



Green Aspirations Scotland



Community
Woodlands
Association

Introduction to Charcoal Making Practical Workshop March 2013

Introduction

Green Aspirations Scotland CIC (GrAsp CIC) is a social enterprise based in woodland at the edge of Loch Lomond & The Trossach's National park. We provide workshops, training and experiences in woodland crafts and practices.

As part of our woodland management GrAsp produce a range of timber products, adding value to timber and providing valuable income to continue working with communities.

Charcoal making is an important part of this and our workshop survey highlighted that many CWA groups would like to know more about the process. Having over ten years experience of making Charcoal GrAsp are well placed to pass on this traditional woodland craft.



Charcoal Making Practical Workshop

The following topics were covered:

- Historical context
- Loading and lighting kilns
- Safety around lit kilns
- Maintaining kilns
- Grading, bagging and marketing charcoal
- Different methods of making charcoal and uses



A kiln was prepared for filling and timber selected. The kiln was filled and lit, as the weather deteriorated! Once undercover the historical uses of charcoal and timber species used were discussed. Lunch and hot drinks were provided, warming everyone up! After lunch we looked at maintaining the kilns during burns and grading/bagging were explored. Making charcoal in oils drums using different methods was discussed.



Comments

Well run, great instructor

Learned loads! – about traditional ways with wood

I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and will definitely come back

Community spirit

Great networking with like minded folk

Shame about the weather

Trainer was excellent, knowledgeable but not boring



Green Aspirations Scotland is available to run workshops at your woodland, contact us for more info.

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