

Restoration of peatlands delivers a number of benefits:

- Providing habitat for special wildlife
- Improving water quality in reservoirs and rivers
- Reducing the risk of flooding by slowing the downhill flow of water from the hills during storms
- Actively fighting climate change by absorbing and storing carbon from the atmosphere
- Reducing the risk of moorland fires because in good condition peatlands are very wet
- Providing everyone with an incredible landscape to enjoy
- Providing economic and social benefits.

Bilberry



Water sampling



HOW WE RESTORE THE MOORS



HOW YOU CAN HELP TO LOOK AFTER THE MOORS

- Take all your litter home
- Don't have barbecues or fires on or near the moors
- Don't smoke on or near the moors
- Phone 999 if you spot a suspected wildfire – don't assume someone else has reported it
- Protect wildlife by keeping dogs on a short lead
- Tell your friends about the importance of moorlands.

Moors for the Future Partnership researches, restores and raises awareness of blanket bogs in the Peak District and South Pennines.



Find out more about our work:

[MOORSFORTHEFUTURE.ORG.UK](https://moorsforthefuture.org.uk)

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HOW WE RESTORE THE MOORS



For over 20 years, Moors for the Future Partnership has been restoring the peatlands of the Peak District and South Pennine moors, repairing the damage from hundreds of years of human activity, including the effects of industrial pollution.

What techniques do we use to restore and enhance this precious landscape?

When dealing with landscapes of bare peat, we use a mixture of lime (to reduce the acidity of the pollution-damaged peat), seed (at this stage, grass seeds to bind the peat together) and fertiliser to kickstart the process of recovery.

We spread brash (chopped heather) across the bare peat to protect it from wind and rain, and allow growth to take place below.

We plant plugs of moorland species, including cotton grasses, and shrubs like bilberry.

Planting Sphagnum



Cotton Grass



Heather brash spreading

Water erodes channels through bare peat, creating gullies which allow water to run off the hills quickly. This dries out the moors, and leads to increased risk of flooding in the valleys.

We build gully blocks (mini-dams) from stone, timber or peat to slow the flow of the water, and help the moorlands to remain boggy.

The dams also create pools behind them – a habitat for plants, insects, birds and mammals.



Gully blocks

Helicopter work



Sphagnum mosses are a key component of the blanket bogs that are a feature of healthy moorland and can hold up to 20 times their dry weight in water.

They reduce the amount of water released during storms and increase the time it takes for water falling on hills to reach the valleys below. Sphagnum helps to build fresh layers of precious peat.

We plant sphagnum plugs by hand. Each plug contains a range of sphagnum species so that they stand the best chance of thriving.



Sphagnum plug



HOW WE RESTORE THE MOORS

