

# Creating Rare Heathland at Calverton

**A major project to green the former Calverton Colliery site will create 22 hectares of rare heathland, as well as adding a quarter of a million trees to the local landscape.**

**Heathland, which is native to Nottinghamshire, is becoming increasingly scarce across the county.**

Now, a scheme to restore the former Calverton Colliery site will create 22 acres of heathland in an area bordering the historic woodland of Sherwood Forest.

In addition to creating new areas of heathland, the Authority's planting scheme will provide 30 hectares of commercial woodland and 42 hectares of amenity woodland. A total of 250,000 trees will have been planted on the site by the summer of 2006.

The first phase of the scheme got under way in 2003. The bulk of the earth moving works were completed ahead of schedule last autumn and some areas were seeded ready for planting.

Work to restore the lagoons and former coal

processing area began after Easter this year. Some work is required to finish off the capping of one of the lagoons and there is additional drainage to be installed to assist with the drying out of the materials that have been reprofiled.

The remaining areas will then be grass seeded in readiness for planting during the following autumn and winter.

Says Mike Motteram, Estates Manager with the Authority: "We have already received positive comments from local residents and organisations now that many of the reshaped slopes are greened over and the impact of the site on the local environment is much reduced."

