

# Leadburn Community Woodland



## **History**

Leadburn Wood is an area of former conifer plantation, previously owned by the Forestry Commission. It was clear felled in 2001/2 and, due to its unsuitability for commercial forestry, the Commission chose to sell the site after the timber had been extracted.

The Friends of Leadburn Community Woodland was formed in 2005 and purchased the site in February 2007. Financial assistance with the purchase was received from the Scottish Land Fund and from the European Community Scottish Borders Leader+ 2000-2006 Programme. The woodland was formally opened on 1 April 2007 by Jeremy Purvis MSP.

## **Location**

Leadburn Wood extends over 44.14 hectares (109 acres) and is located approximately 20 km South of Edinburgh city centre and some 6 km south of Penicuik at Leadburn. The site lies at the southern limit of the Esk valley, between the Pentland Hills to the north west and the Moorfoot Hills to the south east.

The site is accessed from a layby that is situated one km south of Leadburn off the A703 (OS NT236544). Two disused railway lines cross the site and provide the main access paths. The woodland is a central point between the rural communities of Eddleston, Howgate and Lamancha.

## **Contacts**

Friends of Leadburn Community Woodland is a registered charity, number SC037052.

Chairman: Lesley Muirden (01721 730215).

Membership Secretary: Neil MacDonald, 2, Annsmill, Leadburn, West Linton, Peeblesshire, EH46 7BE Single annual membership is £5 and family membership is £10.

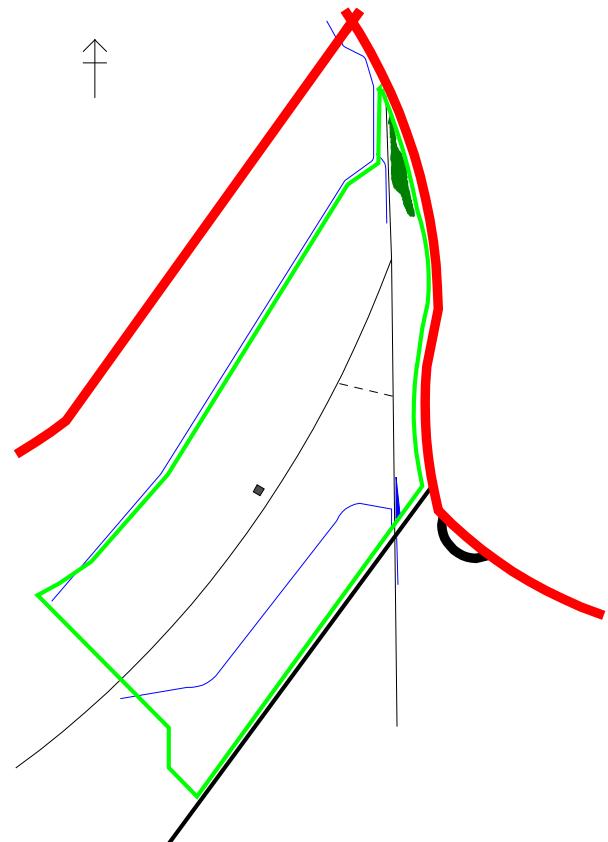


## Plans for Site

The map shows the site boundary in light green. The dark green area at the north end of the site includes mature trees that were not felled by the Forestry Commission.

The remainder of the site is largely open with piles of partly rotted brash and some tree regeneration, mainly of lodgepole pine.

We are obliged to replant much of the site as woodland. Within this constraint, we aim to create a pleasant and varied site which is good for wildlife and maintains some of the views of the Pentland Hills.



The second map indicates how the woodland might be developed. The key features are:

- Most of the site will be replanted using a mix of mainly deciduous trees. Preference will be given to Scottish native species.
- The area to the northwest will be restored as a raised bog. This will ensure the views to the north and west are maintained.
- Pools will be created.
- Additional paths will be created.

