



Kildare
BIODIVERSITY
WEEK



An Roinn Tíreochta,
Kultúir Aiteil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Funded by
An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

2024

"This project is supported by the Local Biodiversity Action Fund, from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, and by The Heritage Council, via the Local Authority Biodiversity Officer Programme"

Friday 17th - Sunday 26th May



Kildare Biodiversity Week 2024 Events Friday 17th - Sunday 26th May

Kildare Biodiversity Week has been organised to develop awareness of the importance of biodiversity and to better understand its value to the local, national and international communities. Kildare Biodiversity Week is part of a European initiative to encourage people to take an interest in their local Biodiversity. The people of Kildare are invited to get out into Kildare's Biodiversity, to visit Kildare wild spots, lakes, rivers, bogs, woodlands or to simply enjoy the biodiversity of their back garden.

This listing of events has been compiled by Kildare County Council. Most events listed here are free. Children are welcome but should be accompanied by a responsible adult. For outdoor events, please dress suitably for the weather and ground conditions. Dogs, if allowed on-site (see event details) must be on leads.

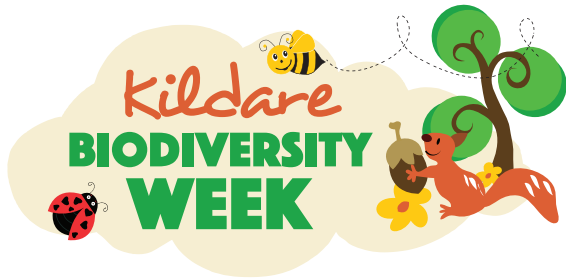
There maybe additional events organised post publication of this guide and so further updates and details of events can be found here: www.kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Heritage/BiodiversityandNaturalHeritage/BiodiversityWeek/

National Biodiversity Week – Coordinated by Irish Environmental Network

IEN collate all events for National Biodiversity Week across the country. It is, therefore, advised to check out for other events Kildare organised since the publication of this guide and events in other counties. See here: Calendar of Events - National Biodiversity Week www.biodiversityweek.ie/events-calendar/

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Aquens Ltd., Anna Collins, Eddie Dunne, Jesmond Harding,
Lorcan Scott, Meabh Boylan, Mike Browne & Zoe Devlin*





Biodiversity

The word '*biodiversity*' is coined from biological diversity, which, put simply is another way of referring to the variety of life on the planet. Biodiversity is about the variety of plant and animal species and the interaction between them. It is this interaction that is essential for life, giving us all the things we need - clean air, water, food, clothing, shelter, and amenity.

Biodiversity is the foundation for life and for the essential services provided by ecosystems. It therefore underpins peoples' livelihoods and sustainable development in all areas of activity, including economic sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, among others. By halting biodiversity loss, we are investing in people, their lives and their well-being.

Kildare's Wild Places

Kfm, in association with Kildare County Council and Biodiversity Week, takes you to some of Kildare's Unique Natural Habitats: The Curragh, Ballinafagh Lake, Pollardstown Fen, Donadea Forest Park and Kildare Birds and Bats.

Tune in during Biodiversity Week, from Friday May 17th, to sample the atmosphere and sounds of "*Kildare's Wild Places*".

The K Documentary series: Kildare's Wild Places, is produced for Kfm by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.



Kildare's Wild Places - Friday 17th May

The K Documentary series: "*Kildare's Wild Places*", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Time & Location: Friday 17th May, During '*Kildare Today*' show on KFM (9am-11am)

Tune in to hear about the ecology of the Curragh Plains which support a variety of species and habitats. A proposed Natural Heritage Area, the Curragh is probably the oldest and certainly the most extensive tract of seminatural grassland in Ireland. A lowland acidic grassland, the Curragh supports important populations of rare fungi. It is also of national importance for populations of wintering golden plover and lapwing.



1

Friday 17th May Naas Biodiversity Bike Ride



Time: 7pm – 9pm
Location: Meeting at the Naas Lakes

Explore nature-friendly projects completed by the Naas Biodiversity Group in recent years. For example, our Pocket Forests, rainwater planters, plus hedgerows that have been newly planted or rejuvenated through hedge-laying. Meet like-minded people and learn practical tips to protect nature in your local area! Children and people who are not super confident at cycling are more than welcome to take part! We'll be cycling slowly and over a relatively short route.

To book: Contact naasbiodiversity@gmail.com or 089 4147367
Admission fee: Free

2

Saturday 18th May Wildflowers of Lodge Bog



Time: 10am – 1pm
Location: Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, R51 V293

Join us for a bogland walk and talk exploring peatland plants and their adaptations to their wet and wild habitat. Strong footwear and appropriate outdoor clothing recommended. Light refreshments and pond dipping activity for young participants will be available, following the walk.

To book: Book directly on <http://www.ipcc.ie/events/> or send enquiries to bogs@ipcc.ie
Admission fee: Free

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Saturday 18th May

**Practical Biodiversity:
Local food, foraging and plant ID**



Time: 10am - 2pm
Location: Growing Wild @ Littlewood, Donadea

A practical biodiversity session discovering our native plant species that grow wild in our meadows and hedgerows. Learn how to forage sustainably and create wonderful wild foods and plant medicine through simple recipes cooked on the fire.

To book: Book directly on the booking page of www.growingwild.ie or email lucy@growingwild.ie with enquiries

Admission fee: €60

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Saturday 18th May

**'The Low-Impact Kitchen Garden'
with organic gardener & local food
advocate Kitty Scully**



Time: 10.15am – 11.15am
Location: Naas Library and Cultural Centre

Join Kitty Scully for an informative and inspirational talk full of tips on how to create and maintain an abundant food garden that treads lightly on the earth whilst feeding your soil and soul. Kitty has a wealth of experience in organic horticulture and education – from managing a market garden, to spearheading the evolution of the kitchen gardens in Airfield Estate.

To book: Visit <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/naaslibrary/1168501>
Enquiries to naaslib@kildarecoco.ie

Admission fee: Free (but ticketed)

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Saturday 18th May



Introduction to the ESKER Box and Biodiversity Recording



Time: 10.30am - 12pm

Location: Athy Library

Launch of Kildare Libraries' ESKER Box – the Environmental Science Kits for Ecological Recording (ESKER). Local Ecologist Una Halpin will present the contents of the ESKER Box, and will demonstrate how to use the various items, including: a bat detector, bug-viewers, identification keys and guides, and under-water viewing equipment. The event is ideal for all community groups engaged in biodiversity action, as well as families and individuals with an interest in monitoring local wildlife and habitats.

To book: Email athylib@kildarecoco.ie
or phone 045-980555

Admission fee: Free (booking essential)

Parking: Parking information will be shared
with registered attendees

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Saturday 18th May



Celbridge Hedge Walk with Hedgerows Ireland



Time: 11am - 1pm

Location: Newtown, Celbridge. Address and
parking information will be shared with
registered attendees before the event.

Celebrate Biodiversity Week at a Hedge Walk in Co. Kildare. Join us in exploring the plants and animals of hedgerows, how they protect our land from drought and flooding, and best practices for nature-friendly hedgerow management. These will be farm hedges – so it is a great opportunity to see how hedge laying can be incorporated into farm management. Please note that the walk will be on uneven grassy terrain, so comfortable shoes and clothes are essential. Children are welcome if accompanied by a parent/guardian.

To book: Visit the event page [www.hedgerows.ie/
celbridge-hedge-walk-18th-may/](http://www.hedgerows.ie/celbridge-hedge-walk-18th-may/)

Admission fee: Free (booking essential)

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Saturday 18th May
Foraging Walk and Talk



Time: 2pm - 4pm
Location: Meet at the steps of the canal footbridge opposite Millview Demesne/ Ardscoil Ráth Iomgháin secondary school in Rathangan

Join foraging expert Julie Smyth from Wild Food Ways on a walk along the Grand Canal in Rathangan to learn about wild plants and their benefits.

To book: Reserve your place by emailing rathangan.tidy.towns@gmail.com
Admission fee: Free (booking essential)
Parking: Free parking in front of the Secondary School, R51 DA36

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Saturday 18th May
Kilcullen Teddy Bears' Picnic



Time: 2pm - 3.30pm
Location: Kilcullen Community Library Garden

A celebration of fresh food - a Herb, Vegetable and Fruit Tasting Family Event. And a demo and discussion on composting - what works well in your Compost Bin and what doesn't. Please bring your own tasty picnics and Home Baking to Share with the Bears.

To book: Send enquiries to kilcullencommunityaction@gmail.com
Admission fee: Free
Parking: On-street parking is available close-by

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Saturday 18th May
**Celbridge Hedge Walk
 with Hedgerows Ireland**



Time: 2pm - 4pm
Location: Newtown, Celbridge. Address and parking information will be shared with registered attendees before the event.

Celebrate Biodiversity Week at a Hedge Walk in Co. Kildare. Join us in exploring the plants and animals of hedgerows, how they protect our land from drought and flooding, and best practices for nature-friendly hedgerow management. These will be farm hedges – so it is a great opportunity to see how hedge laying can be incorporated into farm management. Please note that the walk will be on uneven grassy terrain, so comfortable shoes and clothes are essential. Children are welcome if accompanied by a parent/guardian.

To book: Visit the event page www.hedgerows.ie/celbridge-hedge-walk-18th-may/
Admission fee: Free (booking essential)

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Saturday 18th May
 'The Low-Impact Kitchen Garden'
 with organic gardener & local food
 advocate Kitty Scully



Time: 3pm – 4pm
Location: Athy Library

Join Kitty Scully for an informative and inspirational talk full of tips on how to create and maintain an abundant food garden that treads lightly on the earth whilst feeding your soil and soul. Kitty has a wealth of experience in organic horticulture and education – from managing a market garden, to spearheading the evolution of the kitchen gardens in Airfield Estate.

To book: Visit <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/naaslibrary/1168501>
 Enquiries to naaslib@kildarecoco.ie
Admission fee: Free (but ticketed)

IEA Biodiversity SCAVENGER HUNT



Time: 2pm – 4pm
Meeting Place: Sallins Parish Community Hall,
Sallins Village

A Sallins Tidy Towns family friendly event. Patricia Voon from One Leaf will be back leading a Wildflower nature exploration workshop. Sprinkled with games, tasks and nature craft. Gain new knowledge of the wonderful Biodiversity in Sallins. Celebrate the start of Summer changes with us.

To book: Email oneleafpatricia@gmail.com
to book your place
Admission fee: Free (booking required)
Parking: Paid parking on the grounds and
at adjacent playground car park

There are lots of things living in your garden and local parks or wild areas. Take part in the scavenger hunt to see what you can find. Will you be able to complete the hunt?

This year we have created a Scavenger Hunt for Schools! Keep an eye on this site as we will soon release this years Scavenger Hunt sheets. Schools can take part by completing the hunt. Take a photo and share it with us for the chance to win a prize for your classroom.

The Scavenger Hunt sheets have been designed to fit into a 40 minute time slot, but you can easily add to the lesson using our Teachers Resources. (Coming soon!)

Not a teacher? You can still take part! The Scavenger Hunt sheets are perfect for families or for self driven exploration.

Both sheets have been made with children of primary school age in mind. The difficulty of the questions can be altered to suit the class. There is a choice of two different sheets. 'In Our School Yard' can be used for schools that have limited green space, while 'In Our School Garden' has more items that could be found in your school's green areas.

You can complete the Hunt or Challenges at any time, but be sure to share them with us during the month of May to be in with a chance to win a prize!

For more information visit
www.biodiversityweek.ie
[/biodiversity-scavenger-hunt/](http://biodiversity-scavenger-hunt/)





Kildare's Wild Places - Monday 20th May

The K Documentary series: "Kildare's Wild Places", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Monday 20th May: Ballynafagh Bog: Conserving our Bogs with Dr Catherine O'Connell, Irish Peatland Conservation Council

Time & Location: Monday 20th May, during 'Kildare Today' show on KFM (9am - 11am)

Raised bogs are a rare habitat in Europe, and in Ireland continue to be under threat. Ballynafagh Bog, although damaged, is of added interest as the most easterly site with a high proportion of intact raised bog habitat remaining in Ireland. Dr O'Connell will tell us about this intact raised bog habitat. The K Documentary series: Kildare's Wild Places, is produced for Kfm by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.



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Monday 20th May
Biodiversity Art Workshop
with D'ink Studio

1st-6th
Class



Time: 9.30am – 11am
Location: Celbridge Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

To book: Contact the library branch directly, or book via www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

Parking: On-street parking only

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Monday 20th May

Discovering the Butterflies
of Lullymore West



Time: 11am – 2pm

Location: Bog of Allen Nature Centre,
Lullymore, R51 V293

Join the Irish Peatland Conservation Council for a butterfly walk and talk to Lullymore West Bog. Strong footwear and appropriate outdoor clothing recommended. Light refreshments and pond dipping activities for young participants available following the walk..

To book: Book directly <http://www.ipcc.ie/events/>
or send enquiries to bogs@ipcc.ie

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

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Monday 20th May

Biodiversity Art Workshop
with D'ink Studio

1st-6th
Class



Time: 12.30pm – 2pm

Location: Leixlip Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

To book: Contact the library branch directly,
or book via [www.kildarecoco.ie/
library/Calendar/](http://www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/)

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

Parking: On-street parking only



Time: 7pm – 8:30pm
Location: McAuley Place, Sallins Road, Naas

This talk will give an overview of Kildare's Barn Owl Survey which will be taking place throughout 2024. The survey is being led by Kildare Birdwatch Ireland Branch, with funding from the Local Biodiversity Action Fund, from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, in partnership with Kildare County Council's Heritage Unit.

To book: Queries to biodiversity@kildarecoco.ie
Admission fee: Free
Parking: On-street and carpark (paid parking) at venue



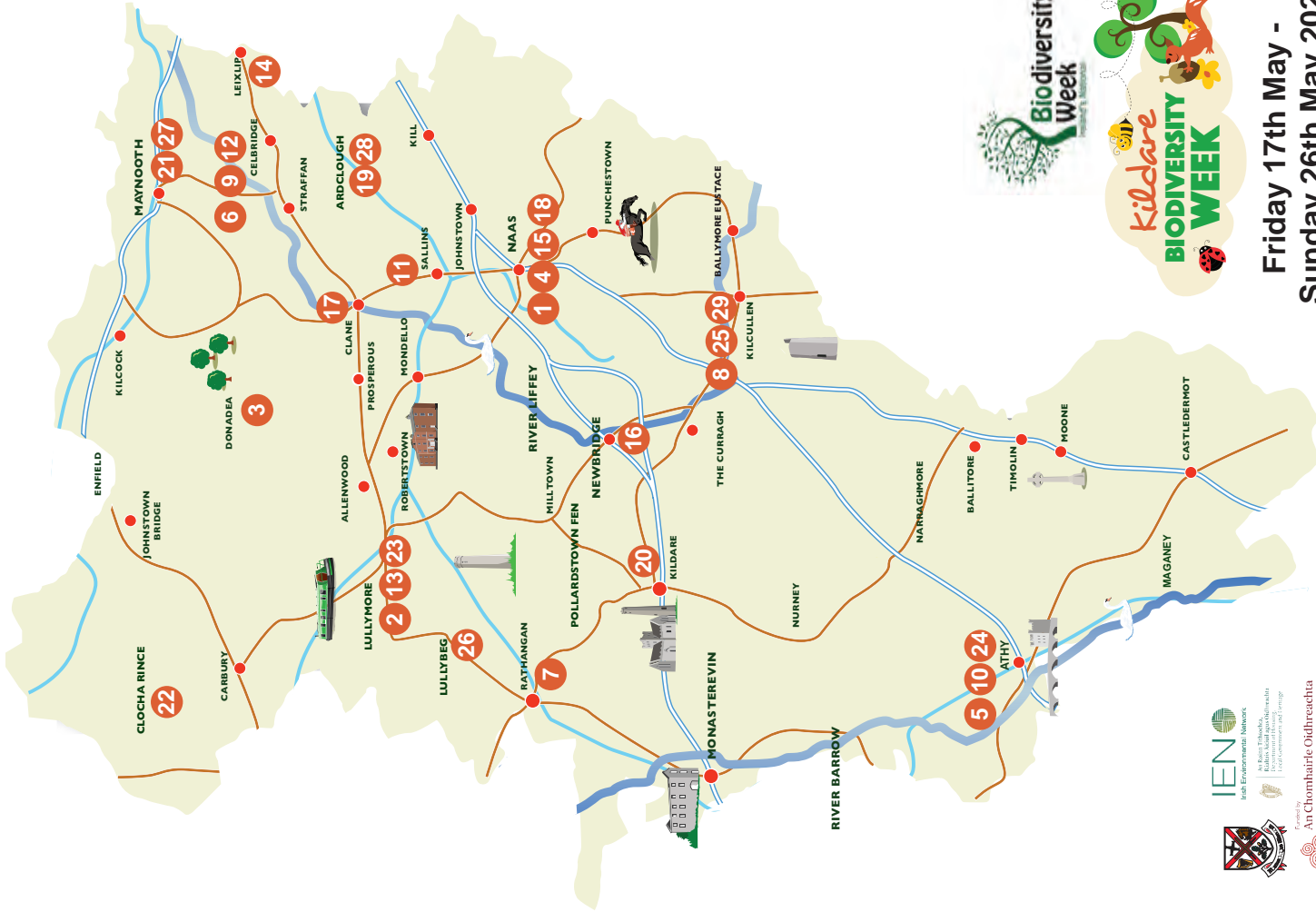
Kildare's Wild Places - Tuesday 21st May

The K Documentary series: "*Kildare's Wild Places*", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Time & Location: Tuesday 21st May, during '*Kildare Today*' show on KFM (9am - 11am)

Tune in to hear Michael Jacob take you on a journey through Pollardstown Fen, the largest remaining calcareous spring-fed fen in Ireland. Recognised as an internationally important fen ecosystem with unique and endangered plant communities, it contains a number of rare vegetation types and invertebrates.





Friday 17th May -
Sunday 26th May 2024



Irish Environmental Network
 Kildare County Council
 Wick County Council
 Wicklow County Council



Coimisiún
 An Chomhairle Oidhreachtacha
 The Heritage Council

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Tuesday 21st May Biodiversity Art Workshop with D'ink Studio

1st-6th
Class



Time: 9.30am – 11am
Location: Newbridge Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

To book: Contact the library branch directly, or book via www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/

Admission fee: Free (booking required)
Parking: On-street parking only

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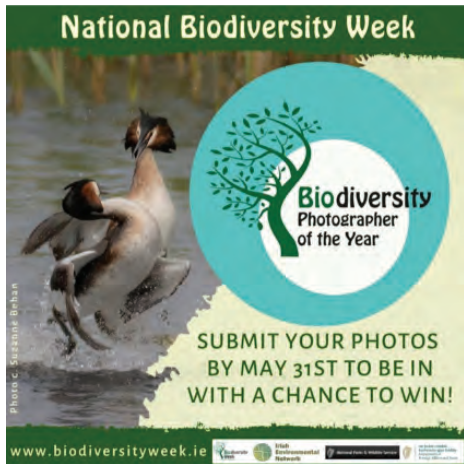
Tuesday 21st May Community Biodiversity Event



Time: 11.30am – 1pm
Location: John Sullivan (Irish Wheelchair Association) Biodiversity Gardens, Ballinagappa Road, Clane, Co. Kildare

Explore traditional skill of using edible and medicinal plants for health benefits by learning about native and readily available edible and medicinal plants and their health benefits, and by preparing samples and tasting of teas/soups using herb and plants. Kathleen Walsh (Social & Therapeutic Horticulture Tutor) will facilitates this Biodiversity week session.

To book: Send enquiries to eileen.obrien@iwa.ie
Admission fee: Free (booking required)



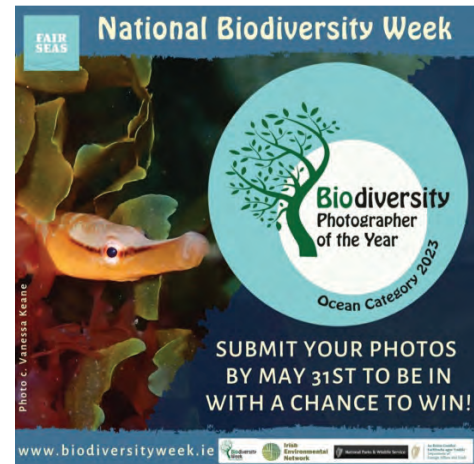
Biodiversity Photographer of the Year

Are you a keen amateur photographer that loves to capture striking landscapes, migration spectacles, fabulous flora, or dramatic close-up images of birds, mammals and insects? Would you like to win up to €500 in cash prizes? Then we have the competition for you.

Nothing captures Ireland's beautiful natural environment better than a photograph, so as part of Ireland's Biodiversity Week 2024 we are hosting our 12th Annual Biodiversity Photographer of the Year competition.

Our '*Biodiversity Photographer of the Year*' competition is open to all amateur photographers, whether you take photos as a hobby or it's your first time out with a camera, all are welcome to enter.

This year we are looking for photographs that celebrate Ireland's rich web of life. The challenge is to capture an image of some of the biodiversity in your area. Whether you live in the heart of the countryside or the centre of a city, there is wildlife to be found.



Ocean Category

This year we are once again hosting an Ocean Category, sponsored by Fair Seas. Explore our underwater wildlife and shoreline to be in with a chance to win!

Any photos submitted that feature marine life will automatically be entered into the Ocean Category.

Competition Details

All photos must be taken in the month of May 2024, and must be submitted by midnight on the 31st May 2024.

A maximum of 5 entries per participant will be accepted.

The winner will be determined by a judging panel whose decision is final.

The winner will receive €500, with second place receiving €300 and third place €200. The winner of the Ocean Category will receive €400.

We look forward to receiving your entries!

Details found here:

www.biodiversityweek.ie/photo-competitions/

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Tuesday 21st May

Biodiversity Art Workshop with D'ink Studio

1st-6th
Class



Time: 12.30pm – 2pm
Location: Naas Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

To book: Contact the library branch directly,
or book via [www.kildarecoco.ie/
library/Calendar/](http://www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/)

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

Parking: On-street parking only

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Tuesday 21st May

Ardclough Community Biodiversity Talk

14+



Time: 7pm - 8.30pm
Location: Ardclough Village Centre

This community event will focus on actions being taken for biodiversity in the locality. A number of speakers will present local projects and plans that have been undertaken recently. Opportunities for individuals and communities to positively support biodiversity will be up for discussion, over a cuppa and slice of cake.

To book: Send enquiries to
bio.ardclough@gmail.com

Admission fee: Free (booking required)



Kildare's Wild Places - Wednesday 22nd May

The K Documentary series: "Kildare's Wild Places", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Time & Location: Wednesday 22nd May, during 'Kildare Today' show on KFM (9am-11am)

Join Jim Lawlor on a journey through Donadea Forest, old demesne woodland. Donadea Castle and estate was the old home of the Aylmer family up until 1935 when the last member of the family, Miss Caroline died. It is a National Heritage Area. There are many historical features including the remains of the castle and walled gardens, St. Peter's church, an ice house and boat house. The site is notable for the presence of two rare species of Myxomycete fungus, namely Diderma chondrioderma and Licea testudinacea, the latter in one of only two known Irish sites.



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Wednesday 22nd May

Biodiversity Art Workshop
with D'ink Studio

1st-6th
Class



Time: 9.30am – 11am

Location: Kildare Town Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

To book: Contact the library branch directly,
or book via www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

Parking: On-street parking only

National Biodiversity Data



The National Biodiversity Data Centre works to make biodiversity data and information more freely available in order to better understand and assist the protection of Ireland's biodiversity.

The main role of the National Biodiversity Data Centre, as set out in its constitution is, to acquire, collate, manage, validate and make available, data in respect of Ireland's biodiversity in order to document wildlife resources and monitor and record changes over time, in so doing, support national initiatives to maintain and enhance biodiversity, including recording of species and habitat information relating to the terrestrial, freshwater, marine, rivers and wetland environments.

Free Biodiversity Posters Available from National Biodiversity Data centre website under publications:

- *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ireland*
- *Snáthaidí móra na hÉireann*
- *Irish Seaweeds*
- *Feamainní na hÉireann*
- *Rockpooling Map of Ireland*
- *Éisc agus Inveirteabraigh Idirthaoideacha*
- *Marine Bivalves of Ireland*
- *Débhlaoscaigh na hÉireann*
- *Shieldbugs of Ireland*
- *Fridí scéithe na hÉireann*
- *Butterflies of Ireland*
- *Féileacáin na hÉireann*
- *Bumblebees of Ireland poster*
- *Bumbóga na hÉireann*
- *On the farm*
- *In the woodlands*
- *On the wetlands*

National Biodiversity Data



FREE COURSES

Visit National Biodiversity Data centre website to access LOTS of wonderful FREE courses, including:

1. **Ireland's Farmland Birds:** This course aims to give farmers some background to the link between birds and agriculture and how to identify farmland bird species.
2. **Identifying Ireland's butterflies:** This course is suitable for those who are completely new to butterfly identification and those who want to brush up on their skills as another season of recording starts.
3. **Garden Butterfly Monitoring Scheme:** Provides recorders with an opportunity to identify and record butterflies in their gardens.
4. **Spiders of Ireland:** This course gives a brief introduction to Ireland's native spiders. It has been developed with Collie Ennis.
5. **How to Identify, Record and Monitor Common Irish Bumblebees:** Learn (or revise) how to recognize the six most common bumblebee species found in Ireland.
6. **Pollinator Friendly Farming:** Learn (or revise) why pollinators are important, find out about what pollinators typically occur on farmland, and tips on improving the landscape for pollinators.

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Wednesday 22nd May

1st-6th
Class



Biodiversity Art Workshop with D'ink Studio



Time: 12.30pm – 2pm
Location: Maynooth Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

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library/Calendar/](http://www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/)

Admission fee: Free (booking required)

Parking: On-street parking only

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Wednesday 22nd May



Clocha Rince Children's Biodiversity Week Event



Time: 2.45pm – 3.45pm
Location: Clocha Rince Community Library

Join us for a special Nature Art Workshop during Biodiversity Week! At this hands-on workshop, children can draw or paint their favourite plants, animals, or landscapes. Artistic creations will be displayed in the library.

To book: Please email
clocharincelibrary@gmail.com
or phone 046 9553428

Admission fee: Free (booking required)



Kildare's Wild Places - Thursday 23rd May

The K Documentary series: "Kildare's Wild Places", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Time & Location: Thursday 23rd May, during 'Kildare Today' show on KFM (9am - 11am)

Listen to Paddy Sheridan (now RIP) of Wild Kildare introduce us to the world of birds in Kildare and describe recording programmes he was involved in supporting.

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Thursday 23rd May
Gardening for Biodiversity



Time: 10am open, closing at 4pm
Location: Bog of Allen Nature Centre,
Lullymore, R51 V293

The peat-free and chemical-free wildlife gardens at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre will be open with free admission all day. Guided tours exploring the gardens at 11am, 1pm and 3pm. Light refreshments available at the centre.

To book: Book directly on
<http://www.ipcc.ie/events/> or send enquiries to bogs@ipcc.ie

Admission fee: Free



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Thursday 23rd May

**Biodiversity Art Workshop
with D'ink Studio**

1st-6th
Class



Time: 10am - 11.30am
Location: Athy Library

In this workshop, children will learn how to make their own paper seed mats. They will learn all about natural dyes and where they come from. Then using some pre-made seed mats and natural dyes provided, the children will turn their seed-mats into unique paintings which can be placed outside and watered. As the painting fades back into the soil it will soon be replaced by a swathe of wildflowers. These STEAM workshops are aimed at 1st Class to 6th Class level.

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library/Calendar/](http://www.kildarecoco.ie/library/Calendar/)

Admission fee: Free (booking required)
Parking: On-street parking only



Kildare's Wild Places - Friday 24th May

The K Documentary series: "*Kildare's Wild Places*", is produced for KFM by Juanita Browne, Crossing The Line Films.

Time & Location: Friday 24th May, during 'Kildare Today' show on KFM (9am - 11am)

Did you know that Bats are mammals? Did you know that they are not blind? Did you know that in Ireland we have nine species confirmed as residents? If you are interested in hearing more interesting batty facts tune in to KFM Kildare's Wild Places documentary with Anna Collins from Kildare Bat group.



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Friday 24th May



**Why Being in Nature is Good for you:
A Talk by Dr. Elizabeth Cullen**

Kilcullen Community 4 Climate Action



<https://kilcullencommunity4climateaction.blogspot.com/>
Phone: 08712148036



Time: 7.30pm - 9pm
Location: Kilcullen Library

An illustrated presentation describing the benefits of why being out in nature is beneficial, from a physical and psychological perspective. The talk is aimed at adults but children are welcome.

To book: Book directly on www.eventbrite.ie or send enquiries to kilcullen4climateaction@gmail.com

Admission fee: Free

Parking: There is limited parking available across the road from the library

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Saturday 25th May



Walk on Butterfly Conservation Ireland's Reserve, Lullybeg, County Kildare



Time: 10am
Location: The site is reached from Allenwood by taking the R414 west and crossing Shee Bridge 1km from Allenwood on the left. Continue for 4km and the Bog of Allen Nature Centre is on the right. Turn right here and continue for 100 metres to the T-junction. Turn left here onto the rough track and continue, slowly. We will park near the first gate (at N 69560 26045) and walk to the site. Bring boots. The site grid reference is N 68731 25664. See Discovery Series 49.

Target species: Dingy Skipper, Cryptic Wood White, Brimstone (eggs, caterpillars and adult butterflies), Orange-tip, Marsh Fritillary, Narrow-bordered Bee Hawkmoth, Four-spotted Chaser dragonfly, Hairy Dragonfly and much more!

To book: For queries contact conservation.butterfly@gmail.com
Event information is available on www.butterflyconservation.ie/wp/events-2/

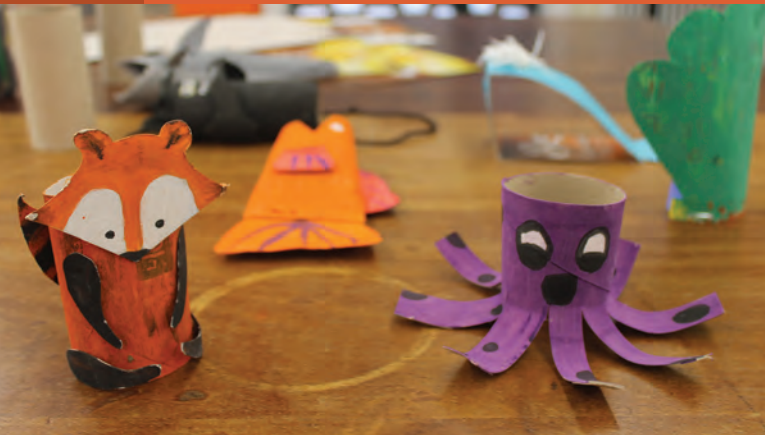
Admission: Free

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Saturday 25th May



Dive into Biodiversity Week
with the Rediscovery Centre!



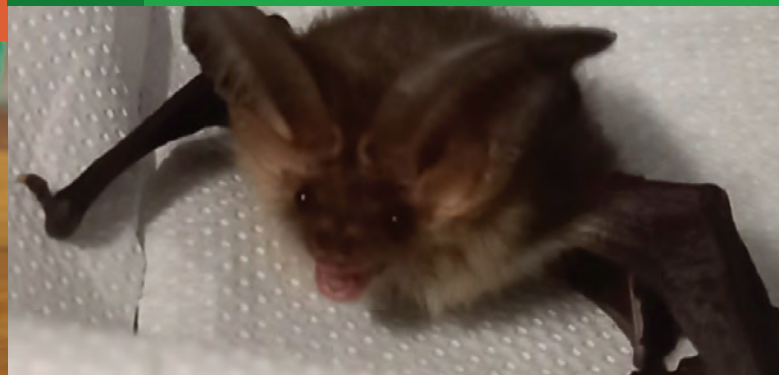
Time: 2.30pm - 4pm
Location: Maynooth Library

Join us to explore the wonders of Irish biodiversity through fun, interactive, hands-on activities. Participants will delve into Irish biodiversity, ecosystems, food chains, food webs, and animal adaptations. By exploring the importance of biodiversity and the impact we can have, students are guaranteed to leave interested, engaged, and with practical ways they can make a positive impact. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

To book: <https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/1242818>
Admission fee: Free (booking required)
Parking: On-street parking only

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Saturday 25th May
Ardclough Bat Walk

1st-6th
Class

Time: 9.45pm
Location: Ardclough - ~~starting point will be sent out by email~~ **FULLY BOOKED**

Join Kildare Bat Group, for a bat walk and talk along the banks of the Grand Canal. Wandering along the canal you will have the opportunity to listen to bats. You will learn more about Irish bat species and their life cycle as the walk progresses. Please wear sturdy shoes, warm clothes bring a torch. All under 18s must be accompanied by parent or guardian. Nothing with wheels allowed (as it interferes with the monitors). No dogs please. Booking is essential as places are limited and Kildare Bat Group need to see how many volunteers are needed.

To book: Please e-mail: **FULLY BOOKED**
~~kildarebatgroup@gmail.com~~
Places are limited, so please book early.
Admission fee: Free (booking required)
Parking: Yes



Invasive Species Week

20th – 26th May 2024

Save the date - get involved!



Did you know that Invasive Species Week coincides with National Biodiversity Week in 2024?

Invasive species pose a significant threat to our native wildlife and the functioning of our ecosystems. Through prevention, early detection, rapid response, eradication and control measures, we can reduce the risk of their introduction, establishment, spread and impact. The www.invasives.ie website has been developed to provide information and resources to learn more about invasive species, report your sightings and record action taken on invasive species throughout Ireland.

Visit www.invasives.ie for the 2024 National Event Listing



Time: 1pm - 3pm
Location: Rear of Kilcullen Town Hall

Presented by Dr. Jan Robert Baars, a freshwater ecologist who lives in Castlemartin and works in the Zoology Department of UCD, and is organised by Kilcullen Community Action. Aimed at the younger and not so young members of our community to see first-hand what monsters live in our River.

To book: Send enquiries to kilcullencommunityaction@gmail.com
Admission fee: Free
Parking: On-street parking is available close-by





This project is supported by the Local Biodiversity Action Fund, from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, and by The Heritage Council, via the Local Authority Biodiversity Officer Programme



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Funded by
An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, John Devoy
Road, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X77F
Phone: 045 980761

Email: biodiversity@kildarecoco.ie

For further event details and updates visit:
www.kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Heritage/BiodiversityandNaturalHeritage/BiodiversityWeek/



Kildare Heritage Officer



Kildare Heritage



Kildare Heritage