

RESPITE UNIT, MORGAN SINDALL



BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

This construction project is to construct a building designed to provide planned short term breaks for adults with physical and learning disabilities in order to support their families and carers. The respite facility will be able to provide short term accommodation for up to six guests and will be operated with up to 4 members of staff.

Tree protection

The team conserved existing biodiversity through making a simple tree protection zone with Herras fencing and signage on A3 laminated card and cable tied to the fencing. We consulted with the landscape architect from Hampshire County Council to correctly position the Herras. The protected trees are: Cherry, Beech, Lime, Sycamore amounting to approximately 20 to 30 trees.

Bird boxes

We have installed two bird boxes to house local bird species of blue tits, great tits, chaffinches, robins and blackbirds. These were made from off cuts of timber and ply from the construction works.

Bat boxes

Two bat boxes have been installed to home the soprano pipistrelle bat species. As with the bird boxes these were made from off cuts of timber and ply from the construction works.

Bug boxes

We made 4 Bug Boxes and spread them around the site, we used off cuts of ply wood from the construction of the flat roof to the project, with bamboo and small branches cut to fit the bug boxes, the branches were left over from the landscaper when they cleared the site for our project. We made some signage and fixed to ply backing from off cuts of ply and timber to go under or close to the bug boxes to promote what we were doing and with info on how to find out more for any passers by. The bug boxes attract spiders, ladybirds, bees & lacewings, all beneficial insects.

Fact box

Company name:
Morgan Sindall

Project name:
Respite Unit

Location:
Basingstoke

Biodiversity enhancement:

- Tree protection
- Bird boxes
- Bat boxes
- Bug boxes
- Insect hotel

Size:

2 bird boxes
2 bat boxes
4 bug boxes
1 insect hotel

Cost:

£130 water butt
£0 for all other installations –
made from scrap material

Tips:

It doesn't have to be expensive – simple things on your site can be used to create habitats and conserve existing biodiversity!

Year completed:
2014

Categories:

- Small scale temporary
- Small scale permanent
- Most innovative

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW (cont.)

Insect home

We made 1 insect home/insect hotel, this was made using recycled materials and timber on site. We used 5/6 wooden pallets, off cuts of timber, cardboard from packaging, soil from site stripout, twigs & branches from the site clearance, logs from the site clearance by the landscape architect, left over / off cuts of bricks, air bricks, roof tiles, drainage & waste pipes etc all placed in the tower. We made some laminated signage and fixed it to ply backing from off cuts and attached to a timber post to go close to the insect home to promote what we were doing and with info on how to find out more on how to build your Insect Home. The insect homes have attracted woodlice, centipedes, solitary bees, wood boring beetles, millipedes, spiders, worms, ladybirds, lacewings and many more.

Rainwater harvesting

We have attached some plastic guttering to the site cabins which allow run off from the site cabins to the water butt. This water is then used to keep the dust down when clearing path ways etc, and washing away any mud & debris to walkways. The water butt holds 510 litres and cost approx. £130 (but it will be reused on other sites once this project is complete).

Community Engagement

We put the pictures of the insect homes and bug boxes and the relevant web links on how to make your own into our residents/neighbours newsletter which was sent to local residents and displayed on the site information board. This was with the aim to promote others to carry out their own ecology and biodiversity projects.

Pictures of the enhancements



If you would like to sign up for the BIG Challenge, please contact CIRIA by email at customer.services@ciria.org



the BIG Challenge
do one thing

