

Things to do this spring while the economy grinds to a halt and you can't go to the pub #2 - seed bombing! Cheap messy fun, especially if you have children.

Mash together papier maché, seedling soil and some wildflower seeds. Package in a piece of newspaper or kitchen roll. Go for a walk and pelt barren bits of crappy, thin soil (old industrial sites, roundabouts, scraps of wasteland, a bare corner of your garden) with no plant life and watch the rewinding happen. Bees will thank you, butterflies will regard you as a folk hero and hoverflies will worship you as a deity.

Just remember to avoid nature reserves, parks, established hedgerows etc - basically anywhere that already has its own mix of plants that could be outcompeted by seed bombs. Regionally appropriate seed mixes for the right soil type is a good idea too.

I've gone for a meadow mix augmented with iris, fox and cubs, poppies and mallow. No idea if they will take but worth a shot. - Jeff Boddy

