

Tree planting in the DACH region



Our activities at a glance



Regional project



461,170
trees planted to date



Countrywide (DACH)
planting sites



Tree species
for climate-resilient mixed forests

Climate change has also arrived in Europe: the increase in weather extremes such as heat, prolonged drought, and storms poses a great threat to the forest. Forests play an important role in coping with climate change since they act as carbon sinks. It is therefore even more important to protect our forests by reforestation and making them more resilient through forest conversion. As a company, you can support our tree planting activities and, if you wish, even get your hands dirty planting trees yourself.

Would you like to support a certified climate project and get involved in **regional** climate action at the same time? Tree planting in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland is an additional commitment to climate action. Find out more about our combined projects on [page 7](#).

Background on tree planting

Tree planting is an important measure against climate change. Forests are among the most important carbon sinks on the planet and have many other positive aspects.

Forests are home to an enormous diversity of species. They filter rainwater and thus contribute to clean groundwater. They also protect against erosion, avalanches, and floods. However, the consequences of climate change are also noticeable in our native forests: tree species such as spruce suffer from drought because their shallow roots do not reach deeper layers of soil that are containing water. These stress factors make the weakened trees particularly vulnerable to pests such as the bark beetle. It is therefore important to convert our forests into climate change-resilient mixed forests by planting tree species that are better adapted to the respective locations and the future climate. To do this, we work together with renowned organisations that have many years of experience in forest (re)construction.

How does the support work?

You can support our projects by sponsoring trees. We coordinate the support and transmit the number of trees to our local partners. As proof of your commitment, you will receive a certificate from us. During the planting season (lowlands: in winter, Alps: in summer), our partners plant the trees at various locations where they are greatly needed. For example, this could be due to an intense storm or bark beetles that have devastated a forest area. In addition, customers can get their hands dirty once a year and participate in a tree planting event (more information on this on page 8).

How much CO₂ forests store depends on various factors: old forests are larger carbon sinks, younger ones are more efficient in storing CO₂ as they grow. Tropical forests grow faster and thus store more CO₂ than forests in Europe do in the same period. Wood mass and density also play a role.

Where we plant – our sites

Tree planting takes place at various locations in the DACH region. We select the areas in close cooperation with experienced local partners. The locations shown here represent an exemplary selection of our planting sites.

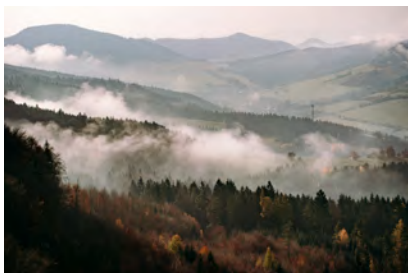
1. Vogelsberg (Hesse)*:



2. Spitzingsee:



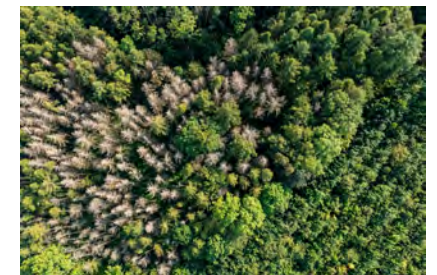
3. Basel:



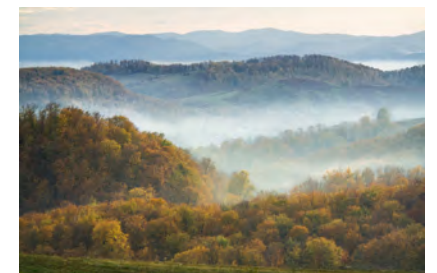
4. Harz Mountains:



5. Thuringian Forest:



6. Waldviertel:



* The number shows the location on the map.

How we plant

During the planting season (lowlands: in winter, Alps: in summer), forestry experts plant trees using different planting methods. The method and tree species depend on various factors.

Selecting tree species

Together with the local experts, we select tree species that suit the local soil (based on soil samples) and the current and expected future climate. We take great care to introduce primarily native (deciduous) tree species that are ecologically valuable for flora and fauna. We often enrich the planting sites with tree species that have become rare in order to help them come back.

Different planting methods

The planting method depends on the conditions on-site. During our tree planting events with clients, we usually use the hollow spade (picture on the left). With this tool, you dig a hole that corresponds to the root length of the tree, place the tree in it and hold it gently while you put the soil back into the hole. The soil must then be pressed down firmly. We plant bare-root seedlings (second picture from the right) as well as seedlings from reusable containers (picture on the right).



Digging a planting hole with the hollow spade.



Planting an oak tree. The firmly pressed soil gives the plant stability.



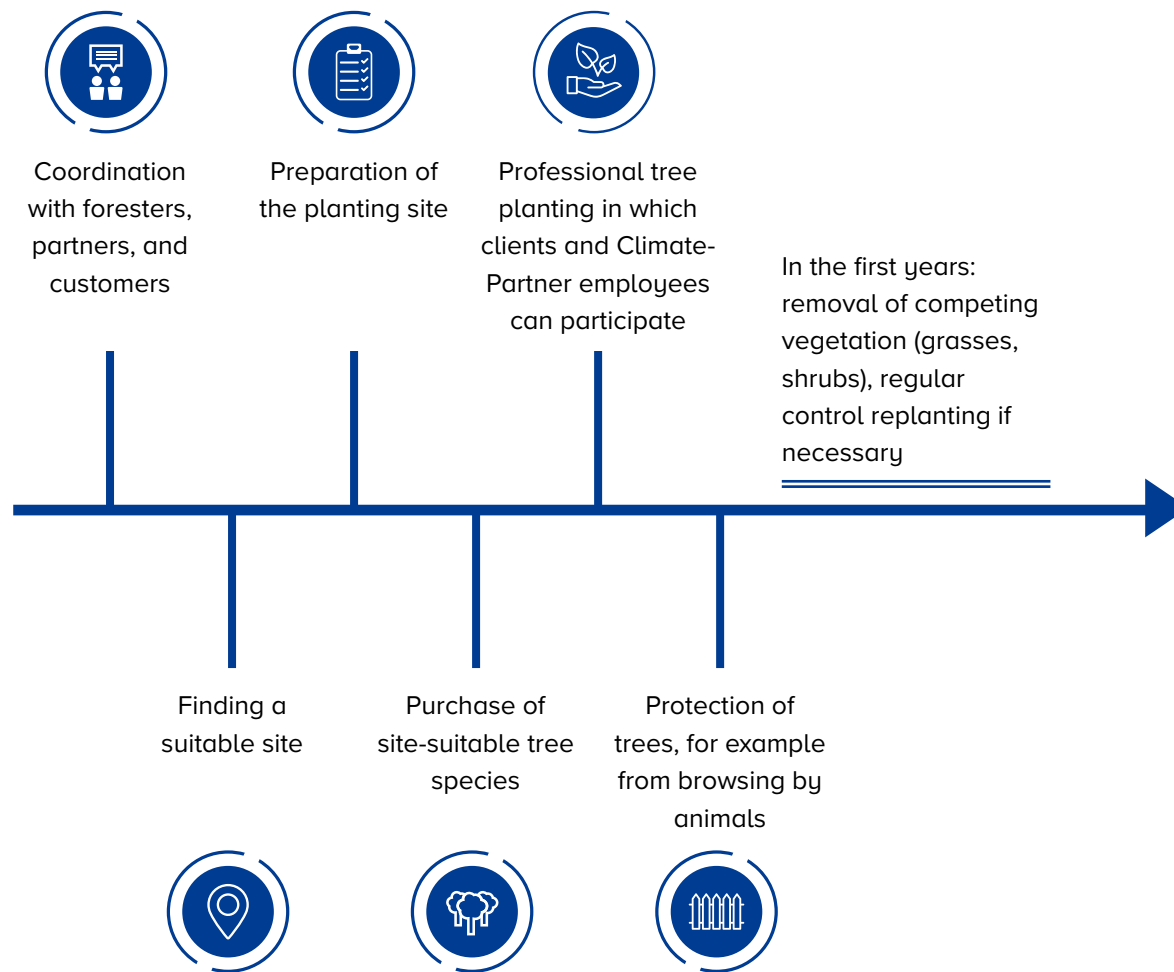
Example of planting with bare-root seedlings.



Planting with seedlings from reusable containers.

The project over time

What happens before and after tree planting? Some steps need to be followed in order to support the healthy development of the planted trees.





A contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Tree planting in the DACH region contributes to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), because forests store large amounts of CO₂ and are habitats for many animal and plant species, among other things.



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
Clean water and sanitation: Forest soils filter rainwater, provide clean ground water, and ensure high drinking water quality.



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Responsible consumption and production: Wood is one of the few renewable resources. Forests are managed sustainably in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.



13 CLIMATE ACTION
Climate action: Forests store large amounts of CO₂. They have positive effects on the global, regional, and local climate.



15 LIFE ON LAND
Life on land: Forests are diverse recreational areas for all population groups. They also protect from erosion, avalanches, flooding, and high tide and are habitats for many animal and plant species.

Combined projects: international climate action meets regional commitment



With combined projects, ClimatePartner combines Verified Emission Reductions through an internationally certified climate project with an additional and voluntary regional commitment, such as tree planting in Germany, Austria, or Switzerland.

We also offer combined projects with regional commitment in other European countries. Please contact us if you are interested in other initiatives in Europe.

In addition to international climate action, you can also help improve our domestic ecosystems with our combined projects. With the combined projects, companies finance a certified climate project as usual but in addition, for every tonne of CO₂ saved through the contribution to this climate project, a regional initiative in Europe is also supported.



Lend a hand!


At our tree planting events, experts explain how to plant trees properly and why forest conversion is so important.

Four times a year, we offer two- to three-hour events for supporters of our combined projects (more information on page 7). The tree planting events usually take place between October and March at various locations in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Two people per customer can participate in such an event. At the tree planting you will also meet participants from other companies. Together with your group of 25-30 people, you will receive a short introduction before planting the trees. We plan with about 10-15 trees per person.

Exclusive events

For clients who support a combined project with a financial contribution equivalent to at least 2,000 tonnes of CO₂, we offer exclusive client events for up to 20 participants. You can choose between a guided forest tour and a tree planting. The forest tour is like a walk through the forest, accompanied by a forester who will provide you with background knowledge on the topics of forests, tree planting, and climate change. Forest tours are available all year round and last about two hours.

Tree planting tours last about two to three hours and proceed as described above – with the exception that in this case, the event takes place exclusively for your company. You are welcome to express a wish for a planting region. We will do our best to find a planting area for you there.



Get involved! Once a year, we invite the supporters of the project to plant trees together with us.

Your partner for climate action



Explore how your organisation
can take climate action.

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