

Environmental Awareness Newsletter

Autumn Edition

Upcoming environmental dates

- National Reuse Month- is the month of October
- Tetra Pak Tree Day is 1st of October
- Bike to School Week runs from September 28th to October 2nd
- Walk to School Month October 1st to October 31st
- World Habitat Day is on the 5th of October.
- International Clean Air Day is on the 8th of October.
- World Food Day happens on the 16th of October.
- Green-Schools Climate Action Week is running from the 12th to 18th of October 2020.
- EU Green Week is running from the 19th to the 22nd of October. This years theme is Biodiversity and Nature
- International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict happens on 6th of November.
- World Soil Day is on the 5th of December



Contact us

Do you have a query about an environmental outreach programme or do you have an news item you would like to feature in the quarterly newsletter?

For further information on environmental awareness programmes please visit the dlrcoco.ie website [here](#) or contact Martha Casserly Environmental Awareness Officer (Waste Prevention) and Niamh Moran Assistant Environmental Awareness (School Officer) by email envaware@dlrcoco.ie or phone 01-2054700.

For all other general queries please contact Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Civic Hub on 01-2054700 or email info@dlrcoco.ie.

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Tidy Districts 2020

Thank you to the Residents' Associations, Tidy Towns and Tidy District groups who took part in this year's non-competitive version of Tidy Districts.

All participant groups were offered a virtual consultation with an environmental consultant and also received a personalised report about their area.

We wish to thank all volunteers who work tirelessly to improve their environment and help their communities flourish. It is hoped the Tidy Districts Competition can return in its traditional form in 2021.



Watson Killiney Residents' Association



Richmond Park Tidy Districts, Monkstown



Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns

Tidy Districts 2020



Tidy Districts 2020



Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Environment and Climate Action Grant

The dlr Environment and Climate Action Grant supports residents' associations, tidy district and tidy town groups who work to enhance and improve their local public areas.

The 2021 grant scheme is now open for applications. The closing date for applications is Friday, 23rd October 2020.

Please click on [here](#) for further information.

The dlr Grants Scheme 2021 is designed to support community based initiatives which promote growth and development. The Scheme covers the area of Community, Sports, Events, Heritage, Environment & Climate Action and Business Area Promotion in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area. For more details on other grants now available please visit the grant website [here](#)



Reuse Month



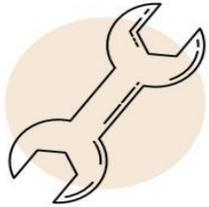
Ireland's National Reuse Month happens in October. This campaign is about acknowledging the value of things, by using and reusing them for as long and as often as possible. This avoids the need to extract raw materials and manufacture new things.

To cut down on waste and greenhouse gas emissions, we ask everyone to go further in October to prioritise repair, buy second hand, borrow, swop and refill. For example, you may get shoes resoled rather than replacing them, or borrowing books from the library.

National Reuse Month's aim is to inspire and provide the skills and tools to reuse more at home, at work and at play. A number of online events will run throughout the month. Please visit www.mywaste.ie for further information.

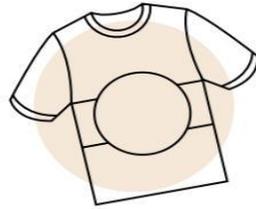
Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Looking for ways to take simple action? Try the following:



Repair and Revive

- Fix or clean up what you already have.
- Try repairmystuff.ie for local repair help.
- Learn to fix & upcycle



Buy pre-loved or upcycled

- Find pre-loved at your local charity shop, social enterprise, vintage shop or market
- Design with upcycled goods.



Borrow, Rent or share it

- Doing some DIY? Having a party? Borrow or rent gear you won't use often.
- Alternatively, try sharing equipment you don't use with friends, family or community.



BYO B&C

- Bring your own reusable coffee cup/ water bottle to the office or sports.
- Bring your own bags & containers when shopping.

How to be a reuser **at home**

mywaste

Buy (or donate)

Buy (or donate) pre-loved instead of new with Irish Charity Shops; social enterprises (Limerick, Cork, Kerry, Longford), Babymarket, vintage stores & markets

Borrow

Borrow cookbooks or infrequently used items, like ice cream makers. Try your local library, WeShare, a family member or neighbour, or lease it with Tryilo

Repair or revive

Repair or revive appliances with an authorised repair person, the Repair Directory or local sources

Refill

Refill reusable containers & bags when shopping or packing food for on the go

Swap

Swap anything, even the kitchen sink, for free on FreeTrade, WeShare, or at a swapsie event, or trade with Adverts, Done Deal & Facebook groups

Upcycle

Upcycle existing or buy upcycled for that special touch. Try social enterprises (Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Kerry, Longford)



Green Halloween!

1. Creative Costumes

An old bed sheet can be transformed into a convincing ghost or Greek God and it's just as easy to scare up a zombie costume with some ragged-clothing. Old boxes can be transformed into a rocket or post-box. Costumes could be traded with friends, reducing the environmental impact and cost!



2. Organic Decorations

If you are looking for ways to use less plastic decorations this Halloween - take to nature! Pathways and parks have plenty of wonderful organic materials for autumn wreaths and home decoration. Please make sure you're allowed to take the items. Organic decorations can go straight into brown bin afterwards for 100% reuse as compost!

3. Games

Did you know that potatoes make ideal all-natural DIY stamps? Carve a scary design into a halved potato, dip it into dye or paint and press onto paper. Some retailers within dlr and online now sell eco-paints!

4. Flower Pot Lanterns

Old, unwanted flower pots can be turned into reusable Halloween lanterns. Old planters can be repainted in Halloween colours.



5. Autumn Soup

A carved pumpkin is synonymous with Halloween. The leftover pumpkin flesh can make a delicious and healthy pumpkin and ginger soup, a comforting pumpkin risotto, or simple roasted autumn vegetables to go with your Sunday roast. Plus, you can roast the seeds to add to salads or as a garnish for soup!



Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

dlr's Halloween Appeal

The Council would like to appeal to local residents and businesses alike for their assistance in ensuring this Halloween is safe and enjoyable for everybody. The uncontrolled burning of waste in a bonfire is an illegal, costly and dangerous practice.

Please be vigilant and report any stockpiling of waste. Any materials that are likely to be taken and used for bonfires should be stored safely and securely, or disposed of correctly, prior to Halloween. Please note that allowing unpermitted waste collectors to remove waste is an offence and could incur a fine of up to €5,000.

To report stockpiling please call 01 2054700 or email info@dlrcoco.ie.



Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

New policy for waste

The government has launched a new long-term policy for waste in Ireland. 'A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy - Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020-2025' sets ambitious targets to tackle waste and move Ireland towards a circular economy.

In a linear economy, products are designed, created, used and thrown away. This economic model uses vast amounts of resources (trees, minerals, metals) and energy. At the current rates of resource use, we would need three planet earths to meet our resource needs by 2050.

The new waste policy moves beyond managing waste. It will ask everyone to design products and processes that prevent waste. Circular economy is about designing products with long productive lives that can be adapted, repaired or transformed.

As illustrated in the infographics, the new policy sets ambitious targets. The Regional Waste Management Action Plans translates this national policy into local action. The current Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management plan covers the period from 2015 to 2021. A new action plan is expected in 2022.

Please click [here](#) for more information on the new policy.

HOUSEHOLD AND BUSINESS



RECYCLING TARGETS FOR WASTE COLLECTORS



STANDARDISED BIN COLOURS ACROSS THE STATE: GREEN FOR RECYCLING, BLACK FOR RESIDUAL AND BROWN FOR ORGANIC WASTE

€ WASTE RECOVERY LEVY TO ENCOURAGE RECYCLING

WASTE OVERSIGHT BODY TO MANAGE CONSUMER RIGHTS



EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE WASTE SEGREGATION



PLASTIC, PACKAGING AND SINGLE USE PLASTIC (SUP)

DEPOSIT AND RETURN SCHEME FOR PLASTIC BOTTLES AND ALUMINIUM CANS



SINGLE USE ITEMS BANNED FROM JULY 2021:



COTTON BUD STICKS, CUTLERY, PLATES, STIRRERS, CHOPSTICKS, STRAWS, POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS AND OXO-DEGRADABLE PLASTIC PRODUCTS

SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE SUPS BEING PLACED ON THE MARKET BY 2026



ALL PACKAGING REUSABLE OR RECYCLABLE BY 2030



TEXTILES

TEXTILE ACTION GROUP TO EXPLORE OPTIONS TO IMPROVE FUTURE CIRCULARITY IN TEXTILES



WORK WITH IRISH DESIGNERS AND RETAILERS TO PROMOTE ECO-DESIGN FOR CLOTHING AND TEXTILES



CONSIDER GLOBAL IMPACTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN USED TEXTILES



FOOD WASTE

HALVE OUR FOOD WASTE BY 2030



WASTE SEGREGATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR APARTMENT DWELLERS



SUSTAINABLE FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR ALL HOMES AND BUSINESSES



EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)

MANDATORY EPR FOR ALL PACKAGING PRODUCERS BEFORE 2024 EU DEADLINE



NEW RULES FOR EPR SCHEMES TO INCENTIVISE GOOD PRACTICE IN WASTE RECYCLING AND DRIVE BETTER PRODUCT DESIGN



PRODUCERS LIABLE FOR MODULATION FEES

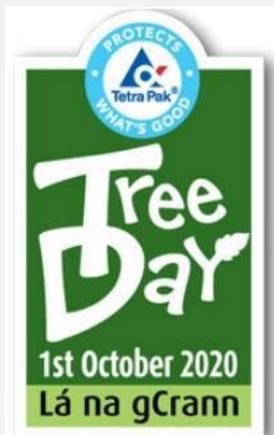


Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Tree Day

The Tree Council of Ireland, supported by Tetra Pak, is calling on primary schools across the country to get involved in Tetra Pak Tree Day and plant a tree on Thursday, 1st October 2020. The theme for this year's campaign is "Be a Force for Nature" to encourage primary school children around the country to become more active in sustainability and climate issues.

As part of this year's Tetra Pak Tree Day, 1,500 native tree saplings will be made available through the campaign website for primary schools to plant on their school grounds, or in a pot in the classroom. More details on the campaign including new class lessons, videos, information on recycling, food waste and nature walks can be found on www.treeday.ie.



Thirsty trees

Newly planted trees are fragile and may need extra care. The Council kindly asks for your help to keep our trees hydrated. If you have public trees near your home and you'd like to help, please water the base of a tree with recycled water (already used within the home e.g. bathwater) or collected rainwater. Please be mindful to conserve the supply of fresh drinking water, particularly during dry weather.



Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Upcycling Challenge 2020

The Upcycle Challenge invites participants to use their imagination to create something new and useful out of unwanted and discarded materials.

This annual competition from the Eastern Midland Regional Waste Management Office is now open.

The closing date for applications is 30th of October 2020. Please visit the MyWaste.ie website for further information.

A total of eight winners were selected in the 2019 competition. For more details please visit www.mywaste.ie.

The Rediscovery Centre have a number of online video guides for upcycling projects on their website. Please click [here](#)

Some of the previous winning projects



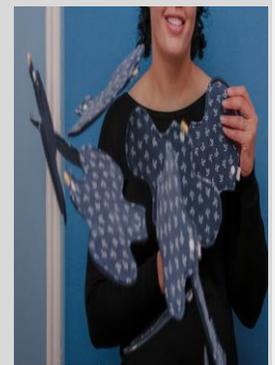
Lawrencetown Community Development Group restored an old phone box to create a new home for a defibrillator.



Eimear Greaney made a children's poncho from old broken umbrellas.



Dave Yeadon made a garden chair from an old wooden barrel.



Hannah McMahon's CLOTH Sanitary Towels made of leftover scraps won the public vote.

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Active School Travel

On Tuesday 4th August 2020, the Council launched its Active School Travel initiative, aimed at supporting and promoting alternative means for children to get to school in a safe and active way, in particular, walking and cycling. This will reduce the impact on the public transport system of school travel, avoid traffic congestion at school gates and encourage a continued shift away from the use of the private car. This initiative is being carried out in partnership with other stakeholders, including the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, The National Transport Authority (NTA) and the An Taisce – Green Schools Travel programme.

As part of the initiative, the Council launched an interactive web map, showing a range of information, including walking and cycling routes, other sustainable transport routes, and the location of bike repair outlets across the County. The web map has been viewed over 3,300 times to date. The Council also invited schools, parents, Councillors and the public to identify local travel and transport issues, where the Council could provide assistance and support in overcoming. Using the Council's 'Report It' tool, over fifty-five submissions have been received to date. As a result, the Council has assisted schools by delivering cycle stands, traffic cones, and providing site specific traffic advice.

The Council subsequently launched its trial School Zone initiative, which forms part of Active School Travel. This pilot project involves working with Carysfort National School in Blackrock, to implement measures to prevent obstruction of school entrances and footpaths by vehicles, making it safer for those who walk and cycle to school



This also includes developing temporary traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the school. In the longer term, the Council will work with the school, the wider community, the NTA and An Taisce, to put in place more sustainable measures such as additional pedestrian crossings, markings and more permanent traffic calming measures. This trial will also inform appropriate approaches and measures that may be used at other schools across the County, in the future.

Further information on the Active School Travel initiative is available on our website at:
<https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/environment/active-school-travel>

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

The 'WeCount' Project

UCD's WeCount aims to empower citizens to take a leading role in collecting data, evidence and knowledge of local mobility patterns. Citizens can host a sensor on their property to monitor local traffic data

To enhance local knowledge of traffic and travel patterns across the County, dlr residents are invited to engage in the WeCount project, by hosting a sensor at the front of their property.

Placed at a window with a clear view of the street outside, the sensor will count cars, bikes, pedestrians and heavy vehicles, thereby helping to build a traffic profile of the local area.

The sensor will also monitor local air pollution, to establish a direct link between traffic and local pollution and build a stronger argument towards sustainability.



If you or your local community would like to participate in the WeCount project, by hosting a sensor at your home, please contact Francesco Pilla (Associate Professor in Smart Cities & Urban Environment at UCD) to find out more: francesco.pilla@ucd.ie.

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Green-Schools

Environmental Awareness are available to support all dlr schools adjust to the new procedures required for launching a Green-Schools programme.

An Taisce are currently developing a guide to alternative methods available for implementing the programme safely and in line with public health measures. This guidance document will be released in the coming weeks.

Green School teacher seminars will be delivered online from October onwards with a provisional date of the 22nd of October set up for schools within dlr. These seminars will provide support and guidance on how Green-Schools work can proceed safely and positively in your school this year. Emails will be sent out from Green Schools in the coming weeks confirming dates and times of the seminars.

For any queries regarding your Green-Schools programme, please contact Niamh Moran by emailing envaware@dlrcoco.ie



Relove Fashion

Relove Fashion is a competition organised by Local Authorities in conjunction with the Rediscovery Centre. This competition encourages students to explore creative reuse options such as upcycling, repairs, alterations and mending of clothes.

This competition is open to all secondary school students within dlr. The competition asks students to create an outfit from upcycled materials and submit a storyboard with the outfit.

All regional finalists will receive a school tour and a fashion workshop at the Rediscovery Centre. The overall winner will receive a trophy and a design pack to the value of €1000 (including, tools, equipment and mentoring from Rediscover Fashion) for your school. Further information about the competition can be found [here](#)



Key Dates

- **Registration** deadline is 5pm on the 2nd of October
- **Submission** deadline is 5pm on the 30th of October
- **Grand Final** 26th of November

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Neat Streets 2020/2021

Registration for the 2020/2021 Neat Streets Programme is now open.

Neat Streets is an anti-litter and waste programme for Secondary Schools in Ireland. The programme is divided up into several stages over the academic year to help participants run a successful anti-litter and waste campaign.



Neat Streets are accepting registrations from:

- Transition Year Groups
- Green-Schools Litter & Waste Theme
- Green-Schools Global Citizenship Litter & Waste Theme

Schools can register for the programme and find out more info on the Neat Streets website [here](#).

Covid 19 Precautions: The Neat Streets Programme will have an even more flexible design to support and facilitate teachers and students as they navigate the newly imposed Covid-19 restrictions. This will include actions such as virtual school visits, workshops, and getting out in nature.

Climate Ambassador Programme

An Taisce's Climate Change Ambassador Programme are seeking applications for their Climate Change Ambassadors 2021 training.

The Climate Ambassador programme helps people to become leaders within schools, colleges, workplaces and communities and promote positive climate actions in a local context. This is an opportunity to take meaningful action and make positive changes, with full support from An Taisce's Climate Action Officers.

Applications close on the **25th of October 2020.**

Find out more about the programme here:

<https://climateambassador.ie/>



Apply to be a Climate Ambassador

here: <https://climateambassador.ie/become-a-climate-ambassador/>

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Autumn Edition

Community Environment Action Fund 2020/2021

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCA) has extended the completion date for projections of the 2019 Community Environment Action Fund from August 2020 to the end of December 2020.

DCCA are currently examining the feasibility of a 2020 scheme taking into the consideration the current public health guidelines and restrictions.

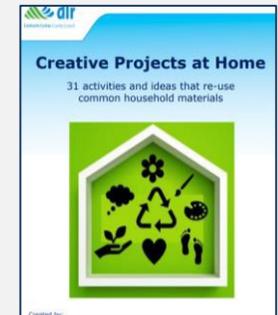
It is expected that applications for the next Community Environment Action Fund (previously known as the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund or LA21) will be deferred to the first quarter of 2021.



Additional Resources

Creative Activities to do at Home Guide

We have compiled 31 projects for you to try that re-use materials found in your home. This booklet has a range of ideas for all ages! You can find this guide [here](#).



Wildflower Guide

Use our wildflower guide to spot some wildflowers in your garden or local area. Wildflowers are an important part of our environment, providing food and shelter for pollinators. Please click [here](#).



Planting Trees in a School Garden- Are you unsure of the best tree to plant in your school grounds? Use our straightforward poster to help you choose, please click [here](#).



Environmental Awareness Newsletter Summer Edition

Managing Waste Covid 19 Notice

Thank you to the individuals and communities across dlr for helping to protect our environment.

- Private household waste collectors are operating and providing a normal service. They have asked customers to present bins the evening before a scheduled collection and to disinfect handles.
- Please inform the Council know if you notice a full street bin. We will organise a collection as a matter of urgency. Email info@dlrcoco.ie or call on 01-2054700.
- Ballyogan Recycling Park is currently operational during the COVID19 restrictions. Some delays and restrictions are in place due to social distancing protocols. For further information on the quieter times, materials accepted and charges please call Ballyogan directly on (01) 2913600.
- The Council's bring bank sites remain open to the public for recycling of glass. The contractor and Council are both working hard to meet the increased demand. Please do not leave any litter. If the banks are full, please report this to the Council. Email info@dlrcoco.ie or call on 01-2054700.



Managing Waste Covid 19 Notices

If any member of the household is self isolating with a suspected case of Covid 19 or has tested positive for Covid 19.

- Put all your personal rubbish (waste) such as gloves, tissue, masks, wipes in a bin bag and tie it securely.
- Put this bin bag into a second bin bag and tie securely.
- Store the bag somewhere safe for 3 days and then put the bag into your wheelie bin for collection.
- Remember to disinfect bin handles.

For more information please visit www.MyWaste.ie (link [here](#)).

Environmental Awareness Newsletter Summer Edition

Online Environmental Resources

Green Schools

Green Schools have launched the Green Schools Stay at Home Project, this is an online series of activities to do at home relating to all themes of their flags. Find out more here: <https://greenschoolsireland.org/launch-stay-home-project/>

ReCreate

ReCreate have launched an at home video series of art and crafts to do at home using recyclable materials: <https://recreate.ie/interactive-workshops/>

The Rediscovery Centre

The Rediscover @ Home Series looks behind the scenes of the Rediscovery Centre and we will be sharing tips on sustainability and upcycling, providing online tours of the Centre and delivering some curriculum led educational tutorials. <http://www.rediscoverycentre.ie/news/rediscover-home-series/>

Flossie and the Beach Cleaners:

Local student Flossie has made a number of online videos of activities to do at home, including an ice bowl and homemade candles. Please click here <https://www.flossieandthebeachcleaners.com/>

Dale Treadwell Online Books:

Learn about Harry the Hedgehog and Robby the Robin in Dale Treadwell's free online books:

Harry the Hedgehog:

<http://www.heritageinschools.ie/content/resources/Harry-the-Hedgehog-A4-landscape.pdf>

Robby the Robin:

<http://www.heritageinschools.ie/content/resources/Robby-A4-landscape.pdf>