

INTERESTED IN PROTECTING NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

Become a Biodiversity Leader - Training Course

Biodiversity, that is diversity of life, has major implications for food production, medicines, disease control and many other things.

A habitat refers to an area which contains physical, chemical and biotic components which support particular plants and animals.

An ecosystem is a biological community of interesting organisms and their physical environment. If one element of an ecosystem is disturbed it can have severe impacts on everything else.

Loss of biodiversity and habitat loss have been occurring rapidly in recent times

This course has been organised by the South Tipperary Development Company and will be delivered by experienced staff from The Technological University of the Shannon, Cabragh Wetlands and Community Engagement Partners.

Get more information or apply

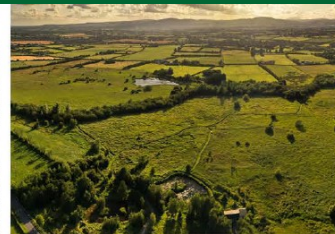
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Protect South Tipperary's Local Habitats

Habitat and biodiversity loss are major challenges facing the world today. In Ireland, the Citizens Assembly on Biodiversity Loss has recognised this as a crisis and has recommended urgent action by policy makers, communities and individuals. This programme is an opportunity for you to learn practical skills on how to enhance biodiversity and preserve habitats in your local area, community, workplace, club, home and so on.

You will be able to experience the wonders our beautiful earth has to offer while learning how to protect what it has given to us. You will discover some of South Tipperary's hidden gems of nature. You will be provided with training to develop a knowledge and understanding of a range of biodiverse habitats, their flora and fauna, the challenges they face, and how to create an achievable action plan to preserve and enhance them. Working together we hope to help you raise awareness and appreciation of local biodiversity in your community.

There are four broad habitat types on which we will focus.

- Woods/hedgerows
- Bogs
- Ponds/rivers
- Grasslands

The course is **free** funded by the EU LEADER programme, but you will have to carry your travel costs to locations in South Tipperary.



South Tipperary
Development CLG

BECOME A BIODIVERSITY LEADER

Details of the Course

**Who the
course is for**

Participants should be interested in biodiversity, want to learn more and make a practical contribution. Maybe you are involved in a local community group, tidy towns, sports club, workplace, school, church or farmers group, or just interested as an individual. As places are limited, preference will be given to people who can share their learning with a wider group and are committed to taking action in their space.

**What you will
learn**

At the end of this course you will have learned -

- What biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems actually are
- The threats they face in today's world including the impact of climate change
- The impact of habitat and biodiversity loss in South Tipperary and what can be done about it
- How to assess biodiversity in four key types of habitat at different time of year
- How to identify threats to your local habitats and the kinds of local responses that are possible
- How to communicate about habitats and biodiversity
- Sources of funding for habitat protection, and agencies and bodies that you can work with.
- How to develop a local biodiversity action plan

**How you will
learn it**

We will use a number of different learning methods

- Online classes by Zoom
- Face to face workshops
- A number of fieldtrips on Saturdays
- Some reading and self-learning
- Preparation of a Draft Biodiversity Action Plan

**Time
Commitment**

There is a time commitment involved

- The programme will take place over 9 months
- An average of about 2.5 hours a week of classes
- There will be breaks for school holidays and similar
- Field trips will take up to half a day

Assessments

There are no assessments involved in this programme

Award

At the end of the programme, provided you have had a minimum level of attendance, you will get a Certificate of Attendance at Biodiversity Leadership training from TUS.