“Let’s Get Buzzing”
Local Authority Pollinator Award

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Heritage Officer
Kilkenny County Council
Local Authority Heritage Officers

The Heritage Officer Programme
A partnership between Local Authorities and The Heritage Council

Heritage Officers work to promote the value of our wildlife, buildings, archaeology and landscapes in local communities and within Local Authorities.
Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in Towns and Villages
A Guide for Local Community Groups
8 categories: National TT competition

• Community Involvement & Planning
• Built Environment & Streetscape
• Landscaping & Open Spaces
• Wildlife, Habitats & Natural Amenities
• Tidiness & Litter Control
• Sustainable Waste & Resource Management
• Residential Streets & Housing Areas
• Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes
Why an Award?

Action 23: Pollinator Friendly Management with Tidy Towns

Action 45 Raise Awareness with Heritage Officers & Biodiversity Officers

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Local Authority Pollinator Award Committee, July 2016
What is the Award?

“Encourage TidyTowns groups to take simple pollinator friendly measures in their local area”

- Link to 24 actions
- Categories
  - Small town x 4 regions
  - Large town x 4 regions
  - & 1 overall winner
- €9,000 prize
What are we looking for?

• Whole town approach
• Long term plan
• Raise awareness
• Pollinator friendly trees and shrubs
• Reduce pesticides
• Provide wild pollinators with nesting habitats
• Pollinator friendly mowing regime
• Measure impact
Competition Stats

- 1\textsuperscript{st} year of competition
- 59 entries
- 26 counties
Plant Pollinator Friendly Trees & Shrubs

Monaghan Town, Tidy Towns, 2016
Raise Awareness

Birr Tidy Towns, Co. Offaly
**How can we help?**

- Have at least one flowering food source from spring right through to winter. Clumps of bee friendly plants in sunny places.
- Leave small areas of your lawn uncut to allow clovers to flower.
- Don’t treat dandelions as weeds but as a vital food source for hungry bees in spring.
- Avoid using pesticides, herbicides.
- Avoid disturbing nesting or hibernating bees in long grass, dead wood or walls.
- Get involved with the All-Ireland pollination plan 2015-2020


**Join Athboy Tidy Towns Bee-friend Initiative**

**ATHBOY TIDY TOWNS**

**Be-Friend the Bees**

**MAKE YOUR GARDEN POLLINATOR FRIENDLY**

EXEMPLARY ACTIONS ON PUBLIC LAND

1. Reduce the frequency of mowing to allow wildflowers to grow.  
2. Plant nectar and pollen rich trees and shrubs.  
3. Reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and fertilizers.  
4. Maintain or create good quality hedgerows - cut less often to allow flowering.  

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Create Habitats

Cloughjordan Tidy Towns, Co. Tipperary
Mow for Pollinators

Ballintubber, Tidy Towns, Co. Roscommon
Winners 2016

SMALL TOWN CATEGORY €1,000 EACH
Birr TidyTowns, Co Offaly
Kildorrery TidyTowns, Co Cork
Cloughjordan TidyTowns, Co Tipperary
Ballintubber TidyTowns, Co Roscommon

OVERALL WINNER SMALL TOWN €1,000
Birr TidyTowns Co Offaly

LARGE TOWN CATEGORY €1,000 EACH
Maynooth TidyTowns, Co Kildare
Killarney TidyTowns, Co Kerry
Clonmel TidyTowns, Co Tipperary
Monaghan TidyTowns, Co Monaghan

OVERALL WINNER LARGE TOWN €1,000
Monaghan TidyTowns, Co Monaghan

Birr Tidy Towns, 2016
Benefits all around

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<tr>
<th>Maynooth Tidy Towns, Regional Winner Large Town Category</th>
<th>Max Mark</th>
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“We are delighted to read that you are familiar with the National Pollinator Plan and are taking simple yet important steps to encourage bees. These include the planting of pollinator-friendly perennials. You have available local expertise on bee welfare and are wisely availing of it”.

Adjudicators Report, Maynooth Tidy Towns, 2016
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http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/projects/irish-pollinator-initiative/all-ireland-pollinator-plan/

Thanks