

Media release

June 2023

# BioScapes<sup>e</sup> delivers biodiversity boost to RHS Garden Harlow Carr

As the UK's leading gardening charity, the Royal Horticultural Society (the RHS) promotes excellence in horticulture, to "enrich everyone's life through plants, and make the UK a greener and more beautiful place," a sentiment echoed by the team at BioScapes.

Since it was established in 2021, BioScapes, part of the Rolawn\* group, has been driven by a desire to help reverse the issue of biodiversity loss, with its innovative range of specialist wildlife planters. Having deliberately designed the collection of self-contained units to contain multiple integrated habitats, BioScapes products support a wide range of UK flora and fauna, including much-loved species on the decline in the UK, such as hedgehogs, butterflies and bees.

In an exciting new development for the BioScapes team, two units have recently been installed at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, in North Yorkshire, to help boost biodiversity. The RHS chose a WildPod Mini\* and a NatureArk\* for the Harrogate site.

Terry Smithson, Biodiversity Manager at BioScapes, commented, "The RHS is an inspiration to gardeners, so we are obviously delighted to be able to work with them at Harlow Carr. When we began designing the planters, we conducted several trials so we know these units can quickly enhance the biodiversity of an area and we're excited to see exactly what they will attract at RHS Harlow Carr."

Developed as a collaboration between ecologists and horticulture specialists, to have maximum impact and to quickly boost biodiversity in even the most inhospitable places, the four planters in the range accommodate differing site needs to provide a net gain in biodiversity.

Patents granted: GB 2588793 & GB 2577671



The one-of-a-kind planters, range from WildPod Mini\* and WildPod\*, suited to a small garden or balcony, through to NatureArk, ideal for medium size spaces such as schools, and BioCube\*, which has been designed for a more commercial setting. Many of the units have already been installed in locations around the UK from new homes to shopping centers.

Fiona Slight, Garden Manager at RHS Garden Harlow Carr said of the collaboration with BioScapes, "At RHS Harlow Carr we're consistently making improvements throughout the gardens to promote biodiversity and we are always seeking new ways to help people enhance their own gardens, so we are excited to be working with BioScapes to help us on this journey."

Time will tell what variety of wildlife will be attracted to the two recently installed BioScapes planters, but the units are already generating a lot of interest from visitors.

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#### Notes to editors

## **About BioScapes**

BioScapes was established in 2021 under the Rolawn\* Group with the specific remit of developing biodiversity solutions, to make an impact on wildlife and environmental conservation. Based in Seaton Ross near York, BioScapes has the benefit of 50 years of experience in the field and has collaborated with expert ecologists over the course of several years to develop a range of patented products which will help individuals and businesses to effect significant, positive change to biodiversity, an issue which poses an increasing challenge in the UK and worldwide. Through BioScapes, Rolawn aims to be the UK's leading producer of innovative, self-contained multiple biodiversity habitats and associated products, which help create healthy ecosystems and promote gains in biodiversity wherever they are used.

#### **About RHS Garden Harlow Carr**

RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1QB

### Admission prices

RHS members enjoy free entry to RHS Gardens and discounted entry to RHS Flower Shows.

Non-members:

Adults £13.85
Children (5–16 yrs) £6.95
Children 4 and under Free

## About the RHS

Since our formation in 1804, the RHS has grown into the UK's leading gardening charity, touching the lives of millions of people. Perhaps the secret to our longevity is that we've never stood still. In the last decade alone we've taken on the largest hands-on project the RHS has ever tackled by opening the new RHS Garden Bridgewater in Salford, Greater Manchester, and invested in the science that underpins all our work by building RHS Hilltop – The Home of Gardening Science.

We have committed to being net positive for nature and people by 2030. We are also committed to being truly inclusive and to reflect all the communities of the UK.

Across our five RHS gardens, we welcome more than three million visitors each year to enjoy over 34,000 different cultivated plants. Events such as the world famous RHS Chelsea Flower Show, other national shows, our schools and community work, and partnerships such as Britain in Bloom, all spread the shared joy of gardening to wide-reaching audiences.

Throughout it all we've held true to our charitable core – to encourage and improve the science, art and practice of horticulture –to share the love of gardening and the positive benefits it brings.

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For more information visit www.rhs.org.uk.

RHS Registered Charity No. 222879/SC038262