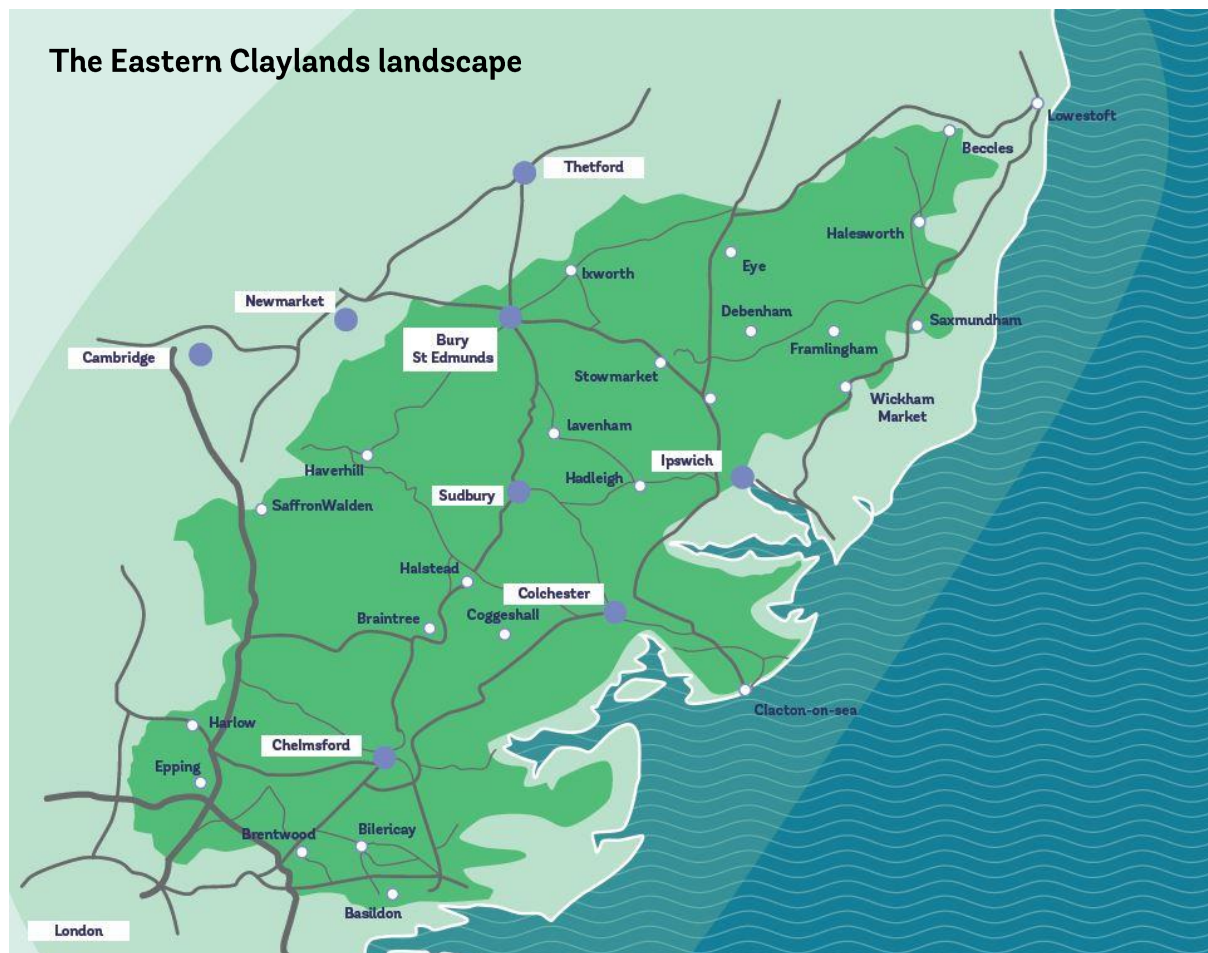


Trees from the Woodland Trust to help fight tree disease

Tree packs are back!

The Woodland Trust is urging landowners to join the fight to protect the landscape from the increasing effects of ash dieback and other tree pests and diseases by once again offering fully subsidised tree packs for landowners within the Eastern Claylands. 600 of these packs are available for the 2020/2021 planting season and each contains 50 saplings, chosen from species carefully selected to best replace trees which will be lost to disease and strengthen the landscape against future threats (oak, hornbeam, field maple, wild cherry and crab apple).

Covering large parts of Essex and Suffolk, the Woodland Trust is working at landscape scale across the Eastern Claylands to protect, plant and restore trees and woodlands, which face a variety of pressures including climate change and tree disease.



More than half the trees in the Eastern Claylands are found outside of woodlands in hedgerows along roadsides and on farmland, and ash is the second most common species. Ash die back has been confirmed in every county across England and represents a significant threat to the ash trees of the Eastern Claylands. Combined with the effects of acute oak decline and pollution this might equate to a hugely worrying total of 2 million trees disappearing from the landscape of Essex and Suffolk over the next 10 to 15 years.

"Ash dieback is a real threat to our landscape. Although the impact might not be as big as predicted a few years ago, the signs of the disease are now everywhere across the landscape. Our tree packs give landowners the opportunity to pre-empt any losses which could occur in the countryside. Of course, they also provide a whole host of other benefits such as improving climate change resilience and offering shade, shelter and habitat creation for wildlife." **Edwin van Ek, Outreach Advisor – Eastern Claylands**

How to apply

This season's tree packs are fully subsidised for landowners in the Eastern Claylands by the Trust and are available at no cost on a first come, first served basis due to their limited availability.

Up to two tree packs can be requested by each landowner, and they'll be ready for collection over winter. In December, pick-up days will be available in **Stonham Aspal** and **Langham**, and in February pick-up locations will be in **Margaretting** and **Takeley**.

For more details and to secure a tree pack, visit <https://woodlandtrusttickets.cloudvenue.co.uk/home> and click on the 'tree packs collection' tab, where you'll be able to select a location date/timeslot. Distributing the packs in this way allows us to adopt **Covid-19 social distancing and hygiene measures** at the collection points.

Need help with something else?

If you're in the Eastern Claylands, find out more about how we can help you with [planting trees or woods](#) or [restoring ancient woodland](#); or contact Edwin at EdwinvanEk@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Not in the Eastern Claylands?

Head to our online [Tree Shop](#), where you can apply for part-subsidised tree packs and still help safeguard the role of trees in the landscape. You can also find out about national woodland creation and ancient woodland restoration support by visiting our website – woodlandtrust.org.uk.