



LOTTERY FUNDED



The Countryside Agency
**Landscape
Access
Recreation**

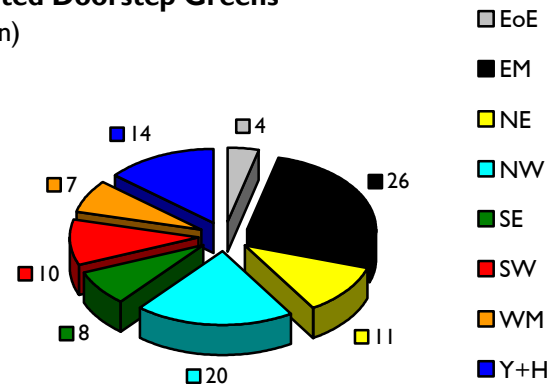
Doorstep Greens

Monthly Report: May 2006

1. Completed Projects

- 100 Doorstep Greens are now fully complete.
- Previous monthly reports, showing the names of sites already completed are available under the 'Resources' link on: www.countryside.gov.uk/doorstepgreens

Completed Doorstep Greens
(by region)



Work Started on the following Doorstep Green projects during May

Project title
(none this month)

Location

The following Doorstep Green project was completed during May

Project title

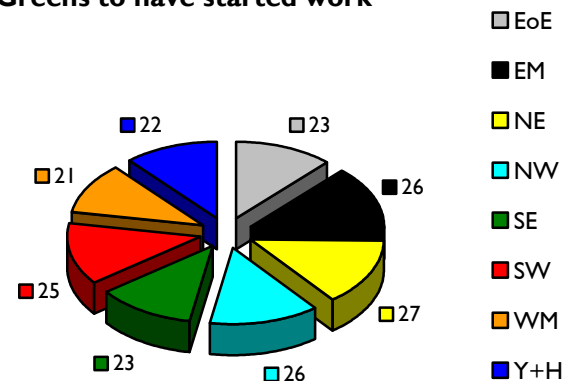
Location

Scott's Green	Lancashire
The Paddock Doorstep Green	Northumberland
The Green, New Herrington	Northumberland
Holgate Moor Green	County Durham
Spittal Doorstep Green	Northumberland
Digby Playing Field	Lincolnshire
Rayners Field	Nottinghamshire
Chapel Haddlesey Doorstep Green	North Yorkshire

2. Progress of Projects

- 193 Doorstep Greens have started work on site to date.
- The target number of Doorstep Greens was between 180 and 220. Only one more DG is due to start work on site now, bringing the eventual expected total number of greens to 194.

Doorstep Greens to have started work
(by region)



3. Doorstep Greens Monitor - *Dave Haygarth, DG Communications Adviser.*



As a reader of this report, you're probably well aware of the Civic Trust's Green Flag and Green Pennant award scheme. (If not, see www.greenflagaward.org.uk!). As the national standard for measuring the quality of our parks and green spaces, we're making every effort to encourage Doorstep Greens to go for an award once they're up and running.

I'm one of the scheme's judges – there are more than 400 of us – I've had a busy month. I'm judging three sites this year fairly near to where I live and it takes quite a bit of reading up (100 page management plans are hard going but a necessity for large, Victorian public parks).

An element of the award is purely judging the quality of the management documents – a desk assessment of all the background information. It gives a great insight into the amount of work going into our parks and green spaces behind the scenes.

It's what happens on the site visit – the judgement day – which really makes it all worthwhile though. No amount of paperwork can prepare you for the great buzz you get when you visit the space and meet the local people who use it. It's a very important tradition for Green Flag judges to meet members of the local community – “Friends of” groups, etc., when judging a site. From the people who use it, you get the ‘warts and all’ version of the park's value. For these moments, you can forget the management plan – its maintenance schedules, health and safety audits and peat-free statements – when you meet the people, the park comes to life.

It's the same for all the Doorstep Greens I've visited. You just don't want to know the extent of the number-crunching, analysis, planning, writing and emailing that goes into keeping Doorstep Greens going and making sure that they survive into the future. Like the Park Management Plans I read for Green Flag applications - it's a necessity – but the spaces and the people who bring them to life beat the paperwork hands-down.

4. Photo of the month

Back to the roots.



We just can't let the month prior to the World Cup starting go by without jumping on the bandwagon. Nick Turner's photo of people playing football on the Doorstep Green at East Markham in Nottinghamshire reminds us of the grass roots of the sport.

View more photos of Doorstep Greens on the 'Resources' are of our [website](http://www.countryside.gov.uk).

5. Further information:

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6. Networking

Communicate online and get all the latest news – not just for Doorstep Greens, but across the whole parks and green spaces scene.

www.greenspace.net.countryside.gov.uk