

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025



COUNCIL PARTNERS: ANNUAL REVIEW 2025



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



An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta
agus Fiadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife Service

As part of the Council Partner agreement for the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, each Council or Local Authority Partner provides a mandatory update on their activities in support of the Plan each year.

Local authorities have a huge role to play in transforming our landscape for pollinating insects. Not only do they manage significant areas of land, but their networks reach across all sectors of our society, representing many different groups and individuals who can all help make a difference.

During this phase of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, we have gathered support from all 42 local authorities on the island of Ireland, as well as over 100 governmental organisations and NGOs, and thousands of community groups, farmers, businesses, schools, sports clubs, faith communities, and individuals. This Annual Review is a summary of the vast range of work overseen by councils for the benefit of pollinators in 2025. Each Council is different, as reflected in the varied areas of focus and the wide range of actions reported. The intention of this report is to showcase the positive work being carried out by councils, and to provide a mechanism for knowledge exchange.

Every year, the work of local authorities grows in scale and ambition. In 2025, key areas of work have included expanding naturally restored meadows, with innovative methods being deployed to manage these habitats on a large scale. Increasingly, meadows are transforming residential areas where grass was previously tightly mown, yielding unexpected benefits not just for biodiversity but for carbon reduction and the health and wellbeing of the people who live there. Many councils have developed pollinator plans for towns, or wider schemes for mapping existing habitats and creating pollinator pathways. Others have led an inspiring range of workshops, conferences, wild bee festivals and engagement activities. Native hedgerows are being managed for pollinators, trees are being planted, ornamental planting in parks supplements the native food supply, and significant efforts continue to reduce pesticide use.

In the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025, Objective 2 is to make public land more pollinator friendly. As we reach the end of this phase, we thank every local authority who has engaged with the AIPP during this time. In the next phase, we want to better support Council Partners by providing more and updated evidence-based resources, more technical advice, and more knowledge exchange opportunities. Taking action for pollinators benefits wider biodiversity and contributes positively to climate, green infrastructure and health and wellbeing initiatives. We want to do more to explain these connections and ensure that pollinator-friendly actions taken by Councils are fully recognised for the variety of benefits they bring.

Pollinating insects are still in decline on our island, but since the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan began, local pollinator populations have increased where actions have been taken to help them. If we keep going, and continue to do more, we can create an island where pollinators can survive and thrive.

We sincerely thank all our Council Partners for their support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in 2025.

Kate Chandler, National Biodiversity Data Centre

Background

A 15-member steering group provides oversight of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025. The Pollinator Plan is managed by the National Biodiversity Data Centre and actively addresses a time-critical biodiversity challenge. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, register number 730718. Councils can play a leading role in making the island of Ireland a place where pollinators can survive and thrive. Since the launch of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in 2015, most Councils/Local Authorities have been taking actions to support pollinators on public land in line with the evidence-based guideline document published: Councils: actions to help pollinators. Many Councils also work with local community groups, residents' associations, and schools to help raise awareness of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. To better support these efforts and promote the work being undertaken, a dedicated framework was developed in 2019 to recognise Councils as formal partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

The National Biodiversity Data Centre is delighted to have received funding to deliver the next phase of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for 2026-2030. In collaboration with our partners, we hope to develop and deliver a much more ambitious third AIPP. The AIPP 2026-2030 will be published in spring 2026.

Council Partners

Partners are those councils who sign the partnership framework and return it to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. In doing so they commit to carrying out evidence-based actions to support pollinators and to reporting their activities annually. All 42 Councils across the island of Ireland have now partnered with the Pollinator Plan.

2025 annual review

Each council partner's point of contact was asked to provide short bullet point updates on their activities in 2025. They were contacted by email. Each partner was provided with a template to assist the process. Partners were requested to follow this general format. Where an update was not provided, this is stated. Where updates are not provided across more than one year, the council will be approached to determine if they will remain as a partner. All 42 local authorities provided an update for the 2025 annual review.

Councils are listed alphabetically.

Tidy Towns

Tidy Towns groups are encouraged to create a buzz in their community and enter the Local Authority Pollinator Award in the national Tidy Towns competition. The award, with a €10,000 prize fund, encourages Tidy Towns groups to implement pollinator-friendly actions as part of the Tidy Towns competition. The Local Authority Pollinator Award supports the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and is sponsored by the Heritage & Biodiversity Offices of local authorities across the Republic of Ireland, in partnership with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Although it is not always mentioned under the respective council updates, many local authorities contribute to this prize fund.

2025 updates provided by Council Partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Council/ Local Authority name	Date joined as Partners	Key actions taken in support of the Pollinator Plan in 2025 (up to 5)
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of New Meadow-Managed Areas: Over the past year, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council has significantly increased the proportion of meadow-managed areas across its open-space portfolio, with these areas now accounting for 19% of all Council-maintained green spaces. This forms part of the Green Spaces Initiative, which is currently in its third year and continues to perform beyond expectations. The expansion of meadow management is delivering clear environmental and community benefits. Residents in these locations are experiencing a noticeable reduction in energy use associated with grass-cutting operations, whilst also observing an increase in native wildflowers and biodiversity within local green spaces. One Million Trees Programme: Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council continues to make strong progress through its One Million Trees Programme, which aims to plant one million trees across the borough in partnership with residents, community groups, and local organisations. The programme is now in its third year and has reached an important milestone, with 292,565 trees planted to date. This achievement reflects a sustained commitment to enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality, and creating greener, more climate-resilient communities. Ongoing projects and new planting opportunities planned for the year ahead will help accelerate progress towards the one-million target and ensure long-term environmental benefits for the borough. Pollinator-friendly planting: Pollinator-friendly planting was successfully delivered across seven new suitable locations throughout the borough this year. These areas came into full bloom in June, creating vibrant and colourful displays that significantly enhanced the visual appeal of our green spaces. More importantly, these areas are providing vital food sources and habitat for a wide range of pollinating insects, supporting biodiversity and contributing to the health of local ecosystems. This initiative forms part of the council's ongoing commitment to creating environmentally sustainable landscapes and improving ecological resilience across the borough. Further expansion of these sites is planned for the coming year. Establishment of New Green Flag Sites: Council has continued to strengthen its commitment to high-quality, well-managed green spaces with the addition of two new Green Flag sites this year. This achievement brings Council's total number of accredited locations to 32, comprising 20 Council-managed sites and 12 community-led sites. The Green Flag Award is an internationally recognised standard that celebrates excellence in parks and green spaces, assessing factors such as environmental management, biodiversity, community involvement, and overall visitor experience. Securing two additional awards reflects the hard work, dedication, and investment directed towards maintaining clean, welcoming, and sustainable outdoor environments across the borough. These new accreditations

		<p>also highlight the valuable contribution of local communities, volunteers, and partner organisations in helping to care for and enhance shared green spaces. Council remains committed to expanding and improving its network of high-quality parks, ensuring residents and visitors can enjoy safe, vibrant, and environmentally responsible places for recreation and wellbeing.</p>
Ards and North Down Borough Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewilding Initiative: The area of land managed for pollinators has increased to a total area of 130,000m² across Ards and North Down Borough Council Parks & Cemeteries sites. One site in Newtownards has been prepped and seeded by RSPB to support wintering birds on the shores of Strangford Lough. Brompton site in Bangor was reclaimed grassland following pumping station works, seeded with seeds from nearby Crawfordsburn Country Park. We are developing management places for three of our other larger sites so they can be used for education and surveying. Some wet sites may be replanted with willow. We are also investigating opportunities for grazing. • Grassland Management Plan: The council's Grassland Management Plan was approved by Council in November 2024. The vision is "to provide high quality, value for money grasslands, that provide aesthetic beauty and recreational use while maximising their value to people and the environment". It aims to Improve biodiversity; move towards zero carbon; increase efficiency; and actively engage and educate residents on the value of grasslands. • In Bloom Initiative 2025: This initiative encourages residents to think about their local environment and the positive impact they can have on it. Themes of community participation and environmentally sustainable processes attracted participants across a wide demographic. The keynote speaker for this year's award was a local, self-taught, gardener and regular contributor to BBC Radio Ulster's Gardeners Corner. Her speech presentation and interaction with the audience showed her passion for sustainable gardening, supporting wildlife and showing how we can use our gardens and community spaces to make a real difference for nature. One of the categories of the competition focused solely on 'Gardening for Wildlife', the 2025 winner of this group showed a wonderful space that's a haven for local wildlife, demonstrating how beautiful and beneficial wildlife-friendly gardening can be. One of the highlights of the In Bloom competition is to celebrate our young people and their contribution to gardening and wildlife. This is seen through the categories for Best School Garden, Tallest Sunflower and Painting Competition. • Tree & Woodland Strategy – Two key elements for tree planting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand4Trees Initiative: This ambitious yet achievable tree planting and promotion initiative aims to engage local communities to help increase and enhance the level of tree cover on Council land and that of other agencies and private landowners. One of the actions within the STAND4TREES initiative is to plant a tree for every person in the Borough, that is approximately 160,000. Through planting season 2024-2025, 15,532 new trees were planted in the borough. To date ANDBC has planted nearly 65,500 new trees since the beginning of the Tree and Woodland Strategy in 2021. In addition, the council along with parks volunteers planted over 1,800 meters worth of native hedgerow as well as a total of four community orchards in the last tree planting season (2024-2025).

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed2Leaf: Community Tree Nursery: The Seed2Leaf Community Tree Nursery initiative began in 2023/24 with 2 community groups and forms a fundamental part of the Council's Tree and Woodland Strategy. This innovative programme enables local communities to engage directly in the complete tree growth cycle, from seed collection through to sapling cultivation, thereby gaining long-term environmental responsibility and ownership of local green spaces. • The primary objective of Seed2Leaf is to create a sustainable network of community-managed tree nurseries that serve multiple purposes. These nurseries increase the availability of locally sourced native tree stock for council planting schemes while simultaneously strengthening community involvement in environmental initiatives. The programme provides valuable educational opportunities for schools and youth groups and offers a cost-effective approach to tree procurement through local seed collection and propagation. • The initiative operates through four key phases. The seed gathering phase involves Officers and volunteers collecting locally adapted tree species such as Oak, Hazel and Rowan. Community groups then establish nurseries using council-provided funding, materials and comprehensive training. Volunteers subsequently nurture the seeds into viable saplings over a one-to-three-year period. Finally, the saplings are replanted across the borough in public parks, school grounds and housing estates, directly contributing to the STAND4TREES planting targets. • Education & Awareness: In 2025 various events and activities took place to engage with the public (all ages): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January – Tree planting, bird watching and identification February – Tree planting, bird box building, guided woodland walks March - Rewilding messaging. Tree planting April – shared education citizen science marine and coastal workshops, swift walks May – Dawn Chorus Day, Bioblitz along North Down Coastal Path June – parks promotion at events – seed planting, nature engagement activities July – Love Parks events – bug detectives, plant swap, natural inks workshop, nature writing, rockpooling August – ANDBC Wild Days out – trees, coastal biodiversity, bird identification, Bat walk and talk September – tree seed gathering October – orchard clean ups, autumn walks November – events for Tree week pending <p>These events take place across the whole borough at various parks locations or within schools and community locations.</p>
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Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council	November 2021	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council have undertaken a range of tasks in 2025 to improve and enhance the habitat for Pollinator species, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of approx. 150 acres for wildflowers and wildflower meadows through planting or conservation grazing throughout the ABC Council area. Yellow rattle seed was collected from Oxford Island and used to help improve the biodiversity of selected Council amenity areas which are transitioning to No Mow sites. • Continue the 'let it grow don't mow' campaign across the council ward with some 23 road verge sites left for wildflowers and grasses to flower for nature including pollinators. Further expansion of this work in the Borough across another five sites. • Tree planting initiatives and events taking place with local communities and through grant funded projects. This includes tree planting initiatives over a number of urban and rural sites, and includes flowering native fruit trees. • Survey work taking place such as South Lake leisure centre for the Cryptic White Wood as well as surveyed Peatlands Park along with Butterfly Conservation for Large Heath Butterfly. All species encountered at both sites were recorded. A Pollinator Monitoring Scheme survey took place to identify local invertebrate species in the South Armagh area. Survey of local council landfill area as part of re-wildling project (25 hectares). Also training undertaken by Education Team and 2 x 1km² surveys were carried out in Co. Armagh. • Training and Education: The Council has a team dedicated to the delivery of an education programme for all years within the school system. Programmes are delivered throughout the year and to date for the year 2025/6 the team have worked with over 3,500 pupils. The main areas of study include habitats and invertebrates including pollinating insects with activities dedicated to their study. Staff visit schools within the borough to advise and help them improve their school grounds for wildlife and ways to support invertebrate populations and attract pollinating insects. • Interpretation: The Service has produced a new leaflet on the biodiversity of Craigavon City Park, highlighting the species and management of the area and sites important for butterflies, particularly the cryptic wood white. • Events: A series of walks and talks took place at Oxford Island Nature Reserve and other sites throughout the borough between May and October giving the general public, families and special interest groups the chance to gain knowledge and learn skills about managing land for pollinators, and common techniques used to survey them. These included guided walks, minibeast hunts, moth trapping and talks. Staff support events and activities across the borough to promote biodiversity. • Wildlife Garden: Beginning in late 2024 work commenced on the wildlife garden close to the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre to improve the space and make it a usable space for visiting schools and groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Native seeds sown in winter and grass cutting limited to keeping access passages, resulting in good blooms of Lesser celandine, Wild garlic and bluebells in early spring followed by Red Campion, Cranesbill, Herb Robert, Nettles, Devil's-bit Scabious, clovers and Oxeye Daisy. ○ Dead hedge built and recently replenished to provide valuable shelter and nesting site.
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Belfast City Council	May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nature Towns and Cities, Breaking through Barriers to Connect People and Nature: Belfast City Council in partnership with Ulster Wildlife has secured £850,000 from the NLHF to co-design a blueprint for nature recovery across the city and its surrounding areas, including the Lagan Valley Regional Park and the Belfast Hills. The project will be a catalyst for existing green and blue spaces to transition to designs that have a nature and climate emphasis. The project has two key pillars, (i) improving existing green and blue spaces and (ii) greening the grey, with a particular focus on alleyways, peace-walls and active travel routes. These two pillars will be supported by data gathering, exploration around new funding models and an extensive people engagement programme to support all aspects of the project. Much of the project will involve working with local communities to enable more collaborative working with statutory authorities and the environmental sector. ● Belfast is making Space for Nature: DAERA Funding of £400,000 secured to develop a landscape scale Nature Recovery Network increasing habitat, extent, improving condition and connectivity, including species rich grassland in a suite of public parks and open spaces. Building upon the previous Biodiversity and Climate projects the ecological data will inform actions to restore and enhance priority habitats including upland heath, fen and address issues such as invasive alien species. Core Sites – costed Conservation and Grazing Management Plans including stocking densities, farm infrastructure needs, scrub removal etc will be developed to move to favourable management. Activities will be undertaken to address site pressures. Demonstration Sites will be developed to promote "extensive" farming, share knowledge & educate on the benefits for biodiversity & climate adaptation e.g. flood attenuation. Gaps at a landscape scale will be identified to create Stepping Stones & Wildlife Corridors. BCC is also purchasing machinery for meadow management. ● European Upsurge Project is fast-forwarding the benefit of nature-based solutions by testing concepts in five cities across Europe. BCC and EcoSeeds are testing meadow restoration techniques at the scientific demonstrator site in Botanic Gardens. An area of approximately 1 hectare of new species rich grassland and flower rich wet grassland scrapes was created. The project is a pilot to test the implementation of scalable nature-based solutions including interventions to address small scale flooding and increase climate resilience across the city. The site was over sown with local seed collected from a long-established meadow at Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park. Part of the site was inoculated with soil cores from the same meadow to assess the impacts, if any, on meadow restoration. Several

		<p>scrapes were created and planted with native plug plants. To date the interventions have prevented prolonged flooding of pedestrian paths, as was experienced prior to the interventions. Baseline and ongoing NVC monitoring will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the soil inoculations and other restoration techniques employed on the site. Pitfall sampling focussed on ground beetles has been undertaken across the interventions and control areas. We hope to monitor seasonal pollinator spread in coming years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video of the Upsurge Meadow Restoration project: https://youtu.be/yMkq-JMQS3w?si=BWCwwt_DkiR9Go6Y • Urban Meadows Notice of Motion: BCC has committed to creating four new meadows across the city. Investment of £50,000 has been secured and four sites selected. Local provenance native seed has been collected and processed from a long-established meadow which will be used to oversow the sites. Work is ongoing, outcomes will include approximately 6 hectares of new meadow created with staff and community engagement and upskilling.
Carlow County Council	July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawns into Lunch: Progressing action on the County Carlow Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Carlow Urban Pollinator Foraging Network, Carlow County Council launched the “Lawns into Lunch” initiative. This initiative follows on from the mapping exercise undertaken in 2024, when community green spaces with pollinator potential across Carlow's main towns and villages were mapped. For 2025, the focus switched to encouraging a change in their management – to move away from regular mowing (saving time and labour and reducing carbon footprint), and towards long-flowering meadows in these areas (significantly improving conditions for biodiversity and enabling enhanced ecosystem services). A number of demonstration sites were identified as outlined below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In April and September, working with the Old Irish Goat Society, a herd of goats visited sites across five towns and villages (Carlow Town, Bagenalstown, Tullow, Leighlinbridge and Hacketstown), with engagement of over 3,500 people, outlining the Urban Pollinator Foraging Network policy of Carlow's Green Infrastructure Strategy, and encouraging groups and residents to "turn lawns into lunch". ○ Working with the County Carlow Environmental Network, two sites were used for scything demonstration workshops in September, assisting local groups with the challenges of "cutting and lifting". ○ Arising from this project, a hard copy “Carlow” version of the “Three Billy Goats Gruff” children’s book was produced, with an evil lawnmower cutting all the wildflowers replacing the evil troll. Readers are directed to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in this publication. A video was also produced with local children’s character Wibbly Wobbly Wendy and posted on the Heritage Council social media channels. ○ Media coverage of Lawns into Lunch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goats a catalyst for change in Co. Carlow (Agriland, May 2025) ▪ Goats go on tour of Co Carlow to turn lawns into lunch (Carlow Nationalist, April 2025) ▪ Once Upon a Time in Carlow (Heritage Council video, Facebook, May 2025)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Garden and Allotment Policy: Carlow County Council formally adopted and launched its Community Garden & Allotment Policy in May 2025, making it the first local authority in Ireland to introduce such a dedicated policy. The official launch event took place at the Biodiversity Garden in Hacketstown and was accompanied by a practical handbook for community groups to support implementation. This plan supports the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan through several measures including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Pollinator-Friendly Planting:</i> The policy encourages planting native, nectar-rich species and creating habitats that provide food and shelter for pollinators. It promotes organic gardening practices, avoiding pesticides and herbicides that harm bees and other pollinators ○ <i>Habitat Creation:</i> Community gardens are designed to include wildflower areas, hedgerows, and biodiversity zones, which align with AIPP's recommended actions for councils. ○ <i>Education & Awareness:</i> The handbook includes guidance on pollinator-friendly gardening techniques and encourages community groups to raise awareness about the importance of pollinators in food production and ecosystem health. ○ <i>Mapping & Monitoring:</i> Groups are encouraged to log pollinator-friendly sites on the Actions for Pollinators mapping system, ensuring visibility and accountability for AIPP commitments ○ Media coverage of the Community Garden and Allotment Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council's garden policy breaks new ground - News - Carlow Nationalist
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Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't Mow, Let It Grow: The council pioneered this initiative to reduce grass cutting on road verges and public parks, allowing wildflowers to flourish and providing vital habitats for pollinators. We continue to assess and analyse the species developing within the sites. Management Practices: Actions include creating wildflower meadows and adjusting maintenance schedules for roadside verges to support insect and animal life. School Planting: Primary schools have been planting hanging baskets within our town centres expanding to Ballycastle and further towns to follow.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Collaboration: CCGBC works with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) to scale these pollinator-friendly practices across the borough's transport corridors. • Climate Change Action Strategy: In late 2025, the council opened public consultations for its strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, which includes biodiversity and habitat preservation as core components.
Cavan County Council	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme: The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan was referenced in all Cavan County Council-related ORIS project applications. (Tourism Office, CCC) • Pollinator boxes for schools: Cavan County Council's Environmental Awareness Officer provided pollinator boxes to the schools who achieved a Biodiversity Green flag as part of the Green Schools initiative. (Environmental section, Cavan County Council) • Pollinator-friendly landscaping: Consultants Barry Transportation on the Virginia Bypass working under Cavan County Council Engineers have specialist working on landscaping and biodiversity. They have a large portion of pollinator mitigation measures come from re-introducing native planting into the scheme and protecting existing hedgerows, both key actions highlighted in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guideline: <i>Pollinator-friendly Management of Transport Corridors</i>. • Pollinator actions on church grounds: Aidan Brady (Road Overseer) helped support pollinator actions on church ground projects with Bawnboy Tidy Towns (Roads Section, Cavan County Council). • Tidy Towns Pollinator Award success: Cavan Tidy Towns won a Local Authority Pollinator Award at the National Tidy Towns award. Twelve new pollinator-friendly areas have been developed in the town with appropriate methods with the county Horticulturalist Bernie McGovern following AIPP guidance. They are looking at a community orchard and Invasive Species project in 2025. Cavan Tidy Towns also partook in active citizen science recording of local biodiversity via Flower-Insect Timed counts and Butterfly monitoring with records to the NBDC. • Hedgerow Survey and Biodiversity Action Plan: A guidance video to launch the 2024 County Hedgerow Survey is in production. The Golden Ways project, County Graveyard Network and Pollinator friendly towns and villages in the geopark initiative have continued as well as other actions supporting the overall ethos of the soon to be launched County Biodiversity Action Plan with the Cavan Heritage Office.
Clare County Council	February 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aras Contae An Chláir (Council Headquarters, New Road Ennis): In 2025, the Gardening Team, the Environment Section and the Biodiversity Officer collaborated to transition from managing the grounds of the Council Headquarters from implementing 'No Mow May' to adopting a 'Six Week Short-Cut Wildflower Meadow' which was implemented from May to September 2025. Bee Orchid and Common Spotted Orchid were recorded growing at the front of the Council grounds while other species included Oxeye daisy, Hawksbeard, Selfheal, Knapweed,

		<p>Cuckooflower, Dandelion, White clover, and Birds-foot trefoil. Pollinators including the Red-tailed bumblebee were also recorded using the Council grounds. Pollinator signs in English and Irish were installed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening team activities: The Gardening Team have been involved in an ongoing review of practices to align with the various actions for Councils, as set out in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Some of the key measures are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ban on use of herbicides by Gardening Team. ○ Implementing pollinator-friendly perennial planting in place of annual bedding species at appropriate locations. This action will continue to be developed and expanded in future years. ○ Identifying and protecting existing areas for pollinators at Council HQ and Waterpark House. • Roundabouts in Ennis town environs: In 2025, pollinator signs (designed and funded by Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer in 2024) were installed on five roundabouts in Ennis. The Biodiversity Officer teamed up with Ennis Tidy Towns and staff of Ennis Municipal District Office to adopt pollinator friendly mowing regimes at Rocky Road Roundabout, the Claureen Roundabout, Cappahard Roundabout, Beechpark Roundabout, and the Tulla road. The roundabouts support wildflowers such as Oxeye daisy, Hawksbeard, greater Birds-foot trefoil, Cuckooflower. • Sports Complexes: Clare County Council has implemented and is managing pollinator friendly grassland management regimes at Lees Road Sports Complex since 2019 (six-week short cut meadow) and Kilrush Sports Complex (wildflower meadow since 2023). • Return to Nature Clare Church Biodiversity Project: In 2024, Clare County Council through the Biodiversity Officer's role funded and project led a biodiversity initiative on 12 church grounds in Co. Clare. An additional seven churches were signed up to the initiative in 2025. A pollinator plan was developed for each Church and pollinator signage was installed. In-person pollinator workshops were delivered to communities in March and April 2025. Three Plant Identification and Flower-Insect Timed Count training workshops were delivered at church grounds in May, June and July 2025. All 19 churches have undertaken pollinator actions in 2025. Four other churches implemented pollinator actions of their own accord in partnership with the Council's Biodiversity Officer in 2025. Actions implemented at church grounds range from wildflower meadows, six-week short cut flowering meadows, planting pollinator friendly fruit trees and planting certified pollinator friendly organic bulbs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ St Imys church, Killimer; ○ St. Mary's Church, Mullagh; ○ St. Senan's Church, Cooraclare; ○ Church of the Immaculate Conception, Kilkee; ○ St Senan's Church, Kilrush; ○ St Marys Church, Moy; ○ Church of the Immaculate Conception, Inagh; ○ St John the Baptist Church, Kilmaley;
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SS Peter and Paul's Church, Clarecastle. ○ St. Flannan's Cathedral Church of Ireland, Killaloe ○ Christ Church of Ireland, Spanish Point ○ St Mary's Catholic Church, Quin ○ SS. Peter & Paul, Tulla ○ Church of Our Lady Assumed into Heaven, Doonbeg ○ Mary Immaculate Church, Shannon ○ SS John & Paul Church, Shannon ○ St John's Church, Cratloe ○ Blessed John XXIII Church, Clooney ○ St Senan's RC Church, Clonlara ○ Feakle Cemetery, Feakle ○ St Joseph's Church, Kilnamona; ○ St Peter's Church, Broadford. ○ St. Joesphs Church, Miltown Malbay ● Climate Action Programme: In 2025, the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) was delivered by Clare County Council in partnership with the Department of the Climate, Energy and the Environment, supporting communities in creating low-carbon, sustainable futures. Recent actions that contribute to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan include pollinator-friendly planting by the following community groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clooney Spanci hill CDG Native planting efforts continue to flourish in Clooney, with the landscape beginning to take shape: Hawthorn, Holly, Alder, Birch, Rowan, Willow, Hazel, Crab Apple, Elder, Guelder Rose, Sessile Oak. ○ Shannon Tidy Towns have planted their pollinator corridor through the town. This involved planting nine raised beds with pollinator friendly plants. <i>Salix caprea</i>, <i>Viburnum opulus</i>, <i>Rosa canina</i>, <i>Achillea millefolium</i>, <i>Succisa pratensis</i>, <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>, <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> ○ Clare GAA: Native trees (Oak, Alder and Silver Birch) have also been planted at both Caherlohan and Ballyline GAA Clubs, enhancing biodiversity across their sites. ● Ennis Library: The grounds of the former De Valera Public Library on Harmony Row, Ennis was managed as a wildflower meadow in 2025 with pollinator signage installed. ● Westbourne: A large section of the Bishops grounds in Westbourne, Ennis were marked out by Bishop Fintan Monahan and Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer and managed as a wildflower meadow in 2025 with pollinator signage installed.
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- **Shannon Municipal District:** 9 hectares of wildflower meadow are currently managed within Shannon Municipal District in 2025 including locations in Shannon Town (Tullyglass Hill, Fergus Drive, Green area between Chill Chais & Cluain Airne, Tola Park, Glaise Na Rinne, Ballymurtagh Roundabout, Aidan Park, Killian Park, Cronan Gardens, Ballycasey Park, Between Bóthar Mor and Ard Caoin, Town Park and Lios na Ri) and Parteen (Fairyfields Estate and Fir Hill).
- **Communities:** In 2025, Clare County Council's Biodiversity Officer met various community groups to advocate for pollinator friendly management regimes to be included in their village/town local biodiversity action plans. Many of these communities have applied for funding under the Community Foundation Ireland's Biodiversity Fund.
- **Visitor Destination Sites: Vandeleur Walled Garden, Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre, Craggaunowen Open Air Museum and Loop Head:** in 2024, the Biodiversity Officer met with the operations section of Vandeleur gardens and Loop head to develop wildflower meadows at the visitor destination centres under the Council's Tourism Directorate. This practice has continued into 2025. A Biodiversity Conservation Plan was commissioned for Craggaunowen in 2025. Wildflower verges have been let grow on the grounds.
- **Print Media:** Pollinator adverts included in the local paper 'Clare Echo' to promote pollinator initiatives in Clare in conjunction with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.



Áras Contae an Chláir: Six Week Short Cut Flowering Meadow and Bee Orchid on the grounds of Clare County Council Headquarters, New Road, Ennis.



Red-tailed bumblebee on council grounds.



Return to Nature Clare Church Biodiversity Project: 23 churches are undertaking pollinator actions on church grounds across County Clare working in partnership with Clare County Council.





Marking our pollinator wildflower meadow at Westbourne, Ennis (May 2025) and wildflowers on the grounds in July 2025.



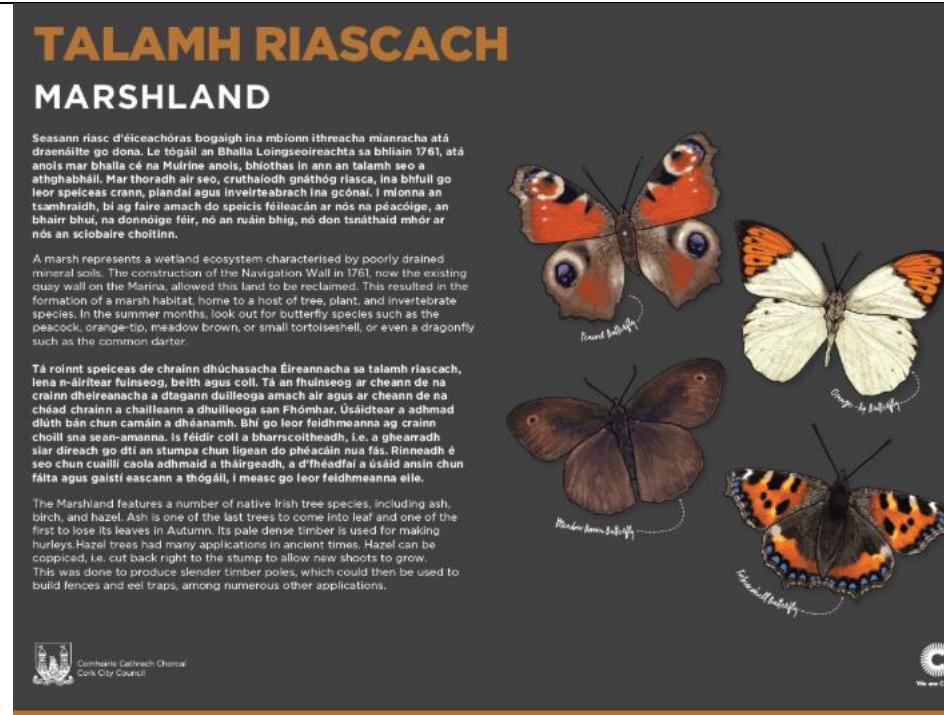
Pollinator Management at Beechpark Roundabout, Ennis.

Cork City Council	September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cork City Wildflower Meadow Enhancement Project 2025: In 2025, the Biodiversity Officer in Parks commissioned an environmental consultancy to map the current 95 acres of wildflower meadows (key sites include Regional Park Ballincollig, Lee Fields and Tramore Valley Park) to identify the different grassland habitats present in Cork City and provide advice to improve each site for wildflowers. New specialist equipment was hired to cut and lift the grass from August onwards and an Agri-contractor hired to cut and lift the grass within larger areas. All the methods followed the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guidelines on long-flowering meadow management. A wildflower meadow enhancement video was also commissioned to raise awareness of the importance of managing wildflower meadows and highlight our current wildflower meadows. This project was supported with funding by the Local Biodiversity Action Fund and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. • Links to the Cork City's Wildflower Meadow Enhancement Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.facebook.com/share/r/18AxAe6q8S/ ○ https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1a1gdJwFKD/ • Rain Gardens installed at Cork City's first Learn-to-Bike Park: The Railway Park Community Group with funding from the Community Climate Action Programme, Local Authorities Waters Programme (LAWPRO) and Cork City's Parks & Recreation team installed four rain gardens within the Railway Park on Lower Grattan Hill. All four rain gardens are planted with pollinator-friendly plants (e.g. Echinacea purpurea, Nepeta racemosa, Salvia 'Little Spires'). They will help reduce water run-off coming from the surrounding urban area, reducing overflow into storm drains which leads to pollution within our local watercourses. The project will be monitored following the four pillars of Sustainable Drainage Systems (Water Quantity, Quality, Biodiversity & Amenity) to assess how well the rain gardens are helping to reduce urban runoff, increase biodiversity and improve the level amenity on the site. • Sustainable Gardening Courses, Biodiversity Week Event and School Educational Visits: Cork City Council with funding from the Local Biodiversity Action Fund provided two free sustainable gardening courses in September to community groups and Cork City Council staff. The courses were both a combination of theory and practical advice on how to design outdoor spaces to support pollinators, birds, other insects and soil life. • During Biodiversity Week 2025, Cork City's Biodiversity Officers organised a community workshop to support citizen science and reporting of pollinators and other wildlife to the National Biodiversity Data Centre's data portal. Specifically, the workshop educated community groups and individuals on Flower-Insect Timed (FIT) counts, thereby contributing to national monitoring efforts with surveys to be conducted in Cork City in the future. • Both Cork City's Biodiversity Officers delivered talks to support primary and secondary schools undertaking the Biodiversity Flag and Biodiversity & Food Flag, as part of the An Taisce Green Schools programme. Visits aimed at supporting schools in implementing the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and enriching the school outdoor environment for biodiversity.
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- **Pollinator-friendly Perennial plants within Cork City:** The Parks & Recreation Department continues to add new planted areas with pollinator-friendly planting throughout Cork City. In 2025, new City Centre locations and Mahon Golf Course with a total of 2,000 pollinator-friendly plants were planted.
- **Native Tree giveaway during Tree Week and Native tree and hedgerow planting in parks and open spaces in Cork City:** During National Tree Week, Cork City Council's Tree Officer with support from the Tree Council of Ireland gave away 4,000 native tree whips within two hours from two locations (Tramore Valley Park & The Glen Amenity Park). The native tree species handed out included (Alder, Downy & Silver birch, Blackthorn, Bird cherry, Crab apple, Hawthorn, Hazel, Holly, Sessile Oak, Rowan, Scots pine and Spindle).
- In 2025, Nagle Community School in Mahon received 600 native hedgerow tree whips to complete their native hedgerow they have planted along their southern school ground boundary.
- **Tree and Perennial planting and pollinator signage installed with the new Marina Park Phase 2:** Cork City's newest park (Marina Park) has been planted with native trees and hedgerow tree species throughout the woodland habitat to enhance the tree species already present and provide food for pollinators, birds and small mammals. The planting includes pollinator-friendly perennials for all habitats from grassland, woodland and along the Atlantic Pond. Signage on both the history and the wildlife have also been installed to highlight the variety of wildlife and the history of the area.



Examples of wildflower meadows in Regional Park, Ballincollig, Cork City.

		<h2>TALAMH RIASCACH</h2> <h3>MARSHLAND</h3> <p>Seasann riasc d'éiceachóras boghaigh ina mbíonn i threacha mianracha atá draenáilte go dona. Le tóigí an Bhalla Longseoirreachtach sa bhilain 1761, atá anois mar bhalla cé na Muiríne anois, bhíodhas in ann an talamh seo a athghhabháil. Mar thoradh air seo, cruthaíodh gnáthóig ríasca, ina bhfuil go leor speiceas crann, plandaí agus insearthaíochra ina gcónai. I míonna an tsamhraidh, bí ag faire amach do speicis fíleacán ar nós na péacóige, an bhair bhuí, na donnoige fíré, nó an ruán bhig, nó don tsráthaid mhór ar nós an scloibheach choltáin.</p> <p>A marsh represents a wetland ecosystem characterised by poorly drained mineral soils. The construction of the Navigation Wall in 1761, now the existing quay wall on the Marina, allowed this land to be reclaimed. This resulted in the formation of a marsh habitat, home to a host of tree, plant, and invertebrate species. In the summer months, look out for butterfly species such as the peacock, orange-tip, meadow brown, or small tortoiseshell; or even a dragonfly such as the common darter.</p> <p>Tá roinnt speiceas de chraillín dhúchasachacha i bhreannacha sa talamh riascach, lena n-dírtear fuliseo agus coll. Tá an fulmseog ar cheann de na crann dhíreannacha a dhíagán d'úllgocht amach air agus ar cheann de na cheirí chraillín a chomhaimsear a dhíriú. Úsáidtear a admhad díthí bheanáin chraillín dhánamh. Bhí go leor feidhmíochan agus crainneachóill aisean annaína. Is féidir coll a bharráil coltheadh, i.e. a tóigí ar dhá siar direach go dtí an stumps chun lígean do thácaín nua fáil. Rinneadh é seo chun cuillí caola admháid a tháirgeadh, a d'fhéadfai a úsáid ainsin chun fáiltí agus gaistí eascainn a thóigí, i measc go leor feidhméanna eile.</p> <p>The Marshland features a number of native Irish tree species, including ash, birch, and hazel. Ash is one of the last trees to come into leaf and one of the first to lose its leaves in Autumn. Its pale dense timber is used for making hurleys. Hazel trees had many applications in ancient times. Hazel can be coppiced, i.e. cut back right to the stump to allow new shoots to grow. This was done to produce slender timber poles, which could then be used to build fences and eel traps, among numerous other applications.</p>  <p>Signage with information on pollinators found on the marsh in Marina Park, Cork City Council.</p>
Cork County Council	November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscaping plans in all new Local Authority housing developments are developed to follow principles established in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. These are signed off by the Cork County Council Ecology Team working with colleagues in the Housing Directorate. Developments: All applications for large scale residential and other developments are reviewed and assessed by the council's Ecology Team to ensure that landscaping proposals follow principles established in AIPP. The Ecology Team works closely with planners to ensure that nature led landscaping schemes, as permitted, are implemented. Greenways: Landscape design for all new active travel and Greenways (e.g. Youghal to Midleton, Bury's Bride to Glounthaune, Ringaskiddy) are reviewed and assessed by the Ecology Team to ensure that they are nature led and comply with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Green areas along these routes are actively managed for pollinators (pollinator friendly late summer cut and lift etc). For the Youghal Midleton Greenway, a new Bee Orchid transplantation from a local housing estate to the Greenway is due to be undertaken this month and there is ongoing

		<p>treatment of the invasive species Winter Heliotrope along the greenway also, while 3,500 pollinator friendly bulbs were recently planted at the Killeagh Railway Station along the route.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape planting for new Public Realm projects are reviewed and assessed by the Ecology Team to ensure that they are nature led and compliant with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan including Bandon and Cobh. • Town Pollinator Plans are being implemented in our large towns including Skibbereen, Cobh, Carrigtwohill, Carrigaline, Youghal, Bandon, Midleton and Kinsale. Public areas in smaller settlements including for example Whitechurch, Carrignavar, Crosshaven and Haulbowline are actively managed for pollinators. Cork County Council implements pollinator-friendly management directly in some locations within these towns and other locations and supports Tidy Towns and other groups to implement pollinator-friendly management at other locations. • Meadow management: Open areas on CCC's Main Campus and Inniscarra (Environment Directorate) are managed for pollinators, with some areas managed as long meadows (single cut per annum) and other areas cut on shorter rotation (6-week cut). A large area of dry grassland at Harpers Island Wetlands Reserve (2.7 hectares) is actively managed as a for pollinators with a single cut and lift per annum. • Pesticide reduction: The use of pesticides is significantly reduced per policy of the Roads Department.
Derry City and Strabane District Council	April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator-friendly perennials: In Brook Park we continue reduced the extent of our annual bedding and have increase pollinator friendly perennials. Some of the formal beds in the city have been changed to pollinator friendly planting also. • Meadow management: Our Don't Mow grasslands continue to be managed for pollinators. • Glyphosate free: Derry City & Strabane District Councils continue to be glyphosate free, with the exception of treating invasive species. • Urban growing: Acorn Farm, at St Columb's Park, is continuing to be developed as a unique urban growing space within the city, helping families to take the first steps towards growing their own food. As part of the site development there will be planting for pollinators, which will link-in & raise awareness of the value and importance of pollination in our food supply. The orchard area has been planted and the grass area it sits within is being managed as a meadow to provide nectar for pollinators and encourage pollination of the fruit trees.
Donegal County Council	January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadow management: Donegal County Council continued our 'Don't Mow' approach at key sites across our land banks in County Donegal, including the long-flowering meadows in Buncrana and Bundoran and extending this to new sites in Ballyshannon, Donegal Town and Letterkenny. We continue to seek new areas that are suitable for Don't Mow into 2026 and aim to include this as an action in the forthcoming County Donegal Biodiversity Action Plan.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying and training: The council commissioned pollinator surveys in four council parks, funded by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Local Biodiversity Action Fund and ran two Bumblebee and Hoverfly ID sessions for recorders as part of Biodiversity Week and Heritage Week. • Taking practical action: As part of Climate Week, Donegal County Council staff helped plant 500 'Bulbs for Bees' outside the Letterkenny PSC, to raise awareness amongst staff about the council's role as a partner of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and to extend the area being managed for pollinators at the PSC. • Supporting others: The council has been supporting others on their All-Ireland Pollinator Plan journey, from local community groups and schools to businesses. This year we were delighted to support Údarás na Gaeltachta as they embraced the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan at Bunbeg Business Park by advising them on meadow management for bees, butterflies and other pollinators. This was supported by staff from Leabharlann Phobail Ghaoth Dobhair and Life on Machair. • Raising awareness: DCC continued to include the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in their outreach and learning initiatives, providing opportunities for people to learn about citizen science, for example at the 'Bee a Biodiversity Explorer' workshop at the Glenveagh National Park Biodiversity Week Festival. Donegal County Council created a short pollinator film to champion local groups and sites that are being managed for pollinators with the help of Charlie Joe Films and funding support from the Heritage Council through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan Programme.
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Bee a Biodiversity explorer at Glenveagh National Park. Pictured are Julie Corry, Joe Gallagher and Niamh Monaghan from Donegal County Council



Meadow Management at Gweedore Business park. Pictured left to right are Julie Corry (Donegal County Council), Pól Mac Aodha (Údarás na Gaeltachta), Denis McGeady (Leabharlann Phobail Ghaoth Dobhair) and Maire NicFhearraigh (Life on Machair)

Dublin City Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating chemical herbicides: Dublin City Council Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services have eliminated the use of the chemical glyphosate by implementing alternative methodologies for weed control. • Implementing reduced mowing regimes: Dublin City Council Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services have introduced reduced mowing programs and naturalised grassland areas across most parks, which allows more native plants to naturally grow amongst the longer grass. In many parks this altered mowing regime has seen the frequency of mowing reduced and the cut height increased to accommodate species like Daisies, Dandelions, and Clover. Certain naturalised areas are left uncut throughout the year, often receiving only one regeneration cut around October. • Prioritising native species and pollinator-friendly planting: Extensive planting schemes focus on using native species to support biodiversity, including the planting of native hedgerows. Areas of overgrown shrubs are being replaced by native species of perennials, shrubs, and bulbs. When planting trees, using stock of known Irish provenance is used where possible, to ensure the trees flower and fruit at the correct periods, providing maximum benefit to pollinators. • Mass planting of pollen-rich bulbs and perennials: Naturalised bulb areas, planted through mass bulb planting, provide sustainable, perennial displays that are an excellent early source of pollen and nectar for pollinators. Pollinator-friendly perennials where possible are replacing annual bedding plants that have little biodiversity value.
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Seed Harvesting and Conservation Grazing: DLR continue to carry out more large-scale seed harvest of our local seed in our large wild meadows and conservation grazing and have extended the sites in 2025. The seed is then stored and used locally for projects and for the creation of pollinator areas from our local seed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DLR provided local seed from our harvested seed to infrastructure projects for creation of meadows in summer 2025 for Clonkeen Park Playground and swales, for Land Development Agency at Shanganagh Castle Social Housing development, and have proposed also for another LDA site at Brennanstown Road. - This local seed harvesting project also provided seeding for the reseeding of the slopes of the Marlay Park HaHa, an historic feature of Marlay. This forms part of a DLR Heritage project to restore the HaHa feature using conservation methods to protect the 18th-century landscape design. The project is part of a larger master plan to preserve and enhance the historic park. Using the seed harvested from Marlay Park meadows, the seed is very local and suitable for local pollinators. • Development and pollinators: DLR continue to require developers to re-use local soil and seed as part of developments and to also design wild meadows and other pollinator initiatives as part of development design. This includes encouraging development design to consider our DLR Ecological Network which includes our wildlife corridors, parks and pollinator areas and is part of our policy in the DLR County Development Plan and our DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan. For example, DLR Biodiversity have also met with a developer in 2025 to propose the

		<p>meadow management of a site in areas not planned for development for some years, in order to harvest the seed and reseed the development when it is landscaped at a later stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLR have committed to expanding our pollinator areas across the county: DLR Parks staff have been mapping the expansion of pollinator areas for 2024-2025 to ensure the contractors managing our pollinator areas are provided with up-to-date pollinator areas maps which will be reviewed again in 2026. DLR have drafted a restoration plan to examine other areas such as riparian areas of river and stream managed by DLR to increase pollinators and wetland areas. DLR have also commenced engagement with residents for the creation of wildlife ponds in housing estates greenspace, across the county. • Artificial lighting impacts on pollinators and biodiversity DLR Biodiversity is encouraging other DLR sections to consider lighting not only for bats, but for its ability to draw insects from dark zones into lit areas, as well as the impact of sky glow and dimmed lighting on nocturnal ecology and life cycles. For example, for a proposed cycleway DLR Biodiversity have requested lights be switched off in a biodiversity-sensitive area. Note: Although there is guidance regarding many aspects of artificial lighting, it does not appear to be implemented and may require greater consideration and attention at a national level. • Coill an Óg Project: This is a native tree and hedgerow planting initiative for schools. Its is delivered by Biodiversity in Schools in 2023, 2024 and has continued in 2025, funded by a selection of county councils including DLRCC. Trees, especially those that produce blossoms and hedgerows can provide vital areas of food for pollinators from early spring through to late autumn.
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadows Managed for Biodiversity: 12 designated meadow locations, totalling 6.79 hectares, are actively managed in accordance with a 'no-mow' approach to enhance biodiversity and support pollinator activity. These sites undergo annual review to refine management strategies, while additional areas are continually assessed for their suitability as future meadow spaces. • Meadow Enhancement Programme: Three meadow sites were selected for sowing with Yellow Rattle, a key species that suppresses competitive grasses and improves overall meadow biodiversity. This approach also enables future seed harvesting to support other local meadow projects. • Bulbs for Bees Pollinator Programme: A total of 14,000 Crocus bulbs and 3,500 Snowdrops were planted across schools, community groups and council estates to encourage participation and raise awareness of the importance of early-spring flowering bulbs for pollinator support. All bulbs were planted in controlled spaces, complemented by 24 educational workshops that engaged 576 participants. • Tree Planting Programmes: Across council sites, 13,951 mixed native trees were planted to enhance habitat connectivity, biodiversity and climate resilience. A further 389 native trees were planted with 19 school and community groups through educational workshops. The species selected included "trees for bees" such as Crab

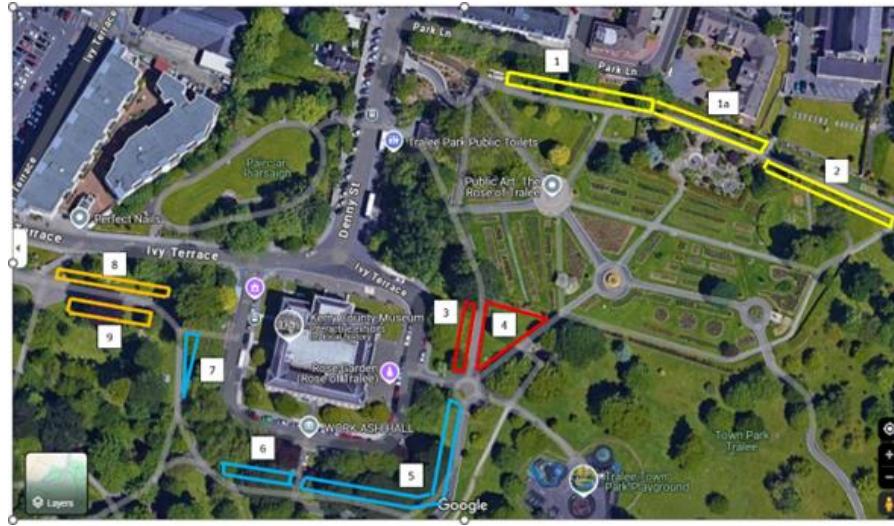
		<p>apple, Wild cherry, Hawthorn, Willow and Blackthorn. All tree-planting activity adhered to 'right tree, right place' principles to ensure long-term environmental suitability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Pollinator Education Programme: The FODC Climate Team delivered 33 pollinator-focused workshops involving schools and community groups, engaging 1,121 participants in practical, hands-on conservation activities. Workshops included growing herbs and planting sunflower seeds. Participants were able to follow the growth process over time, reinforcing learning about pollinator needs and sustainable planting practices.
Fingal County Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'Skerries Wild Bee Festival' is an annual event sponsored by Fingal County Council, celebrating the life of bees, particularly the Large Carder Bee, which is Near Threatened with extinction from the island of Ireland. The festival is geared towards family friendly events, coupled with lectures, documentaries and tours of the Skerries Mills complex. The Wild Bee Festival is the culmination of hundreds of hours of volunteer work, carried out by various interest groups in Skerries, in conjunction with Fingal County Council. The aim is to extend local knowledge of a bee's life, showcasing the pollinator corridor that connects the Skerries Ballast Pit, the Skerries Mills complex, the Community Garden, Mini-Orchards and South Beach together. Each of these areas offers bee-friendly habitats and volunteers have developed action plans to create and manage these habitats and report their findings to the National Date Centre annually. • Pollinator-friendly planting: Operations and the Biodiversity team have been working in tandem to encourage pollinator-friendly, native flowering plants in all suitable areas of Fingal County. The biodiversity team have worked closely with Tidy Towns groups to explain the value of native flowering plants and to encourage planting schemes that include winter and early spring flowering plants. • Wildlife Ponds: New ponds have been established in St Ita's Woodlands, Portrane and Glebe Park, Balrothery to support pollinators by providing habitat and planting them with nectar-rich plants like water mint and purple loosestrife. • Butterflies: Funding through LBAF from the NPWS enabled Fingal to commission a baseline survey of butterfly species at Turvey Nature Park, Donabate. Surveys recorded 592 individuals from 16 species and provided an in-depth assessment of improvements that could be made for butterflies across the park, which will inform future management. • Herbicide: Fingal has significantly reduced its use of chemical herbicides in the public realm. It has completely ceased use of herbicides in parks and open spaces and public roads. There is limited use in public graveyards due to the uneven terrain conditions, particularly in the rural graveyards and in the control of invasive species such as Giant Hogweed, Rhododendron Ponticum and Cherry Laurel. • Long-flowering meadows/ grass mowing: Fingal has approximately 2,000 hectares of public open space, which includes regional parks, local parks, and coastal areas. A significant portion, about 800 hectares, is located in historic and designed landscapes such as Ardgillan, Malahide, and Newbridge Demesnes. The county also manages an 88-

		<p>kilometer coastline. Fingal County Council has developed long flowering meadows by planting spring bulbs in approximately 200 locations, which then grow into wildflower meadows during the summer. These areas have an adjusted mowing regime, allowing native fauna to flourish in suitable habitats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Skerries Mills Complex, a transect was established this year to monitor for Large Carder bees for 12 months. This work was begun prior to the change in mowing regimes, from regular mowing to one 'cut and lift' per year. This transect will give a baseline count whilst the long flowering meadow establishes. Volunteers consider this to be the most important work of the year in Skerries, recognising the mill complex as a central hub for the area in terms of bee populations. • The council is currently mapping the entire grassland maintenance areas under its control. This will help to quantify the areas of wildflower meadow and regularly cut grass. This will also help to identify future areas of wildflower meadow as per actions 38 and 39 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan. • Community Outreach: Tree planting has taken place in Rush and Castleknock GAA, Portmarnock and Kinsealy; bulbs were planted in Castleknock and Ballyboughal; a pollinator garden was created in St Pauls Church, Balbriggan and bee scrapes were installed in Skerries Mills. • Native Trees and Hedgerows: The Council is working with Hedgerows Ireland on Hedgerow management guidelines for developers and local authorities and it is envisaged that this document will be published in early 2026.
Galway City Council	May 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mow and Healthy Green Spaces: Galway City Council is maintaining 13.76 hectares under No Mow in the open spaces around the city. This is in line with GCC's policy to keep expanding the meadow programme in the city every year. Galway City Council have recently purchased the Amazon Profi-hopper to collect grass cuttings. Half the cuttings have been diverted to local community composting areas with the remainder sent to industrial composting facilities. The Healthy Green Spaces Initiative is in its fourth year and the No Mow areas in the estates are performing beyond expectations. Residents in these areas are seeing a reduction in grass energy and their native wildflowers increasing. In some areas, these activities are being adopted by neighbouring communities who want to see a wildflower meadow established in their local open space. Several dwarf apple trees and some soft fruits (Redcurrant, Blackcurrant, Loganberry and Gooseberry) were planted in number of estates across Galway City using no dig permaculture methods which protects soil organisms by reducing the need to break up the ground. • Biodiversity Week (14–23 May): Galway City Council ran a full programme of free events to encourage the public to engage, learn, and connect with the natural world in their own neighbourhoods. Activities included biodiversity walks, talks on local flora and fauna, and hands-on workshops on identifying pollinators. Dr Michelle Larkin, National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme Officer, participated in a family friendly local community event at The Maples, where she gave a talk about the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, the vital role of pollinators, how to identify them and the habitats required to sustain them.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spaces for Biodiversity Competition 2025: Galway City Council relaunched its “Spaces for Biodiversity” competition and this year it expanded to include a school category, encouraging schools to create pollinator-friendly and wildlife-supporting spaces. • Rainwater Planters: GCC has been working with city centre businesses for opportunities to install rainwater planters as a biodiversity and climate action initiative. A rainwater planter is a mini rain garden and a nature-based solution for urban runoff, reducing the overflow into storm drains that leads to the pollution of our watercourses. The planters also help local biodiversity including pollinators and are part of climate change solutions. • Eyre Square Planting: Pollinator friendly planting works took place in June to ensure the raised beds in Eyre Square are looking colourful and provide much needed food for pollinating insects. • Herbicide alternatives: Recreation & Amenity is using alternatives to pesticides in an ambition to reduce/ eradicate the use of chemical pesticides. These trials are part of our duty under the Sustainable Use of Herbicide Directive which sets EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030. Galway City Council is committed to establish an Integrated Pest Management Control system designed to encourage trialling alternatives to pesticides. Galway City Council Biodiversity Officer and invasive species experts have been working with community groups in the herbicide-free methods of managing winter heliotrope which has invaded our woodlands, roadside and public parks. • Launch of Galway City Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030: In November 2025, Galway City Council launched the Galway City Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030, which aligns with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and includes actions to create a more resilient ecological network, tackle threats to species, and increase public awareness and participation in biodiversity conservation.
Galway County Council	October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hare's Corners: Galway County Council, in partnership with the Burrenbeo Trust supported landowners and community groups to make more space for nature through creation of a mini-woodland, a mini-orchard, a wildlife Pond, a 'Plan for Nature' and/or a 'Peatland Plan'. This project was delivered with the support of the NPWS through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025. This year saw the delivery of 309 biodiversity actions: 83 woodlands 110 orchards, 82 Wildlife Hedges, 15 ponds for wildlife, 24 Plans for Water and 20 Plans for Nature – all of which will have long-lasting benefits for pollinators around County Galway. • Artificial lighting workshops: Galway County Council, together with the five other local authorities in Connacht, delivered an Artificial Lighting Workshop in April 2025 to address the impacts of light pollution and promote the protection of nocturnal biodiversity, including pollinators. The event brought together over 170 delegates from local authorities and national organisations. Each participant received a copy of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guide : <i>Protecting nocturnal pollinators</i>, and a professional video was produced to support ongoing awareness and training. This project was delivered with the support of the NPWS through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening for Biodiversity Workshops took place across the county with several community groups. Topics included pollinators, nature-friendly gardening, orchards, and seed-saving and the sessions were held in Inis Mór, Inishbofin, Oughterard, Headford and online. • Butterfly Monitoring Education and Bilingual Resources: Galway County Council partnered with GRETB to deliver a six-week adult education course on butterfly identification and monitoring, developed and taught by Kay Synott, to promote pollinator awareness and citizen science under the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. To support the course and future replication, Kay authored a dedicated butterfly identification booklet featuring species found in Co. Galway, translated into Irish, and carrying the Council Partner All-Ireland Pollinator Plan logo on the back cover. The booklets will be officially launched in Spring 2026. This bilingual resource and the successful autumn 2025 course provide a replicable model for pollinator-friendly education and community engagement. • Pollinator Resources: Best practice advice and a wide range of pollinator resources were distributed free of charge by Galway County Council, including the pollinator-friendly gardening guides, tailored actions for sports clubs and the pollinator-friendly code. These were shared at Council events such as a seminar for Planning Agents in Athenry, an information for the Green Clubs Programme with the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Clubs in Ballinderreen, Galway Rural Development Nature Networks launch in Tuam and Biodiversity Week and National Heritage Week events across the county. Resources were also distributed through the Galway County Libraries service.
Kerry County Council	June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCC have committed to expanding our pollinator areas across the county: Long flowering meadows are being established in various locations across the county including Tralee town park, Listowel town park, Killarney Town, Killorglin town, Dingle gardens, Tralee Bay wetlands also allowed a large section of previously mown grass to go semi wild with seasonal cuts to reduce fertility and promote wildflowers, cuttings are then placed around newly planted trees as a mulch to support tree development. There is a general policy in Listowel MD area that, where appropriate, only one metre alongside pathways is mown to allow native plants to flourish in the verges. This is also being introduced in other MD areas, including Killarney and Killorglin. These actions were continued in 2025. • Tree planting: Native tree planting was supported through the delivery of two series 3 workshops on native tree planting, selecting the right tree for the right place and best practice for long term management in collaboration with Transition Corca Duibhne. These were delivered in March and November 2025. • Bumblebee surveys are carried out monthly during the survey season at Tralee Bay Wetlands, this is run as an open event allowing community members to join and increase skills. Tralee Bay Wetlands have also supported Tralee Town park Staff in participating in Bee surveys within the town park. • Wild Bee Festival: KCC with funding through the Heritage Council Local Biodiversity Action Plan Fund supported the 2nd Kerry Wild Bee Festival in Tralee Bay wetlands this year to raise awareness and share knowledge on protecting and recording wild bees.

- **Seed Collecting:** At Tralee Bay Wetlands we spread the seeds of any wildflowers that have started to emerge around the centre's grounds. Such species we have helped spread are Cuckooflower, Knapweed, Meadowsweet, Vetchling, Lesser celandine and Burdock to name a few. We also share these seeds with all our visitors to the park.
- **Resources:** All Ireland Pollinator Plan resources were printed as part of the Learning for Nature in Kerry project and distributed to communities at 15 events over the year. These were also made available to Tralee Bay Wetlands who shared them at workshops hosted on site and available for any visitors to explore.
- **Planting a range of Biodiversity Bulbs** - Tralee MD are undertaking a bulb planting within selected areas of the Tralee Town Park (circa 1800m² at nine locations). The areas identified are to be planted with flowering scheme which will provide colour in springtime and are to include but not limited to the following Anemone Blanda Mixed Colours, Camassia Leichtlinii, February Gold, Thalia, Bluebells, Snowdrops, Fritillaria, and Crocus Mixed Colours. The species will be of a naturalising variety which will return each year, multiply and spread thus creating a larger more impressive display over time. The planting density of these bulbs will be at a rate of 100 bulbs/m² and enhance the area for pollinators.
- **Rainwater Planters:** KCC funded the construction of five rainwater planters in Killarney in collaboration with the Kerry Biosphere, these were planted with native flowering plants that are beneficial for pollinators. Location of the planters include several primary schools and public buildings around Killarney.



Area of Tralee Town Park to be planted with pollinator friendly mixed bulbs by Kerry County Council.

Kildare County Council	February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Awareness Office: For National Tree Week in March 2025, Kildare County Council in conjunction with the National Tree Council gave out over 300 native trees to participants of the Green Kilometre initiative. Biodiversity Office: Works are ongoing to clear the Himalayan Balsam infestation on the River Liffey. The area targeted for management has shown an 85% reduction in the infestation, between 2024 and 2025; this is accompanied by significant recovery of the native riparian vegetation, benefitting local insects and pollinators. Parks Dept: The team has continued to manage grass verges throughout the county without the use of herbicides and has continued with reduced grass cutting where feasible. Environment Section: the habitats at Kerdifftown Park (former landfill site) continue to mature and improve. The large areas of grasslands are predominantly managed as wildflower meadows, supporting increasing numbers of insects and pollinators. Heritage and Nature Team: A range of events throughout the year have focused on raising awareness and appreciation for pollinating insects, including moths, butterflies and solitary bees. These have included a series of online 'lunchtime lectures' for the public and Council Staff in winter 2024-2025, and talks at the Kildare Biodiversity Conference, October 2025 focusing on managing landscapes for pollinators.
Kilkenny County Council	February 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum was the location of the Kilkenny Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 launch. The Victorian gardens are home to a mix of formal and informal gardens, a walled garden and a Monkey Puzzle and Noble Fir avenue. The launch highlighted the biodiversity actions taken onsite and was showcased in local media. Biodiversity enhancements include the reduction of chemical usage by 85% by the gardening team, the move away from typical Victorian style summer bedding within the formal gardens to more pollinator friendly herbaceous perennials such as Cat mint and Echinacea. Trees that perish in storms are no longer chopped and tidied away but if safe to do so, they are left in situ to create a mini habitat for fungi and insects. This year, meadow areas were increased on the periphery of the gardens to provide habitat and a food source for pollinators. Pollinator-Friendly Landscaping was completed on a series of roundabouts in south Kilkenny. The R448 Newrath Roundabout on the R448 features a three-tiered layout with a dense micro forest planted centre, using the Miyawaki method, surrounded by a traditional hay meadow along with a cut grass outer perimeter. Works proved successful as over the summer over 50 native orchids were recorded among many other native floral species. Four handcrafted bug hotels were installed to visually promote the pollinator-friendly landscape design. Native and pollinator-friendly planting has been carried out at Slieverue Park in south Kilkenny and pollinator friendly planting was incorporated into a number of nature-based design solutions to assist the reduction of surface water flow rates in Callan and Graiguenamanagh road design schemes. Urban Wildflower Meadows continue to be developed by Kilkenny County Council with meadow management practices being expanded across large green spaces with reduced mowing to encourage floral diversity and to support pollinators. The Kilkenny Countryside Park was awarded with the Green Flag Award for Parks and Green Spaces in

		<p>2025. Its meadow area of 1.5 acres was enhanced with Yellow Rattle seed to help establish a diverse wildflower meadow by suppressing grass growth as it forms part of a capped landfill. Similar work was undertaken at Abbey Meadows in Callan where grass species remain dominant as its former use as a pitch and putt course reflects the poor species diversity on site. Both areas, like many other urban meadows under the management of Kilkenny County Council are cut once every autumn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive Species Control continues in Siliare Wood to control Himalayan balsam, annual work in collaboration with the local Canoe Club is assisting in the establishing of native flora and restricting the spread of Himalayan balsam along the River Barrow. An extensive programme is underway in the forestry surrounding Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum where Cherry laurel, Himalayan honeysuckle, and Rhododendron ponticum removal is completed on an annual basis to help to restore native woodland species. • Pollinator learning was undertaken as part of the Kilkenny Community Biodiversity Course with the Kilkenny Carlow Education Training Board, community division. The course incorporated a trip to the Wild Bee Festival in Abbeyleix and aimed to raise awareness of Ireland's pollinators and how to help them in local communities. The course also included a field trip to an urban meadow in Kilkenny City to identify pollinators and grassland plants. Learning tools have been developed to assist citizen scientists to explore their local area, a terrestrial ecology kit is now available to borrow from the Biodiversity Officer to allow groups like Tidy Towns and secondary school class groups to explore local habitats and the Environmental Science Kits for Ecological Recording (ESKER) boxes which have been revised to make them more user friendly are available in town libraries in Kilkenny. Both sets of learning tools have an extensive range of identification swatches from the National Biodiversity Data Centre to assist citizen scientists to improve their identification skills of a range of species to build confidence to enable them to gain experience to enable them to contribute to national monitoring schemes.
Laois County Council	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mow, meadow management and roundabout planting: Portlaoise continues to implement the upgrade of roundabouts on orbital routes in Portlaoise, with biodiversity planting schemes. The meadow management is carried out on two town parks in Portlaoise also. • Rainwater Planters: Laois County Council have been working with Portlaoise Tidy Towns to install rainwater planters for installation at locations in Portlaoise. A Rainwater Planter is a mini rain garden and a nature-based solution for urban runoff, reducing the overflow into storm drains that leads to the pollution of our watercourses. The planters also help local biodiversity including pollinators and are part of climate change solutions. • Pollinator lesson plan launch, March 2025: Lesson plans related to pollinators for use in classrooms were redesigned in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Data Centre and launched at the Laois Education support centre. A copy of the pollinator lesson plans was sent to each school in Laois along with a best practice for schools' booklet. • Herbicide Free Alternatives: Across the three Municipal Districts, the reduction on the use of herbicides is ongoing and the use of alternatives is in progress.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild Bee Festival: Laois County Council hosted the Wild Bee Festival in 2025, in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. A weekend of walks, talks and workshops took place in Abbeyleix Heritage House June 2025, giving communities a chance to share knowledge and learn skills about managing land for pollinators.
Leitrim County Council	June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator friendly council land management: A biodiversity enhancement project has continued in the grounds of Aras an Chontae in Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim. The project has increased the area of council land that is managed in a pollinator-friendly way. Mowing frequency has been altered to allow more native plants to flower and spring-flowering bulbs were planted in the front courtyard area. • Return to Nature Project: Four faith communities in Co. Leitrim took part in the Return to Nature project in 2025. The aim of the project is to create biodiversity-friendly spaces on church grounds. Parishes are encouraged to transform 30% of their grounds into areas that support biodiversity, such as pollinator-friendly gardens, tree nurseries, and to protect natural habitats. Volunteers have been supported to carry out actions that will protect pollinating insects e.g. Planting of native hedging, reduction/elimination of pesticide use, planting of heritage apple trees and creation of wildflower meadows through grassland management. • Seed saving course for communities: Public seed saving workshops were organised and delivered in partnership with Community group “Our Native Glens”. A wildflower seed saving workshop took place in August during Heritage Week and two native tree seed saving workshops took place in October 2025. • Pollinators in your Community Garden: The council’s Biodiversity Officer delivered a talk on pollinators to members of the Leitrim Community Garden Network as part of Climate Action Week in October and distributed All-Ireland Pollinator Plan resources to attendees.  <p>Returning to Nature event with Leitrim County Council.</p>

Limerick City & County Council	February 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future of Moths and Butterflies in Ireland Conference: Limerick City and County Council hosted the Future of Moths and Butterflies in Ireland Conference in Castleconnell Co Limerick in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Data Centre and support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Presentations and outcome of roundtable discussions here • National Biodiversity Week: Awesome Pollinator Walk on the Corbally Meadow and Guided walk along the Castletroy Greenway. Media coverage here • National Heritage Week: Seed Saving Event in Corbally Meadow, Limerick. Sustainability Tent in the Limerick Show and a stand at the Cappamore Show. Site visits to Morgan's Farm, Askeaton Co. Limerick. More details of these events here. • URBACT BiodiverCity Project in Limerick created an identification swatch local to the Corbally wildflower meadow, Participated in the Global City Nature Challenge, distributed pollinator trees at the Woodland Festival in the Baggot Estate during National Tree Week. The Castletroy Greenway won an URBACT award for the natural play area which is managed for pollinators and other wildlife. The output of the URBACT projected is an Integrated Action Plan with 30 actions linking to biodiversity, pollinator insects and education. • Don't mow Let it Grow Areas in Castletroy Neighbourhood Park, Newcastle West Demesne, and three additional open Green areas. • Herbicide elimination: Herbicides are not used by the LCCC Parks Teams. • Limerick Faith Communities Return to Nature Project Launched with an online workshop introduced the project to participating communities, setting the foundation for collaborative action. Site Visits & Recommendations: Biodiversity assessments and tailored recommendation reports were provided by Albert Nolan and Áine Ní Fhlártha. Educational Workshops: <i>June</i>: A Bumblebee Workshop at the Limerick Diocesan Centre highlighted the vital role of bumblebees and solitary bees in local ecosystems. <i>September</i>: A Seed Saving Workshop at the Diocesan Centre encouraged heritage seed conservation and community involvement. Pollinator-Friendly Signage: Each of the 10 church grounds received pollinator-friendly signage, with additional signs available for other interested parishes. Seasonal Planting & Heritage Trees: <i>Mid November</i>: Distribution of spring bulbs - including Snowdrops and Crocuses to all participating sites. <i>December/Jan</i>: Allocation of a Heritage Irish Seed Saver's Crab apple tree and Hometree Rowan trees to promote pollinating trees and biodiversity goals. Participating Parishes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ St John's Cathedral ○ Our Lady Queen of Peace ○ St Mary's Athlunkard Steret ○ Fedamore ○ Broadford ○ Templeglantine
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- Raheen
- Kilcornan
- Kilmallock
- Newcastle West
- **The Hare's Corner:** The Hare's Corner is a biodiversity initiative of the Burren-based landscape charity Burrenbeo Trust, that was rolled out in 2025 to landowners in Co. Limerick in partnership with Limerick County Council Biodiversity Office. The Hare's Corner project offered landowners 'hassle-free' support to carry out simple but impactful actions for biodiversity. These actions included the creation of a wildlife pond, a native mini-woodland, a heritage mini-orchard with apple trees from the Irish Seed Savers Association, a wildlife hedge, bespoke 'plans for nature' and 'plans for water'. This support was offered in the form of materials (native trees and heritage apple trees), micro-funding (e.g., machinery costs for pond digging), professional services (such as a hydrologist's visit to help plan a pond i.e. 'plan for water', or an ecologist's visit to 'plan for nature') and guidance.



Limerick City and County Council's Future Of Moths And Butterflies Conference.

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council celebrated winning the Green Flag Pollinator Award 2025: This year Moira Demesne received a Green Flag Pollinator Award, celebrating the councils' efforts to boost biodiversity and support habitats for bees, butterflies and other essential pollinators. The council was awarded nine green flags this year. The highest number received in a single year. Moira Demesne was judged on how well we follow the recommendations of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, focusing on pollinator-friendly management practices. This included the environmentally friendly approach to weed control using hot water instead of chemical control. There are also several biodiversity signs raising awareness of pollinators, and a large Wooden sculpture of the life cycle of a butterfly. Many areas within the site have reduced grass cutting to allow wildflowers to flourish naturally. • Reduced grass cutting to one cut per year and removing the grass cuttings: Several parks have continued this year with the reduced grass cutting to one cut per year and removing the cuttings. This meadow management practice helps raise public awareness of biodiversity and the actions the council are implementing to benefit pollinators, using the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan signage and with the Biodiversity Officer engaging with people on site. The parks are added to the Actions for Pollinators mapping system. • Raising awareness, delivering biodiversity planting and horticulture projects to schools and the local community: The council has provided support for planting projects and provided horticultural workshops within school grounds and council parks. The council has also given schools pollinator-friendly bulbs (recommended on the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan website) to educate on how to make green spaces pollinator friendly. Council staff have attended events such as Park life, school projects, and community engagement events, giving out booklets and bee ID sheets from the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan website. On social media we have promoted World Bee Day and we have also used All-Ireland Pollinator Plan signage for areas managed for wildlife. • Engaging with local schools and summer groups to educate in tree identification, leaf identification, seed collecting and providing information on biodiversity. • Environmentally Friendly Weed Control: Continuation of using a pesticide free weed control machine in some parks, using boiling water on weeds with an aim to reduce chemical control. • The 'Big Tree Project': Tree planting for the “tree’s instead of tee’s” for the LCCC half marathon – Participants could opt for a native tree to be planted instead of receiving a T shirt for completing the LCCC half marathon. A total of 1,500 native species will be planted within McIlroy Park. • Woodland restoration project. Invasive treatment works to continue in Derriaghy Glen, Alberdelghy Wood and Hillsborough Forest Park with special focus on a particular approach to tackling the Cherry Laurel for maximum effect to restore biodiversity to enable natural regeneration of native trees, plants and help wildlife to thrive within these woodlands. • Woodland creation continues at Glenmore parkland trail with native tree planting.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The continuation of the 'Forget me not' woodland took place in Billy Neill MBE Country Park in December 2025, with a further 8 trees planted.
Longford County Council	March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japanese Knotweed eradication programme: Longford County Council has continued with its multi annual programme of treatment of Japanese Knotweed, which grows quickly and in thick patches, out-competing native plants. By treating Japanese knotweed, we give native plants space to grow and thus benefit our pollinators that have evolved over time with our native plants. Bypass Pollinator Project: Longford County Council planted the roundabouts on the N4 around Longford town with pollinator friendly shrubbery such as Guelder Rose, Dog Rose, and Spindle. These roundabouts continue to be maintained for pollinators. Verges between a number of roundabouts were planted with Crab apple and Guelder rose. These too continue to be maintained No Mow May: Longford County Council selected locations to take part in No Mow May. These areas were largely Dandelion-rich verges. As well as this, Longford County Council erected new signage along the N4 indicating the no mowing of these areas. Longford County Council also supplied new signage to a number of community groups to encourage a reduction in mowing. The wording of the signage was careful not to limit "no mowing" action to just the month of May. Development of new orchard area: Longford County Council are in the process of developing a new heritage fruit orchard at Albert Reynolds peace park in Longford Town. The orchard will consist of apple, pear, and plum trees as well as soft fruit bushes such as blueberries and raspberries along the perimeter. This area will add a rich new source for pollinators in coming years. Longford Biodiversity Action Plan: Longford County Council has adopted the Longford Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030. This plan contains actions that commit to continuing to promote schemes such as No Mow May, commit to planting and promoting planting, and commit to hedgerow maintenance training for landowners and for contractors.
Louth County Council	July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing Council land & transport corridors in a pollinator-friendly way: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass-cutting frequency has remained at one cut per year in 2025 across more than 1000m² of parks, 800m² of roadside verges and 500m² of residential green spaces. More than 1200m² pollinator-friendly spring bulbs were planted on roadside verges and parks. Approximately 1900m² of Japanese Knotweed was treated to control invasive species. The use of chemical pesticides has been reduced in favour of mechanical weed control methods. At County Hall, Dundalk, pollinator-friendly management of the grounds has continued with both long-flowering & short-flowering meadows present. During Climate Action Week, local authority staff planted 1,000 pollinator friendly spring bulbs during a "Bulbs for Bees" staff engagement session. Flower-Insect Timed (FIT) Counts were carried out to track changes in pollinators.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting local communities and schools to be more pollinator friendly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louth County Council has launched a new Green Sustainable Competition, Slí Ghlas An Lú, for Tidy Towns groups. The initiative promotes community-led climate action in line with the County Louth Climate Action Plan, aiming to raise awareness, improve climate literacy, and empower local communities to create lasting, sustainable change. One of the competition categories is dedicated to biodiversity and pollinator-friendly practices. • An information evening was held with 22 Tidy Town groups, featuring key speakers on biodiversity and pollinator-friendly practices. Attendees received valuable insights and were provided with All-Ireland Pollinator Plan resource packs to take home. • All community grant application forms issued by Louth County Council have been updated to include questions on pollinator-friendly and biodiversity practices, as well as questions about 'No Mow' zones. In addition, extra weighting is given to these practices across all our competitions. • This year, LCC added a new category to its annual environmental competition, <i>Louth in Bloom</i>, to highlight projects and initiatives focused on biodiversity, pollinator-friendly practices, and sustainability. • More than 20,000 pollinator-friendly spring bulbs (Snowdrops & Crocuses) were provided to nine church groups across Louth through the Louth Return to Nature Project. This action was financed through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund (LBAF), funded by NPWS and Louth County Council. • Under the Coill na nÓg initiative, managed by Biodiversity in Schools, LBAF funding from NPWS and Louth County Council has provided 20 additional tree kits for schools in Louth. • A "Give Bees a Chance" pollinator workshop was held in St. Dominic's Park during Biodiversity Week highlighting the actions that can be taken to support pollinators with resources shared on how to carry out Flower-Insect Timed (FIT) Counts
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		<p>Parish of Dunleer, Co. Louth Return to Nature Project LBAF</p> <p>Long-flowering Meadow County Hall, Dundalk Co. Louth</p>
Mayo County Council	June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castlebar Town Park Biodiversity Enhancement Plan: Planted two large pollinator beds with a mix of perennial plants which are suitable and attractive to pollinators. Plant species were specifically chosen to be beneficial to a range of pollinators and invertebrate species throughout the year. Large areas of the Town Park were left uncut, developing into diverse meadows once given the opportunity to flourish. • Mayo Urban Grassland and Pollinator Surveys: MCC commissioned urban grassland and pollinator surveys of Mayo County Council managed grassy areas in four towns across the county; Castlebar, Ballyhaunis, Westport and Ballina. The objective was to establish the condition of the grasslands, identifying potential recommendations to enhance for species richness and the diversity of invertebrate species utilising the grassy swards. • Public Awareness Event: Organised a talk and walk on wildflowers and pollinators as part of Heritage Week 2025 with ecologist Áine Ní Fhlatharta, who gave an inspiring talk on native wildflowers and the importance of grassy areas and habitats for our pollinators. The event included a walk at Lough Lannagh, Castlebar, on wildflower identification.

		<p>As part of Biodiversity Week 2025, a walk was held on the bumblebees of Belmullet with the Great Yellow Bumblebee Project. This was an interactive walk on bumblebee identification and their importance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mow Areas: In 2025, greater areas of Mayo County Council owned and managed grassy areas were left uncut for longer periods of the summer to support pollinator populations and seed dispersal. This was paired with a social media campaign focusing on a different Municipal Districts throughout the summer months, highlighting their efforts for pollinators and their positive impact. • Mullet Peninsula Bioblitz: Supported a two-day long bioblitz in the Mullet Peninsula, which brought together national experts on the birds, invertebrates and plants. The event consisted of expert talks and species recording, with a particular emphasis on the diverse and wonderful machair habitat on the Mullet. This event celebrated nature, explored unique habitats and highlighted the rare and exceptional pollinator species found in north Mayo such as the Great Yellow Bumblebee.
Meath County Council	November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 adopted by Meath County Council: This newly adopted plan provides a structured approach to biodiversity conservation at the local authority level. A number of actions committed to in the plan align with and support the objectives of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. • Meath Community Climate Action Programme Projects: Four community groups were supported to complete pollinator-friendly planting projects (i.e. bedding plants, shrubs and fruit trees) under the Community Climate Action Programme in 2025. Groups include Summerhill Community Centre, Moynalty Community Council, Meadowbank Residents Association and Silverlawns Residents Association. • Community Biodiversity Actions Plan Small Grant Scheme 2025: Five community groups received grant support from the Heritage and Biodiversity Section to implement actions in line with objectives of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. These groups include Ratoath Tidy Towns, Kilbride Tidy Towns, Ashbourne Tidy Towns, Bettystown Tidy Towns and Stamullen Revival. Actions supported include the purchase and planting of pollinator-friendly bulbs and bedding plants, the purchase and planting of Irish heritage fruit trees for two orchards and the purchase and planting native and Irish provenance hedge species for creating two hedgerows. Provision of this grant scheme to community groups is supported by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Meath County Council under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund. • The Hare's Corner in Meath: By December 2025 this project will have supported 309 biodiversity actions, including: 75 wildlife hedges, 75 woodlands, 84 orchards, 20 ponds for wildlife, 33 plans for water and 22 plans for nature (many of which involve recommendations for appropriate grassland management methods). Delivery of this project was supported by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Meath County Council under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund and NTR Renewables PLC. • Commons of Lloyd Biodiversity and Conservation Agriculture Project: In 2025, traditional meadow management and grazing of 5.5 hectares of grassland at the foot of the Spire of Lloyd continued. Meath County Council welcomed local

		<p>primary school pupils onto the site this year to learn about semi-natural grassland ecosystems and soil health. Furthermore, Meath County Council is engaging with local farmers to identify opportunities for expansion of this project to other areas of the Commons of Lloyd. Delivery of this project was supported by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Meath County Council under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme: To support the All-island Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme, Meath County Council have commenced bumblebee monitoring on the Commons of Lloyd Loop Walk. Data collected from this monitoring activity is shared with the National Biodiversity Data Centre and merged with the national dataset to calculate species population trend indices. • Municipal Area Actions: Sensitive management of road and pathway verges, as well as select greens spaces in support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a consideration in all Municipal Districts. Flower beds and other various planting schemes incorporate pollinator friendly varieties. • General outreach activities: To raise awareness of pollinators and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and in celebration of World Bee Day and National Biodiversity Week, Meath County Council facilitated a number of events to promote the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and pollinators in general, including an online talk on what local communities can do to support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, a 'Walk on the Wildside of the Commons of Lloyd Loop' and 'Bumblebees and Bogs for Beginners - Walk and Talk Event'. Meath County Council Library Service also hosted a number of pollinator workshops for National Heritage Week. The year was capped up with an event to celebrate National Hedgerow Week on Swainstown Farm in collaboration with Hedgerows Ireland.
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		 <p>Local primary school pupils pay a visit to the Commons of Lloyd, Co. Meath, to learn about the importance of meadows and semi-natural grasslands in our landscape. (Photo: Mary Duff.)</p>	 <p>Common spotted orchids flowering in the People's Park, Kells, a result of grassland management practices implemented in line with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.</p>	
Mid and East Antrim Borough Council	April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity University 2025: During this family friendly environmental summer scheme, children learn, through fun activities how to protect our native habitats and their pollinators. The themes include 'natural art', 'pollinators and other insects' and 'trees'. Teaching children about biodiversity can inspire them to take action to protect pollinators and their habitats. This can make a difference to their wider families and communities. Pollinators are facing many threats, such as habitat loss, pesticides, diseases, invasive species, and climate change. Through learning about the 		

		<p>challenges and solutions for pollinator conservation, children can become more aware and responsible citizens who can make a difference in their communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Wild verges for pollinators' at our biggest allotment site: Eden Allotments is the largest allotment garden in Northern Ireland. We manage all the verges and native hedgerows for Biodiversity by leaving large areas to 'grow wild' for pollinators, birds and other local wildlife. These verges include Brambles, beautiful Nettles and other wild herbs and flowers which provide a food source and home for many pollinators. • Wild About Food Series - Eight Foraging Walks: This series of educational and family friendly walks are a great way to enjoy nature and discover the edible plants that grow around us. Foraging walks can encourage people to plant more native and diverse flowers in their gardens, balconies or window boxes. This can provide more food and shelter for pollinators throughout the year, especially in urban areas where natural habitats are scarce. Foraging walks can help people to identify and avoid invasive plants that can harm native pollinators. Foraging walks include 'Autumn Fruits', 'Winter Woodlands', 'Fungi' and 'First signs of Spring'. • Woodland creation projects: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have worked in partnership with The Woodland Trust Northern Ireland to deliver the creation of a number of large scale woodland creation projects, totalling over 300,000 trees, including the largest area of native woodland creation in NI in 30 years. These projects have all been properly planned and designed to ensure the 'right tree in the right place' approach and will be continued to be surveyed and managed going forward to ensure long term survival of the woodlands.
Mid Ulster District Council	April 2022	<p>This is the fourth year Mid Ulster District Council has been an All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Partner, and we have continued to build upon the actions undertaken to help our local pollinators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator Friendly Grasslands: Mid Ulster has a number of sites that are managed for Biodiversity. The focus of these sites is appropriate grassland management (one cut & lift per year) which will benefit pollinators and a wide range of other invertebrates. Mid Ulster continues to maintain existing sites and continues to bring in suitable additional areas into the suite of sites under this management. Over 20 sites (ranging from 0.1 to 4.1 acres) are now actively managed for pollinators. It is anticipated the number of sites will continue to increase over the coming years. • Signage to identify pollinator friendly habitats: All pollinator-friendly grassland sites have "Managed for Biodiversity" signage installed, identifying the areas as being actively managed for wildlife. • Training on pollinators and how to take action to protect them: Workshops continue to be delivered to youth groups, gardening clubs and the public. These workshops explain the benefits of pollinators; encourage participants to grow pollinator friendly plants; encourage participants to provide areas for pollinators to make their own 'natural' homes; and provide a practical demonstration on making solitary bee homes. Participants make their own bee home to take away to put up in their own garden, allotment etc. During 2025 over 100 people attended these workshops. • Build actions on pollinators into frameworks and initiatives: Mid Ulster council have developed a SCRiBE (Sustainability, Climate, Recycling and Biodiversity Education Programme), engaging schools, sports clubs and

		<p>community groups. Through hands-on workshops, participants learn practical skills in recycling, biodiversity, and sustainable living, building environmental awareness, community involvement, and long-term behaviour change across the district. Actions for pollinators have been integrated into this programme with at least one pollinator activity undertaken at each session. The activities to help pollinators include planting native species hedgerows, planting pollinator-friendly bulbs, creating bee homes etc. During 2025, 940 pupils from 32 schools across the district planted almost 1,200 native trees (mostly as hedgerow), planted over 2,500 bulbs.</p>
Monaghan County Council	June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of Urban Habitats: Monaghan Town's urban biodiversity is being enhanced through projects at Peters Lake, the Bog Garden, and the Ulster Canal Greenway. Improvements include native tree planting, reed bed management, and pollinator-friendly beds at Peters Lake; chemical-free management of wetland and bog species at the Bog Garden; and native tree and hedgerow planting along the Greenway to create pollinator corridors. These initiatives strengthen ecological connectivity, support pollinators, and provide accessible green spaces for people, contributing to a vibrant, sustainable urban environment. • Polytunnel pollinator project: Monaghan County Council has installed its first polytunnel to produce pollinator-friendly planters in-house for seasonal displays. A new horticulture apprentice is leading efforts to grow plants from seeds and cuttings, ensuring genetic provenance, reducing costs and carbon footprint, and providing sustainable, locally sourced stock that minimizes reliance on imports and prevents invasive species. Eight new pollinator friendly planting beds covering a total area of approximately 763m² have been established in Monaghan town. Each bed is planted with a diverse mix of pollinator-friendly perennials and bulbs and is managed using sustainable, chemical free practices. • Raingarden creation: A new 45m² urban rain garden has been created in Monaghan MD to showcase sustainable drainage (SUDS) while delivering pollinator benefits. Planted with water-tolerant, pollinator-friendly perennials, it provides nectar and pollen throughout the season, creating an attractive, biodiverse habitat that supports pollinators and enhances ecological connectivity within the urban landscape. • Tidy Towns Bee Initiatives: With support from Monaghan County Council, Monaghan Tidy Towns group delivered a range of pollinator-focused initiatives. The annual "Bee Babies" project provided pollinator packs—including seeds, compost, window boxes, bee hotels, and age-appropriate reading material—to all five childcare facilities in the town, while the "Primary Pollinators" project extended similar resources to all five primary schools. Ten Bee Posts and three Bee Lodges were installed in key pollinator areas to enhance habitat connectivity. Additionally, Tidy Towns members actively participate in the National Biodiversity Data Centre Bumblebee Monitoring Scheme, contributing valuable citizen science data to support pollinator conservation, training was provided by MCC Biodiversity Officer. • No Mow Green Spaces: MCC manages extensive no mow areas across the county, including Lough Muckno meadow and Ballybay Town Park, creating rich habitats for native, pollinator-friendly wild plants that bloom from spring to autumn. These areas are cut only once annually, with clippings composted by MCC, along with leaf litter, for reuse in

		<p>pollinator beds. Educational signage informs visitors about the importance of pollinators and promotes biodiversity-friendly practices.</p>
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Awareness Raising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NMDCC ran an awareness raising campaign from April – November 2025. The campaign highlighted the key messages of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan each month with tips for people on how to help our pollinators. ○ Council also undertook a Waste Advertising campaign which included updating our bin lorries with artwork to promote key messages and projects. ‘Don’t Mow Let it Grow’ is one of the five messages promoted through the campaign. ○ 2000 copies of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan bookmark were distributed to schools and at public events e.g. the Wildlife in the City event in Newry in June. ● Improving Council land for Pollinators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NMDCC has chosen five new ‘Don’t Mow’ sites within the district. All-Ireland Pollinator Plan signage has been procured for these sites to educate the public on how they are being managed. ○ As part of the Heritage Lottery Funded project at Castlewellan Forest Park, pollinator friendly plants have been reinstated along the walkways within the walled garden after drainage works were completed to the fountains and paths. ○ Council is also supporting the ‘Warrenpoint Pollinator Corridor’ Project. Led by the Beautiful Warrenpoint Group, the project aims to develop a corridor of pollinator friendly habitat through the town. We have provided the group with seeds, equipment and support to provide much needed food and homes for pollinators. ● Upskilling the Local Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Mourne Gullion Strangford Geopark project works closely with local volunteers and community groups to help them improve their conservation knowledge and skills and put their training into action in their local area. The Geopark team has developed an equipment loan out scheme for groups and following on from a ‘traditional meadow management’ training course, are purchasing scythes to loan out on request. They also regularly loan out moth traps and have so far had 316 hours of volunteer trapping across the district.
Offaly County Council	April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Offaly Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 -2030 was published in March. It contained actions committing to underpin existing All-Ireland Pollinator Plan actions already undertaken in Offaly and increase them across OCC managed lands and via our wider influence. AIPP actions are spread across all five key strategic objectives published in the plan. ● No Mow May was planned and carried out across all three Offaly Municipal Districts. MD colleagues selected, mapped and initiate No Mow May on amenity, roadside, roundabout grasslands as well as in appropriate areas of historic burial grounds and modern cemeteries. This year an enhanced awareness-raising programme meant we head

		<p>reduced negative feedback and extended the no mow period into the early autumn to create a large number of long-flowering meadows throughout the lands owned and managed by Offaly County Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offaly Grassland Improvement Project supported by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund saw a number of historic burial grounds and OCCs Syngefield (Birr) site managed on a multiple cut and lift regime to improve sward structure and diversity at sites. • Offaly Traveller Movement (OTM), Through Our Eyes Project: Offaly County Council worked with OTM Tullamore youth group, expert macro photography expert Tina Claffey and Esker Arts Centre to raise awareness among young Travellers living in Tullamore about the rich natural history surrounding their sites. Young Travellers were coached by Tina Claffey in using smartphones to capture macro photography of wildflowers and invertebrates. The photos were displayed in a nature photography exhibition at Esker Arts Centre in October and launched my Martin “Beanz” Ward. The project raised awareness for pollinators whilst fostering a wider pride and respect for our local biodiversity. The project was supported by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund. • Community Biodiversity Action Plan Action Support: Offaly County Council supported several community events and projects throughout 2025. Some highlights include: Geashill Bioblitz (May 2025), Offaly Voluntary Group pollinator planting/biodiversity training (Sept 2025), and the Bulbs for Bees initiative (autumn 2025).
Roscommon County Council	May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadow management: Council actions for pollinators were reviewed and updated for three municipal districts by the council’s Biodiversity Officer with all actions updated on the Actions for Pollinators online map. Actions carried out in the municipal district include the reduced mowing of green spaces, management of a wildflower meadow in the town park and additional council owned lands adjacent to Roscommon Castle. • Pollinator identification workshop: Karina Dingerkus of Giorra Environmental Services hosted a talk on pollinators and identification training workshop in conjunction with Farming Rathcroghan Programme. This took place during Biodiversity Week with the focus of the event on increasing the awareness of pollinators within the local farming community and wider community groups. On the day there was keen discussion and knowledge sharing around measures to improve the environment for pollinators with focus on farm related actions. • Tidy Towns: Roscommon County Council continues to support Tidy Towns Local Authority Pollinator Awards and supported a number of local residential committees on the creation of new and additional pollinator friendly planting. Measures undertaken included the planting of native trees, flower beds, the management of new green spaces for pollinators along with the erection of additional bee hotels by local community groups. Additional All-Ireland Pollinator Plan resources and signage were distributed and erected by area office staff and community groups around Roscommon, building on the existing network of structures in existence.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roscommon County Council as part of the local Greener Spaces 2025 Awards continues to support a 'Pollinator Award' category. The awards offered are for three broad grouping a) Schools, b) Burial Grounds and c) Community, with winners of these awards announced at an annual award ceremony in December. • Herbicide alternatives: As part of the Roscommon County Council commitment to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and the National Biodiversity Action Plan, trials are underway for managing public spaces using alternative control methods (non-herbicide based). These proved successful and will see the implementation of a new management programme in the Athlone municipal district in 2026.
Sligo County Council	July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hare's Corners: Sligo County Council, in partnership with the Burrenbeo Trust supported landowners and community groups to make more space for nature through creation of a mini-woodland, a mini-orchard, a wildlife Pond, and/or a 'Plan for Nature'. This project was delivered with the support of the National Parks and Wildlife Service through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025. • Pollinator friendly facilities: Sligo County Council Climate Team supported communities via the Community Climate Action Programme, to install pollinator friendly facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New native hedgerow at St. Farnan's Community Park ○ Pollinator areas and native hedging at Cliffoney Celtic Football Club ○ Pollinator areas at Bunnanadden Sports & Leisure Centre ○ New biodiversity area, with native and pollinator-friendly species on Abbey Street with Sligo Tidy Towns • Community Orchard: Sligo County Council planted a new orchard at Fairgreen Park in association with Sligo Tidy Towns. This in addition to the existing five Community Orchards planted and maintained as part of the Community Orchards Project in different areas around Sligo town. A range of fruit trees were planted including apple, plum, cherry, blackcurrant gooseberry. A native Apple Orchard is currently being planted in the Sligo Children's Community Garden. • National Tree Week: Sligo County Council distributed 450 saplings to local households and schools to celebrate National Tree Week 2025. • Parks: Large areas of wildflower meadow were maintained at Cleveragh Regional Park and O Boyle Park along with multiple other smaller wildflower areas. Staff worked closely with Sligo Tidy Towns to promote various pollinator-friendly planting and landscaping projects ensuring all plantings were pollinator friendly. • Artificial Lighting Workshops: Sligo County Council, together with the five other local authorities in Connacht, delivered an Artificial Lighting Workshop in April 2025 to address the impacts of light pollution and promote the protection of nocturnal biodiversity, including pollinators. The event brought together over 170 delegates from local authorities and national organisations. Each participant received a copy of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan guide, <i>Protecting Nocturnal Pollinators</i> and a professional video was produced to support ongoing awareness and training.

		<p>This project was delivered with the support of the National Parks and Wildlife Service through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator resources and awareness: Sligo County Council promoted 'No Mow May' and 'Let it Bloom June' through their social media channels, encouraging residents to take part. Best practice advice and a wide range of pollinator resources were distributed free of charge by Sligo County Council at Biodiversity Week and National Heritage Week events and through the Sligo County Libraries service. • Gardening for Biodiversity and Gardening for Bats resources were included in Garden Bird Survey packs for 17 Sligo primary and secondary schools taking part in the Irish Garden Bird Survey 2025/2026.
South Dublin County Council	November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildflower Meadow Establishment and Management: South Dublin County Council manage 190 hectares of long-flowering meadows and 20 hectares of short-flowering meadows in over 306 locations across the county. SDCC started this initiative with 90 hectares in 2019, expanded it to 139 hectares in 2021, and grew to over 160 hectares in 2022, with continued progress bringing the total to 210 hectares today. We are saving 82.1 tonnes of CO₂ per year in the maintenance of long-flowering meadows and between 156-324kg CO₂ emissions per hectare per annum on the short-flowering meadows. • Wildflower Seed Collection: In order to improve the quality of our grasslands and to ensure that only local-provenance seeds are used, SDCC operate a programme of wildflower seed collection. We use brush harvesters to collect seed on meadows which have been surveyed and are identified as species rich. We are using the seed to create new meadows, in flood alleviation schemes, and to improve the quality of existing meadows. The requirement for locally harvested seed has also been expanded to many housing developments across the county through the development management process. • Reduction in spraying: In 2017 SDCC committed to eliminating glyphosate-based herbicides close to public parks, public playgrounds and public gardens. We had a 13% reduction in usage over the three years from 2022 to 2024. A new requirement included in our Road Sweeping contract is for a further 10% reduction annually which will reduce the Council's use of glyphosate by half over the life of the contract. This reflects the Council's efforts to minimise reliance on glyphosate in line with the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive as well as our own Biodiversity, Pollinator and Climate Action Plans • Mapping Green Infrastructure (GI) to Create Pollinator Corridors: SDCC has mapped key green infrastructure and pollinator sites across the county to identify gaps and opportunities. This work enables the council to strengthen ecological connectivity and create continuous pollinator-friendly corridors, supporting the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan objective of '<i>connecting and restoring habitats so pollinators can move freely across the landscape</i>'. By identifying weak links in the network, SDCC can prioritise planting, habitat creation, and management actions that deliver a joined-up Green Infrastructure network.

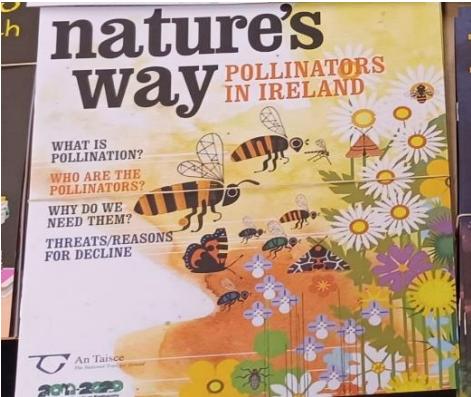
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Engagement & Education initiatives: Across the year SDCC staff have expanded the number of biodiversity walks in our parks including during National Biodiversity Week and for Climate Action Week. This included tours of grasslands, wetlands and tree walks. All talks included information on the council's actions for pollinators. The walks were aimed at community groups, school children and nature enthusiasts. As well as being informative to the public, these activities also renew enthusiasm in our staff to continue to develop and expand our pollinator actions.
Tipperary County Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting for Pollinators Workshop: Tipperary County Council hosted a Planting for Pollinators Workshop which was open to members of the public and community groups. Key elements which were highlighted in the workshop included the use of native and pollinator friendly plants, habitat design, grass management and sustainability. • The pollinator plan for Thurles town has been completed and is currently being implemented. The objective of the plan is to increase and protect pollinator habitat across Thurles within parks, river corridors, schools and residential green spaces. • Pesticide Alternatives: TCC are currently co-funding (with Kildare County Council) research on alternatives to pesticides. • Creation of a biodiversity garden in St. Joseph's Park, Nenagh: This project was undertaken in collaboration with Sports Partnership Tipperary. Dense planting with pollinator-friendly plants was undertaken plot which was previously mown on a regular basis and has been well received by the community. • Tipperary County Council hosted bumblebee and butterfly identification walks during National Heritage Week. The purpose of the walks was to encourage members of the public to take part in national recording schemes.
Waterford County Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mow and Meadow Management: There are currently 10 hectares of land within Waterford City managed as long-flowering meadow within the remit of the Parks and Presentation Team. In Dungarvan, management of grassy verges, areas for meadow management and native wildflowers were extended with the expertise of craft gardeners. In Tramore, areas throughout the town, Tramore Eco Park and areas along the Somerville Road are maintained as long-flowering meadows for pollinators including the Large Carder Bee. The Irish Pollinator Monitoring Scheme continued in Waterford Nature Park which has produced a dataset which can now be used as a baseline for monitoring pollinator abundance, led by Dr Michelle Larkin of the National Biodiversity Data Centre. • Community Climate Action Funding & Cleaner, Greener Waterford: Under the Community Climate Action programme, 17 community groups undertook measures relating to pollinators under the biodiversity category which included tree planting, meadow creation and orchard planting. The new updates to criteria for the business pledge for a Cleaner, Greener Waterford rates scheme for businesses included additional biodiversity measures with tangible outcomes which were added to the list for applicants to choose from. Waterford City and County Council in partnership with Business for Biodiversity Ireland ran a webinar in November 2025 to explain how Irish businesses can protect and enhance biodiversity.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollinator Planting Community Training: The Waterford City and County Council Biodiversity Officer and WCCC Environmental Awareness Officer partnered on the delivery of one-day pollinator training courses to communities which took place in Tramore, Lismore and Portlaw over the summer period. These included workshops on the importance of native pollinators, outdoor exploration of the sites with practical planting (Ardscoil na Mara, Lismore Castle Gardens and Portlaw Community Centre) and distribution of resources including the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan planting resources for communities. • Partnering with Waterford Sports Partnership: WCCC in collaboration with Waterford Sports Partnership and local communities secured funding for two projects under Amuigh faoin Speir with a dedicated 30% for biodiversity. One project in Tramore is a trail that includes aspects for pollinators and birds to increase public engagement, practical actions and highlight the species of the area. • Community Collaborations: 200 native tree saplings were handed out for Tree Week 2025 to communities across Waterford. Biodiversity training courses for landowners and groundskeepers were run by both the Biodiversity and Environmental Awareness Officer. The <i>Managing School Grounds for Biodiversity</i> course was piloted as a collaboration between Ardscoil na Mara, Waterford City and County Council and the National Biodiversity Data Centre which covered habitat types, native species, pollinators, planting and practical actions that can be taken on school grounds. Groundskeepers were encouraged to follow-up with the online course available on the National Biodiversity Data Centre's Learning Platform and to set up their own network for further knowledge sharing.
Westmeath County Council	February 2020	<p>Planting for Pollinators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlone Municipal District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extensive pollinator-friendly planting delivered across Tyrellspass, Kilbeggan, Moate and Athlone. ○ Installation of rainwater planters with pollinator plants and rain garden features in Tyrellspass and in Athlone. ○ Native willow, hedging and tree planting undertaken in Moate and Athlone. ○ Wildflower and bulb schemes established on Ballymahon Road and Garrycastle Roundabout. ○ 75% of all bedding plants are now pollinator-friendly, with all new trees being native and locally sourced. • Mullingar Municipal District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green Flag Award achieved once again for Mullingar Town Park. ○ Ongoing Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) project along Lynn Road, including the construction of rainwater and surface-water treatment ponds planted with appropriate wetland species. ○ 'No-mow' biodiversity zones implemented across the town to promote wildflowers and pollinator foraging. ○ Pollinator-friendly planting and maintenance undertaken by Westmeath County Council and Mullingar Tidy Towns at the Grange junior bike track, Ardmore Road, Green Road, Old Longford Road, Carey Bridge and Weldons Cross.

- Summer roundabout planting and the installation of hanging baskets completed.
- Eight three-tiered planters installed in Rathwire village under the Town & Village Scheme.
- Katoun Gold, a non-glyphosate pelargonic acid-based product, used for natural weed control in play areas.
- Native trees and hedging species procured for 2025 - Alder, Silver Birch, Oak, Hawthorn, Wild Cherry and Holly - used both for replacement planting and biodiversity enhancement.

Grasslands Managed for Pollinators

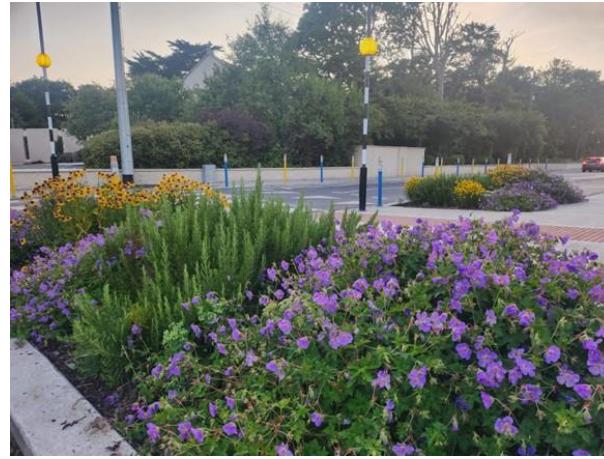
- **Athlone Municipal District**
 - Over five hectares of grasslands actively managed for pollinators at Burgess Park, Wansboro Park, the Batteries, Grace Park Road, Brawny, Dr. Seán Keane Road, Birr Junction and Kilmartin Roundabout.
 - Additional areas managed for pollinators at Portlick and Coosan Point.
 - Grasslands are cut and lifted once per year to reduce soil fertility, suppress vigorous grasses and promote wildflower diversity.
 - Remaining green areas across the MD maintained on a reduced cutting regime of approximately seven cuts annually.
 - A cut-and-lift mower machine rented for 8-week period through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund (LBAF) significantly improved the quality and biodiversity value of grassland sites during 2024, supporting long-term pollinator habitat management.
- **Mullingar Municipal District**
 - Multiple “no-mow” and reduced-mow areas established across Mullingar to support natural wildflower emergence and improve pollinator foraging opportunities.
 - Grassland management practices aligned with national pollinator guidelines and complement wider planting and tree-planting initiatives.
- **Belvedere Estate – Grassland Meadows**
 - Grassland meadows within Belvedere Estate are actively managed to support pollinators and enhance wider site biodiversity.
 - Sustainable land management practices include:
 - Encouraging native wildflowers and diverse meadow habitats.
 - Minimising pesticide use.
 - Allowing natural processes to occur, including a single seasonal cut-and-lift regime.
 - An LBAF-funded grasslands survey was commissioned to inform a detailed management plan for grassland restoration and long-term biodiversity enhancement across the estate.

		<p>Community Engagement & Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Athlone Municipal District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pollinator signs distributed to community groups and schools during biodiversity workshops and events. ○ Streamstown National School: 120 children received An Taisce Nature's Way Pollinators in Ireland booklets during the Bee Pollinator Trail launch on the Greenway at Streamstown during biodiversity week celebrating World Bee Day. ○ Ongoing support provided to the Athlone Seed Library, with native Irish Seed Savers wildflower seeds supplied, including Feverfew, Red Campion, Foxglove and Great Mullein. ○ Delivery of a well-attended community seed-collecting workshop promoting local biodiversity and seed-saving skills. ● Mullingar Municipal District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pollinator signage distributed to local schools and community organisations during workshops and outreach events. ○ Continued collaboration with Mullingar Tidy Towns to support pollinator-friendly planting, grassland management and local education initiatives. ○ A new native tree nursery has also been established at Belvedere Estate, supporting long-term biodiversity restoration by propagating locally sourced native species for future planting across Westmeath supporting native pollinators.  <p>Nature's Way pollinator booklet</p>
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Wexford County Council	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Hall Grounds: County Hall grounds in front of the main building at Carricklawn, Wexford are being managed for pollinators. The extremely steep slope on the site means traditional cut and collect mowers won't be suitable and instead we engage a contractor with specialist tracked mowers. After mowing the cuttings must be raked off and taken off site to a composting facility. The area is approximately 1.6 hectares. Gorse and Willow are being kept in check and Docks are prevalent but each year we are managing to further weaken these colonisers and increase the species diversity of flora. The grounds were used by Paul Green BSBI during an Asteraceae workshop in July of 2025. That event was organised by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. • Rain gardens: New rain gardens were installed as part of the Newtown Road Active travel scheme and the Safe Routes to School Scheme in Charlotte Row, Gorey. This is in addition to five rain gardens introduced last year on Active Travel schemes in Rosslare and Wexford town. Active travel schemes give many opportunities for introducing pollinator friendly planting into urban areas as roads are realigned and narrowed and traffic calmed. All are planted with pollinator friendly perennials which increase the food source for pollinators in the towns and enhance the streetscape. • Reduced Mowing - Min Ryan Park: Following biodiversity training for staff on managing this town park for biodiversity, large areas are now managed for pollinators with grass in the meadow areas cut annually at the end of the growing season. Training has been provided for staff in Gorey Town Park which has led them to commit to changing their mowing practices so 2026 will see increased no mow areas. • Return to Nature: This project supported three different ecologists to survey nine sites across Wexford and then to draw up simple action plans to empower communities to manage these sites for pollinators. In Wexford town parish, the historic Patrick's Graveyard was surveyed along with the grounds of the Bishop's House, Rowe Street and Bride Street churches. On the coast the grounds of Ballyvalloo Retreat centre in Blackwater were surveyed. Survey work covered the entire 20 plus acre site and included woodlands, ponds, the beach front where erosion and invasive alien species are presenting difficulties. In south-west Wexford, Horeswood Parish Church and Ballykelly Church were surveyed and the local committee persuaded the ecologist to also survey their GAA pitch so that has now been brought into the proposals for biodiversity improvements. In each case the ecologist walked the site with local groups to talk through changing of current maintenance practices in favour of biodiversity and for pollinators. • St. Ibar's Graveyard, Beggerin: This historic graveyard is in an unusual situation given that it is located on Beggerin Island in Wexford's North Slob Nature Reserve. This reserve is part of the larger Wexford Slobs and Harbour Special Protected Area (SPA), a designated Ramsar Site, part of a Special Protection Area (SPA), a proposed National Heritage Area (pNHA), and a National Nature Reserve. As a result, there are timing restrictions on any activity which will impact the wintering birds. For many years, local people were spraying the graveyard to maintain access as the grounds are uneven. This practice was not ideal, so for the first time in 2025 we sourced a budget to manage the cut and removal of cuttings ourselves. Two cuts were carried out this year due to the heavy
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thatch. Cuts were carried out after mid-April and again in late September before the site became closed for the over-wintering season for birds. This new cutting regime will continue into 2026 and beyond and we hope to see an increase in species diversity in the coming years.

- **Trees for Wexford scheme:** 147 groups applied and 9,669 trees/saplings were distributed including a variety of native tree saplings, hedgerow species and fruit trees.
- **Sustainable planting grant:** 101 community groups applied for this grant – only pollinator-friendly perennials were eligible under the grant.
- **Fleadh planting schemes:** With the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in town for a second year, great emphasis was placed on presentation of the town for over 500,000 visitors. Our horticulturalist increased planted areas around the town in beds and in planters and planting was almost exclusively perennial and pollinator-friendly.
- **Note - Working towards a Parks Department:** Wexford County Council currently has no Parks Department which can be an obstacle to managing our public open spaces for biodiversity and for pollinators. We have three gardeners and a small staff who depend on Community Employment schemes to support their work. Traditionally this work has been maintenance of parks with an emphasis on regular grass cutting and bedding plants for floral displays. Larger open spaces are maintained by a grass cutting crew under Roads and by community groups. Fortunately, there are now signs that we are moving away from this approach and discussions are commencing on the establishment of a Parks Department with a brief for more sustainable management of our open spaces. This will take many years to build, but the seeds are sown and the small existing staff are willing and interested to be part of a more coordinated approach and a sustainable approach.



Safe Routes to School Scheme, Rain Gardens Rosslare Strand

		 
		<p>Embankment to the front of County Hall, Wexford with a richer species diversity due to change in mowing practices. (Asteraceae workshop with Paul Green BSBI underway)</p> <p>Meadow in full bloom in Mayglass cemetery, Wexford.</p>
Wicklow County Council	November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollinator-friendly green space management across Municipal Districts: Wicklow County Council continued to implement pollinator-friendly mowing and planting regimes across towns, housing estates, active travel routes and public open spaces. This work is supported by Municipal District (MD) crews, with guidance from the Biodiversity Officer and Climate Action Team. Reduced-mow areas and native planting schemes continue to be facilitated, supported by community signage and outreach to explain the benefits of pollinator-friendly management. Native planting and habitat enhancement in public projects: Across Active Travel, Housing and MD-led projects, Wicklow County Council prioritised native species and pollinator-friendly design. This includes the distribution of native trees and hedging through annual community tree grant, through the Climate Action team. A major undertaking in 2025 was the removal of 300m of Leylandii hedge and its replacement with 3,000 native hedging plants at Bray Head. Restoration of dune, woodland and coastal habitats: Major invasive species removal and habitat restoration projects were delivered at Clermont House (Cherry Laurel) and Buckroney–Brittas Dunes & Fen SAC (Sea Buckthorn). These

		<p>projects, involving contractors and community volunteer days, helped restore native vegetation structure and enhance pollinator-rich dune and woodland habitats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ReFarm Wicklow: Pollinator-supportive farmland practices: Through participation in the national ReFarm pilot, Wicklow County Council supported 12 Wicklow farmers to create ponds. These measures contribute to farmland pollinator conservation under the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and complement wider catchment restoration efforts. • Community engagement, training and citizen science aligned with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: WCC provided resources, workshops and training to Tidy Towns groups, schools and community organisations, promoting All-Ireland Pollinator Plan actions across the county. A series of citizen science workshops were held in libraries across the county to train the public in pollinator recording for National Biodiversity Data Centre, amongst other skills. Additional events such as “Gardening for Biodiversity,” and “Wings of the Night,” further strengthened public capacity to manage land for pollinators and contribute records to national datasets.
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The 2025 report was compiled by Kate Chandler, Communities & Engagement Pollinator Officer, National Biodiversity Data Centre. Implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 is coordinated by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Charity status. Registered Charity Number: 20206927



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Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



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agus Fiadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife Service