



THE  
HERITAGE  
COUNCIL

LOCAL AUTHORITY HERITAGE OFFICERS



## Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in Towns and Villages

A GUIDE FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS



Towns and villages can support a surprisingly wide range of wildlife habitats and species of local, or even national, conservation interest. Birds nest in trees, shrubs, or under the eaves of buildings. Hedgerows support mammals, insects and wild flowering plants. Bats roost in buildings, trees and underneath old bridges. Fungi, lichens and mosses grow on both wood and stone, while waterways support otters, frogs, newts, insects, waterfowl and fish. The wildlife in a built up area may well be hidden, or may inhabit areas at the edge of a town or village.



The importance of ecologically friendly management of areas in or around towns or villages is recognised in a number of competitions, awards and grants, including the Heritage Council Wildlife and Local Heritage Grants and the Tidy Towns Competition, organised by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. If your community group is interested in applying for or participating in either these or similar grants or competitions, this guide will be of relevance to you.



## Planning for Wildlife Conservation

It is recommended that your group prepare a plan for wildlife conservation and enhancement measures in your town or village. Set out where you want to start, what you want to achieve, and the work required to be done each year. As in most things in life, progress will initially be slow and results may not appear until after a year or two. A plan will help focus the group on its long-term goals and not build up false expectations of quick success. After a while, when results do appear, the plan will serve as a reminder as to how far the group has come since starting, and provide a template for future plans so that further success can be achieved. The Tidy Towns competition requires a three to five year strategic plan for all town and village development work; if your group is taking part, do not forget to include your work on wildlife conservation and enhancement, and the fact you are complying with national policy, such as the National Biodiversity Plan. This will allow the adjudicators see the work carried out over the year and the work planned for the future.

## General Pointers

- 1 Leave things as they are:** it is easier to keep existing habitats than to create new ones. Identify your existing habitats (hedgerows, grassland etc) on a map and include it in your wildlife conservation and enhancement plan. This will allow you to point out where the existing habitats are and highlight the fact that you are retaining them when competing in competitions such as Tidy Towns.
- 2 Networks of wildlife sites are more ecologically valuable than isolated wildlife areas.** Where possible create linking corridors by planting, retaining, or even improving hedges, or keeping a strip of long grass along the road verges.
- 3 Appropriate species:** the choice of appropriate tree and shrub species is very important in urban areas where there are restrictions on space. Where possible, use native species. Trees and shrubs that grow naturally in the surrounding countryside are often the best choice for your town or village. They support local wildlife, thrive in your climatic and soil conditions, and require little maintenance. Non-native species support less wildlife than natives. Some trees, such as the commonly used Leyland cypress and Lawson's cypress, grow very fast, present maintenance problems, are visually intrusive and support little wildlife. They are not recommended for planting.



- 4 Sourcing Seed:** When choosing seed mixes ensure the seed chosen is suitable to the site, that the material is of good quality and that plant health regulations are being followed. Where possible, a certificate of provenance, stating the origin of the material should be sought. Where possible, local plant material should be sourced. Do not plant so-called 'wild-flower' seed mixes.



- 5 Invasive weeds:** some non-native plant species are very invasive. These include Japanese knotweed, rhododendron, Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed. If these weeds grow in your town or village, get specialist advice on how to remove them. If you manage your area in the right way, native local wild flowers will colonise it naturally. Never introduce any sort of pond plant into a stream or other natural watercourse. Let nature do the job herself!



**6 Grass cutting:** manage wide verges and amenity areas in a 'hay meadow' system with a first cut in June. Alternatively keep the grass cut until May and then leave it uncut until August. To demonstrate that this is a deliberate choice of management, close-cut a strip, one metre wide, around the uncut area. It is important to remove cut grass from areas managed for wildlife. Consider setting aside a screened area for composting. Composting units for smaller quantities of gardening refuse, including weeds and clippings, may be available from your local authority environmental awareness officer.

**7 Interpretation:** where appropriate, provide suitable interpretation to explain the wildlife interest of the area. Seek advice from your National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) conservation ranger and/or your local authority heritage officer.



**8 Protected structures and archaeological sites must be identified in any plan or programme of works.** Prior to undertaking any work around protected structures your local authority conservation officer or heritage officer must be consulted. Prior to undertaking any work around archaeological sites the National Monuments Service of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government must be consulted. Contact your local authority heritage officer for further information.



**9 Sites designated for nature conservation must be identified in any plan or work programme.** These include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs). Your local NPWS conservation ranger must be consulted before any work is undertaken on sites designated for nature conservation.

**10 Graveyards:** before work is undertaken in a graveyard, ownership and legal status should be checked carefully. A licence is required from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government prior to undertaking any work on any graveyard that is a Recorded Monument. A useful publication is "The Care and Conservation of Graveyards" produced by the Office of Public Works. Contact your local authority heritage officer or conservation officer for further information.

**11 Expert advice and information on wildlife conservation and management is available,** often at no cost, from a number of agencies and voluntary groups. Contact details are outlined at the end of this brochure.



## Habitats commonly found in Irish towns and villages and practical guidelines for their management.

HABITAT	SPECIES / INTEREST	MANAGEMENT
<b>Hedgerows</b> (See Heritage Council leaflet 'Conserving Hedgerows')	Birds, bats and other mammals, insects, flowering plants, fruiting shrubs, mosses, fungi and lichens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With certain exemptions (NOT including local community groups) the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 prohibits the cutting of hedges during the period 1st March to 31st August (inclusive).</li> <li>• Where necessary, trim or lay while dormant, from the beginning of September to the end of February</li> <li>• To keep the base dense, trim hedges so that they are wider at the base and narrower at the top</li> <li>• Established hedges should be trimmed only every second or third year</li> <li>• No herbicides to be used within 1.5m of hedge</li> <li>• Store grass clippings away from base of hedgerow</li> </ul>
<b>Trees</b> 	Birds, bats* and other mammals, insects, mosses, fungi, lichens * (See Heritage Council leaflet 'Conserving Bats')	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With certain exemptions (NOT including local community groups) the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 prohibits the cutting of hedges during the period 1st March to 31st August (inclusive).</li> <li>• Where necessary, cut while dormant, from the beginning of September to the end of February</li> <li>• Use appropriate native species</li> <li>• Groups of trees are preferable to single trees</li> <li>• Do not use herbicides, use tree tubes as an alternative</li> <li>• Do not use fungicides</li> <li>• Put up bat and/or bird boxes</li> <li>• Leave some standing deadwood and log piles</li> </ul>
<b>Stone walls and bridges, derelict buildings and monuments</b>	Lichens, mosses, ferns, bats, birds, insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave mosses, lichens and ferns on walls etc</li> <li>• No herbicides</li> <li>• Do not use concrete to re-point</li> <li>• Do not remove render</li> <li>• Seek expert advice re management of ivy</li> <li>• Plant ivy and honeysuckle on modern concrete walls</li> </ul>
<b>Graveyards</b> 	Old managed grassland, bats, hedgehogs and other mammals, barn owls and other birds, insects, mosses, lichens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not remove mosses and lichens from headstones or walls</li> <li>• Set aside an area for nature conservation that is only cut once or twice a year</li> <li>• When cutting grass close to headstones use a hand-held clippers</li> <li>• Do not use fungicides</li> <li>• Do not use herbicides at the base of headstones or walls</li> <li>• Seek expert advice re management of ivy</li> </ul>
<b>Flower beds and borders</b>	Insect and bird feeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use native plants and native seed stock traditional to the area where possible</li> <li>• Use only peat free compost, or make your own</li> <li>• Choose plants which are rich in nectar and pollen to attract insects</li> <li>• Choose plants with plenty of berries and seeds to provide food for birds</li> </ul>

Habitats commonly found in Irish towns and villages and practical guidelines for their management. (Continued)

HABITAT	SPECIES/INTEREST	MANAGEMENT
<b>Grassland – road verges</b>	Birds and insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave grass in verges on outskirts of town less tightly mown. Use graduated mowing regime, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Do not use herbicides or fungicides</li> <li>• Grass clippings to be removed to an appropriate area for composting</li> </ul>
<b>Grassland-amenity areas</b>	Birds and insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leave areas for wildflowers, nettles etc</li> <li>• Reduce mowing regime</li> <li>• Use graduated mowing regime, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Gardens and school grounds</b>	Birds, insects, mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage gardening for wildlife</li> <li>• Put up bat and bird boxes and feeding tables</li> <li>• Provide hibernators for hedgehogs</li> <li>• Use only peat free compost or make your own</li> </ul>
<b>Rivers and canals</b>	Fish, insects, birds, snails, mammals, undisturbed grassland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not use herbicides</li> <li>• Retain at least 2m strip of bank side vegetation</li> <li>• If planting trees and shrubs, check for appropriate species</li> <li>• Waterways Ireland must be consulted for works on navigable waterways</li> </ul>
<b>Lakes, ponds, ditches and wet areas</b>	Frogs, newts, insects, waterfowl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not use herbicides</li> <li>• Leave areas of vegetation at bank side</li> <li>• Create log piles</li> <li>• Do not introduce plants</li> </ul>



Choosing the right species of native tree and shrub

As mentioned, choosing the right species of tree and shrub is very important in urban areas where there are restrictions on space. Where possible, always use native species. Below is a list of the trees and shrubs native to Ireland, and advice on the locations to which they are suited.



Common name	Latin name	Height (max)	Suitable for public open spaces	Suitable for streets and confined spaces	Suitable for tubs, containers, raised beds etc.	Guide to planting: see key below
<b>Alder</b>	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	22m	Yes	No	Yes	ADPS
<b>Alder buckthorn</b>	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	6m	Yes	No	Yes	D Restricted distribution. Not commonly available.
<b>Arbutus (strawberry tree)</b>	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	8m	Yes	No	Yes	Not frost hardy
<b>Ash</b>	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	28m	Yes	No	No	ADIPS
<b>Aspen</b>	<i>Populus tremula</i>	24m	Yes	No	No	DPSV Not close to buildings or any services
<b>Bramble</b>	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	2m	No	No	No	C/H note: tends to be invasive
<b>Broom</b>	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	2m	Yes	No	Yes	*
<b>Burnet rose</b>	<i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i>	2m	Yes	No	Yes, but vigorous	C/H Restricted distribution. Not commonly available.
<b>Common (or European) gorse</b>	<i>Ulex europeus</i>	2.5m	Yes	No	In a rural setting	HV
<b>Crab apple</b>	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	6m	Yes	No	No	AHIP
<b>Dog rose</b>	<i>Rosa canina</i>	2m	Yes	No	Yes. Vigorous	C/H
<b>Downy birch</b>	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	18m	Yes	Yes	Yes	ADIP
<b>Elder</b>	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	6m	In hedge	No	No	V
<b>Guelder rose</b>	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	4.5m	Yes	No	No	DH
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	9m	Yes	Yes	Yes	AHIPS
<b>Hazel</b>	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	6m	Yes	No	No	AHS
<b>Holly</b>	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	15m	Yes	Yes	Yes	AHPS
<b>Honeysuckle</b>	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	climber	Yes	On walls	No	C
<b>Ivy</b>	<i>Hedera helix</i>	climber	Yes	Yes	Yes	C
<b>Juniper</b>	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	6m	Yes	No	No	S
<b>Pedunculate oak</b>	<i>Quercus robur</i>	30m	Yes	No	No	AI only suitable for large spaces
<b>Privet</b>	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	3m	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Rowan or mountain ash</b>	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	9m	Yes	Yes	Yes	ADHIP
<b>Scots pine</b>	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	24m	Yes	No	No	AI
<b>Sessile oak</b>	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	30m	Yes	No	No	AI only suitable for large spaces
<b>Silver birch</b>	<i>Betula pendula</i>	18m	Yes	Yes	Yes	ADIP
<b>Sloe, blackthorn</b>	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	3m	Yes	No	No	AHPV
<b>Spindle</b>	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	7.5m	Yes	No	No	H
<b>Western (or mountain) gorse</b>	<i>Ulex gallii</i>	1.5m	Yes	No	Yes	* Restricted distribution. Not commonly available.
<b>Whitebeam spp.</b>	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	12m	Yes	Yes	Yes	IPS
<b>Wild cherry</b>	<i>Prunus avium</i>	15m	Yes	Yes	Yes	AHI
<b>Willow spp.</b>	<i>Salix spp.</i>	6m	Some	No	No	V Not suitable near buildings or services
<b>Wych elm</b>	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	30m	Yes		No	PS
<b>Yew</b>	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	14m	Yes	No	Yes	AIPS

A – Grows in a wide variety of soils, C – Climber, H – Suitable for hedging, I – Suitable as an individual tree, D – Tolerates or prefers damp conditions, P – Tolerates smoke or pollution, S – Tolerates shade, V – Invasive, \* – Tolerates dry conditions

## Deontais agus Dámhachtainí a bhaineann le hábhar

Anseo thíos, deontais agus dámhachtainí a chuireann an Chomhairle Oidhreachta ar fáil do ghrúpaí áitiúla pobail le haghaidh tionscadal a chaomhnaíonn agus a fheabhsaíonn an fiadhúlra i mbailte agus i sráidbhailte.

i. Tá **Deontais Áitiúla Oidhreachta** ar fáil le haghaidh réimse leathan tionscadal faoi na cinnteidil seo leanas:

- Rochtain Oidhreachta
- Bailiú sonraí
- Oideachas agus Scoileanna
- Seimineáir agus Cúrsaí Traenála
- Tionscnaimh Speisialta

Caithfidh gach tionscadal a bheith chun leasa an phobail, agus daoine áitiúla a spreagadh. Tá béim ar leith ar thionscadail a chuireann le taitneamh an phobail, agus a mhéadaíonn feasacht agus tuiscint ar an oidhreacht.

ii. **Scéim Deontas um Fhiadhúlra:** baineann an deontas seo le tionscadail a mhéadaíonn ar shuíom, ar oideachas agus ar eolas, agus a chuireann le bród as gnéithe d'oidhreacht na hÉireann.

iii. **Duaiseanna Bailte Slachtmhara urraithe ag an gComhairle Oidhreachta:** deineann an Chomhairle Oidhreachta urraíocht ar roinnt duaiseanna i gcomórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara, ina measc:

– **Cúram agus feabhsú na hoidhreachta:** bronntar an duais seo le haghaidh úsáid chuí scileanna agus ábhar traidisiúnta tógála, agus bainistiú éiceabhách ar na limistéir ar fad istigh i mbaile agus mórthimpeall air.

– **Rochtain agus léiriú na hoidhreachta:** bronntar an duais seo le haghaidh úsáid ar shuíomh cóir agus úsáid chláir léirithe, painéil agus comharthaíocht; cur i láthair eolach i gcás reiligí, gairdíní agus séadchomharthaí; bealaí siúlóide oidhreachta.

*Le haghaidh a thuilleadh eolais ar na deontais dámhachtainí seo agus cinn nach iad ón gComhairle Oidhreachta, déan teagmháil leis an gComhairle Oidhreachta nó leis an oifigeach oidhreachta san údarás áitiúil. Féach na sonraí teagmhála thíos:*



## Seoltaí Úsáideacha

**An Chomhairle Oidhreachta**, Teach Rothe, Cill Chainnigh. Teil: (056) 7770777, R-phost: mail@heritagecouncil.com Chun sonraí teagmhála oifigeach oidhreachta d'údarás áitiúil a fháil, Suíomh Idirlín: [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie)

**Cairde Éanlaith Éireann**, Teach Rockingham, An Caisleán Nua, Co. Chill Mhantáin. Teil: (01) 2819878, R-phost: info@birdwatchireland.org, Suíomh Idirlín: [www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)

**Saorálaithe Caomhnaithe Éireann**, Teach an Stiobhaird, Caisleán Ráth Fearnáin, Baile Átha Cliath 14, Tel: (01) 4952878, R-phost: info@cvi.ie, Suíomh Idirlín: [www.cvi.ie](http://www.cvi.ie)

**Crann**, Teach Crank, Príomhshráid, Beannchar, Co. Uíbh Fhailí, Teil: (0509) 51718, R-phost: info@crann.ie, Website: [www.crann.ie](http://www.crann.ie)

**An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra (NPWS)**, 7 Plás Ely, Baile Átha Cliath 2, Tel: (01) 6472342, R-phost: npw@indigo.ie

**Comhairle Chaomhnaithe Phortaigh na hÉireann**, 119 Sráid Céipil, Baile Átha Cliath 1, Tel: (01) 8722397, R-phost: bogs@ipcc.ie, Suíomh Idirlín: [www.ipcc.ie](http://www.ipcc.ie)

**Networks for Nature**, Bosca P.O. 9184, Baile Átha Cliath 1, Teil: (01) 6768860, R-phost: networks4nature@eircom.net, Suíomh Idirlín: [www.networksfornature.com](http://www.networksfornature.com)

**Aonad na mBailte Slachtmhara**, An Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil, Teach an Chustaim, Cé Theach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, Tel: (01) 8882300, R-phost: geraldine.norton@environ.ie

*Grianghrafanna le caoinhead Robert Thompson, Lorcan Scott, Dearbhala Ledwidge agus Comhairle Contae Chill Chainnigh.*

*Tionsaíodh agus foilsíodh an bhileog seo mar ghné de thionscadal comhpháirtíochta idir An Chomhairle Oidhreachta agus Oifigigh Oidhreachta na nÚdarás Áitiúil. © An Chomhairle Oidhreachta 2004*

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*For further information on these and other grants/awards offered by the Heritage Council, contact the Heritage Council or your local authority heritage officer. See contact details below.*

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## Relevant grants and awards

The following awards and grants are offered by the Heritage Council to local community groups for projects that conserve and enhance wildlife in towns and villages.

**i. Local Heritage Grants** are available for a wide range of projects under the following headings:

- Access to heritage
- Collection of data
- Education and schools
- Seminars and training courses
- Special initiatives.

Each project must benefit the community and must motivate local people. There is a particular emphasis on projects that promote public enjoyment and increase awareness and understanding of heritage.

**ii. Wildlife Grant Scheme:** this grant is aimed at projects that promote interest, education, knowledge and pride in aspects of Ireland's heritage.

**iii. Heritage Council sponsored Tidy Towns Awards:** the Heritage Council sponsors a number of awards in the Tidy Towns competition, including:

– **Caring and enhancement of heritage:** this award is for the appropriate use of traditional building skills and materials and ecologically friendly management of all areas in and around a town

– **Access and interpretation of heritage:** this award is for the appropriate siting and use of interpretative boards, panels and signage; informed presentation of cemeteries, gardens and monuments; heritage walking routes.

For further information on these and other grants/awards offered by the Heritage Council, contact the Heritage Council or your local authority heritage officer. See contact details below.

Gnáthoga coitianta a fhaightear i mbailte agus i sráidbhailte na hÉireann, agus treoirinte praiticiúla maidir lena mbainistiú.

GNÁTHÓG	SPEICIS / SAINSPÉIS	BAINISTIÚ
<b>Talamh féaraigh - ciumhaiseanna an bhóthair</b>	Éin agus feithidí.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ná gearrtar an féar ar na ciumhaiseanna bóthair ar imill an bhaile ró-lom. Úsáidtear cur chuige céimnithe gearrtha, mar a oireann.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear luibhicídí ná fungaicídí.</li> <li>Is cóir féar gearrtha a bhreith go dtí áit oiriúnach, áit a ndeintear múirín de.</li> </ul>
<b>Talamh féaraigh - láithreacha conláiste</b>	Éin agus feithidí.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fágtar limistéir le haghaidh bláthanna fiáine, neantóga etc.</li> <li>Laghdaítear an líon uaireanta a ghearrtar an féar.</li> <li>Úsáidtear cur chuige céimnithe gearrtha, mar a oireann.</li> </ul>
<b>Gairdíní agus clósanna scoile</b>	Éin, feithidí, mamaigh.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spreagtar garraíodóireacht ar son an fhiadhúlra.</li> <li>Cuirtear boscaí ialtóige agus éin in airde agus boird bhia.</li> <li>Cuirtear áiseanna codladh geimhridh ar fáil do ghráinneoga.</li> <li>Úsáidtear múirín atá saor ó mhóin, nó déan do chuid féin.</li> </ul>
<b>Abhainnte agus cánálacha</b>	Éisc, feithidí, éin, seilidí, mamaigh, talamh féaraigh neamhúsáidte.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ná húsáidtear luibhicídí.</li> <li>Coimeád stráice 2m ar leithead ar a laghad d'fhásra bruaigh.</li> <li>Má táthar ag cur crann agus tor, deimhnigh go bhfuil na speicis oiriúnach.</li> <li>Is gá dul i gComhairle le hUiscebhealaí Éireann i gcás oibreacha ar bhealaí uisce inseolta.</li> </ul>
<b>Locha, linnte, díoga, limistéir bhoga</b>	Froganna, earca, feithidí, éin uisce.	Ná húsáidtear luibhicídí. Fágtar achair d'fhásra ar an mbruach. Cruthaítear cairn de chearchaillí adhmaid. Ná beirtear plandaí neamhdhúchasacha isteach.



## Ag roghnú crann nó tor den speiceas ceart dúchasach

Mar a luadh, baineann an-tábhacht le crann nó tor den speiceas ceart a roghnú i gcás láithreacha uirbeacha, áit a mbíonn an spás teoranta. Nuair is féidir, úsáid speicis dhúchasacha i gcónaí. Anseo thíos faightear liosta de chrainn agus toir dhúchasacha na hÉireann, maraon le comhairle faoi na hionaid a mbíonn siad oiriúnach dóibh.



Ainm coitianta	Ainm Laidne	Uasairde (max)	Oiriúnach do spásanna oscailte poiblí	Oiriúnach do shráideanna agus spásanna teoranta	Oiriúnach i dtobáin, árthai, leapacha arduithe etc.	Treoir phlandála: féach an eochair thíos.
An Fhearnóg	Alnus glutinosa	22m	Tá	Níl	Tá	ITDS
An Draighean Fearná	Frangula alnus	6m	Tá	Níl	Tá	T Dáileadh teoranta Neamhchoitianta
An Chaithe	Arbutus unedo	8m	Tá	Níl	Tá	Goilleann sioc uirthi
An Fhuinseog	Fraxinus excelsior	28m	Tá	Tá	Níl	ITCDS
An Crann Creathach	Populus tremula	24m	Tá	Níl	Níl	TDSR neamhoiriúnach gar do thithe/ seirbhísí
An Dris/ An Driseog	Rubus fruticosus	2m	Níl	Níl	Níl	D/F nóta: dúchas ionróra
An Ghiolcach Shléibhe	Cytisus scoparius	2m	Tá	Níl	Tá	*
An Briúlán	Rosa pimpinellifolia	2m	Tá	Níl	Tá ach briomhar	D/F Dáileadh teoranta Neamhchoitianta
An t-Aiteann Gallda	Ulex europeus	2.5m	Tá	Níl	I suíomh tuaithe	FR
An Crann Fia-Úll	Malus sylvestris	6m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IFCD
An Fheidhris	Rosa canina	2m	Tá	Níl	Tábriomhar	D/F
An Bheith Chlúmhach	Betula pubescens	18m	Tá	Tá	Tá	ITCD
An Trom	Sambucus nigra	6m	i bhfál	Níl	Níl	R
An Chaor Chon	Viburnum opulus	4.5m	Tá	Níl	Níl	TF
An Sceach Gheal	Crataegus monogyna	9m	Tá	Tá	Tá	IFCDS
An Coll	Corylus avellana	6m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IFS
An Cuileann	Ilex aquifolium	15m	Tá	Níl	Tá	IFDS
An Féithleann	Lonicera periclymenum	dreapadóir	Tá	ar fhallaí	Níl	D
An tEidhneán	Hedera helix	dreapadóir	Tá	Tá	Tá	D
An tAiteall	Juniperus communis	6m	Tá	Níl	Níl	S
An Dair Choiteann	Quercus robur	30m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IC Oiriúnach do spásanna móra amháin
An Pribhéad	Ligustrum vulgare	3m	Tá	Tá	Tá	
An Caorthann	Sorbus aucuparia	9m	Tá	Tá	Tá	ITFCD
An Péine Albanach	Pinus sylvestris	24m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IC
An Dair Neamhghasánach	Quercus petraea	30m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IC Oiriúnach do spásanna móra amháin
An Bheith Gheal	Betula pendula	18m	Tá	Tá	Tá	ITCD
An Draighean	Prunus spinosa	3m	Tá	Níl	Níl	IFDR
An Feoras	Euonymus europaeus	7.5m	Tá	Níl	Níl	F
An tAiteann Gaelach	Ulex gallii	1.5	Tá	Níl	Tá	* Dáileadh teoranta Neamhchoitianta
An Bíoma Bán	Sorbus aria	12m	Tá	Tá	Tá	CDS
An Crann Silíní Fiáin	Prunus avium	15m	Tá	Tá	Tá	IFC
An tSaileach/ Saileog.	Salix spp.	6m	Cuid acu	Níl	Níl	R Níl oiriúnach gar do thithe/ seirbhísí
An Leamhán Sleibhe	Ulmus glabra	30m	Tá		Níl	DS
An tLúr	Taxus baccata	14m	Tá	Níl	Tá	ICDS

I - Fásann in ithreacha éagsúla D - Dreapadóir F - Oiriúnach mar fhál. C - Oiriúnach mar chrann aonair  
T - Taithíonn láithreacha taise D - Fulaingíonn deatach agus truailliú S - Taithíonn an scáth R - Ionrach  
\* - Fulaingíonn coinníollacha tirime

**6 Gearradh féir:** úsáidtear córas an ‘mhóinéir’ i gcás bainistiú ciumhaiseanna leathana agus láithreacha conláiste; bíodh an chéad ghearradh ann i mí an Mheithimh. Mar mhalairt, d’fhéadfaí an féar a choimeád gearrtha go dtí an Bhealtaine, agus é a fhágaint gan ghearradh go dtí Lúnasa ansin. Chun a léiriú gur rogha chomhfheasach bainistíochta é seo, lomghearrtar stráice méadar ar leithead mórtimpeall ar an láthair nach ngearrtar. Tá sé tábhachtach an féar gearrtha a bhailiú de na láithreacha atá a mbainistiú ar mhaithe lena bhfiadhúlra. Níor mhiste limistéar beag folaithe a bheith ar fáil chun múirín a dhéanamh. Tharlódh go mbeadh teacht ar aonaid mhúiríne, le cúnaimh ón oifigeach feasachta comhshaoil san údarás áitiúil, a dhéileáilfeadh le tomhaiseanna beaga d’fhuilleach garraí, fiaillí agus scotháin na bhfálta.

**7 Léiriú:** nuair is cú, is ceart fiadhúlra na dúiche a léiriú go hoiriúnach, chun na gnéithe inspéise a bhaineann leis a mhíniú. Faightear comhairle ón maoirseoir caomhnaithe sa tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra agus/nó ó oifigeach oidhreachta an údaráis áitiúil.

**8 Is gá struchtúir chaomhnaithe agus láithreacha seandálaíochta a thaispeáint ar aon phlean nó clár oibre a bhíonn ann.** Sula dtosaítear ar obair ar bith thart ar struchtúir chaomhnaithe is gá dul i gcomhairle leis an oifigeach caomhnaithe nó leis an oifigeach oidhreachta san Údarás Áitiúil. Sula dtosaítear ar obair ar bith thart ar láithreacha seandálaíochta is gá dul i gcomhairle le Seirbhís na Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta sa Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil. Bí i dteagmháil le d’oifigeach oidhreachta san Údarás Áitiúil chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil.



**9 Is gá limistéir a shainítear mar limistéir chaomhnaithe dúlra a thaispeáint ar aon phlean nó clár oibre a bhíonn ann.** Ina measc seo tá Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta (SACs), Limistéir Chaomhnaithe Speisialta (SPAs), agus Limistéir Oidhreachta Nádúrtha (NHAs). Is gá dul i gcomhairle leis an maoirseoir caomhnaithe áitiúil de chuid na Seirbhíse Páirceanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra sula dtugtar faoi obair ar bith a dhéanamh ar shainláithreacha chaomhnaithe dúlra.

**10 Reiligí:** sula dtugtar faoi obair a dhéanamh i reilig, is gá fiosrú cúramach a dhéanamh faoi úinéireacht na reilige agus an stádas dlí. Tá ceadúnas ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil riachtach sula gceadaítear tabhairt faoi obair i reilig ar bith atá ina Séadchomhartha ar Taifead. Foilseachán áisiúil is ea "The Care and Conservation of Graveyards" ó Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí. Déan teagmháil le hoifigeach oidhreachta an údaráis áitiúil nó leis an oifigeach caomhnaithe le haghaidh a thuilleadh eolais.

**11 Tá sainchomhairle agus eolas ar chaomhnú agus ar bhainistiú fiadhúlra ar fáil,** saor in aisce go mion minic, ó ghníomhaireachtaí áirithe agus ó roinnt grúpaí deonacha. Tá a sonraí teagmhála ar fáil ag deireadh an bhróisiúir seo.

## Gnáthóga coitianta a fhaightear i mbailte agus i sráidbhailte na hÉireann, agus treoirínite praiticiúla maidir lena mbainistiú.

GNÁTHÓG	SPEICIS / SAINSPÉIS	BAINISTIÚ
<b>Fálta</b> (Féach bileog na Comhairle Oidhreachta ‘Conserving Hedgerows’)	Éin, ialtóga agus mamaigh eile, feithidí, plandaí blátha, toir torthaí, caonaigh, fungais agus léicin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faoin Acht um Fiadhúlra (Leasú) 2000 tá cosc ar fhálta a ghearradh idir 1 Márta agus 31 Lúnasa, an dá dháta san áireamh. Ceadáitear díolúintí áirithe, ach Ní do ghrúpaí áitiúla pobail.</li> <li>Nuair is gá is cóir iad a ghearradh nó a luí fad atá siad suanach idir tús Meán Fómhair agus deireadh Feabhra.</li> <li>Chun go mbeadh an bun dlúth, is cóir fálta a ghearradh i dtreo go bhfuil siad níos leithne ag an mbun agus níos cúinge ag an mbarr.</li> <li>Is cóir fálta bunaithe a ghearradh gach dara nó tríú bliain ar a mhéid.</li> <li>Ní cóir luibhicídí a úsáid laistigh de 1.5m ón bhfál.</li> <li>Is cóir féar gearrtha a choimeád amach ó bhun an fháil.</li> </ul>
<b>Crainn</b>	Éin, ialtóga* agus mamaigh eile, feithidí, caonaigh, fungais, léicin. * (Féach bileog na Comhairle Oidhreachta ‘Conserving Bats’).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faoin Acht um Fhiadhúlra (Leasú) 2000 tá cosc ar fhálta a ghearradh idir 1 Márta agus 31 Lúnasa, an dá lá san áireamh. Ceadáitear díolúintí áirithe, ach Ní do ghrúpaí áitiúla pobail.</li> <li>Nuair is gá is cóir iad a ghearradh fad atá siad suanach idir tús Meán Fómhair agus deireadh Feabhra.</li> <li>Úsáidtear speicis oiriúnacha dúchasacha.</li> <li>Is fearr grúpaí crann ná crainn aonair.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear luibhicídí, agus úsáidtear tiúbanna crainn mar mhalairt.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear fungaicíd.</li> <li>Cuirtear boscaí ialtóige agus/ nó éan in airde.</li> <li>Fágtar roinnt marbh-adhmaid gan bhaint, maraon le cairn adhmaid/ cearchaillí</li> </ul>
<b>Fallaí cloch agus droichid, foirgnimh thréigthe agus séadchomharthaí</b>	Léicin, caonaigh, raithnigh, ialtóga, éin, feithidí.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fágtar caonaigh, léicin agus raithnigh ar fhallaí etc.</li> <li>Ná bactar le luibhicídí.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear coincreít chun ath-phointeála.</li> <li>Ná baintear rindreáil d’fhallaí.</li> <li>Faightear sainchomhairle maidir le bainistiú eidhneáin.</li> <li>Cuirtear eidhneán agus féithleann ar fhallaí coincreíte nua-aoiseacha.</li> </ul>
<b>Reiligí</b>	Seantalamh féaraigh a bhainistítear, ialtóga, gráinneoga agus mamaigh eile, scréachóga reilige agus éin eile, feithidí, caonaigh, léicin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ná baintear caonaigh agus léicin de chlocha cinn agus fallaí.</li> <li>Fágtar limistéar caomhnaithe dúlra gan ghearradh ach uair nó dhó sa bhliain.</li> <li>Nuair a ghearrtar an féar gar do chlocha cinn úsáidtear deimheas láimhe.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear fungaicídí.</li> <li>Ná húsáidtear luibhicídí ag bun clocha cinn nó ar fhallaí.</li> <li>Faightear sainchomhairle ar bhainistiú eidhneáin.</li> </ul>
<b>Ceapacha bláthanna agus ciumhaiseanna</b>	Beathú feithidí agus éan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Úsáidtear plandaí dúchasacha agus stoc síl traidisiúnta an cheantair, pé áit is féidir.</li> <li>Úsáidtear múirín atá saor ó mhóin, nó déan do chuid féin.</li> <li>Roghnaítear plandaí ina bhfuil saibhreas neachtair agus pailine chun feithidí a mhealladh.</li> <li>Roghnaítear plandaí ar a mbíonn go leor caortha agus síolta chun na héin a bheathú.</li> </ul>



Is iontach an réimse gnáthóga agus speiceas fiadhúlra, a mbaineann tábhacht áitiúil agus fiú náisiúnta lena gcaomhnú, is féidir lenár mbailte agus sráidbhailte a chothú. Neadaíonn éin sna crainn, sna toir nó faoi sceimhleacha tí. Cothaíonn na fáлта mamaigh, feithidí agus plandaí blátha. Gabhann ialtóga ar fara i bhfoirgintí, i gcrainn agus faoi sheandroichid. Fásann fungais, léicin agus caonaigh ar sheanadhmaid agus ar chloch, agus cothaíonn na bealaí uisce do bharchúnna, froganna, earca, feithidí, éin uisce agus éisc. Tharlódh go mbeadh an fiadhúlra as radharc i gcás limistéir faoi fhoirgnimh, ar ndóigh, nó d'fhéadfadh sé a bheith lonnaithe ar imeall an bhaile nó an tsráidbhaile.



I gcás roinnt comórtas, duaiseanna agus deontas, aithnítear an tábhacht a bhaineann le bainistiú éiceabhách ar limistéir mórthimpeall agus istigh inár mbailte agus sráidbhailte. Tá deontais fhiadhúlra agus oidhreachta áitiúla na Comhairle Oidhreachta, maraon le Comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara, comórtas a eagraíonn an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil, ina measc seo. Más suim leis an ngrúpa agatsa cur isteach ar cheachtar díobh seo, nó ar dheontas nó comórtas ar bith eile mar iad, beidh an treoirleabhrán seo ina chúnaimh agaibh.



## Pleanáil do Chaomhnú an Fhiadhúlra

Moltar go n-ullmhóidh an grúpa agatsa plean chun an fiadhúlra i do bhaile nó i do shráidbhaile a chaomhnú agus a fheabhsú. Breactar isteach ann cén áit is mian libh tosnú, cad is mian libh a bhaint amach, agus an obair is gá a dhéanamh in aghaidh na bliana. Bíonn gach tosnú lag, agus d'fhéadfadh nach bhfeicfí mórán toradh go ceann bliana nó dhó. Ach cabhraíonn plean chun aird an ghrúpa a dhíriú ar spriocanna fadtréimhseacha, agus seachnaítear an dóchas meabhail gur féidir dul chun cinn ar luas a dhéanamh. Tar éis tamaill, nuair a bhíonn na torthaí le feiscint, meabhraíonn an plean don ghrúpa an dul chun cinn atá déanta acu, agus is teimpléad do phleananna eile é a chothaíonn a thuilleadh dul chun cinn fós. Éilíonn comórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara plean straitéiseach trí go dtí cúig bliana don obair fhorbartha uile i mbaile nó i sráidbhaile. Má tá an grúpa agatsa ag glacadh páirte, ná dearmadaigí bhúr gcuid oibre ar chaomhnú agus ar fheabhsú an fhiadhúlra a lua, agus a rá gurb amhlaidh go bhfuil sibh ag cloí le polasaí náisiúnta, leis an bPlean Náisiúnta um Bhithéagsúlacht, cuir i gcás. Cuireann sé seo ar chumas na moltóirí an obair a tugadh i gcrích i gcaitheamh na bliana, agus an obair atá pleanáilte don todhchaí a chur san áireamh.

## Nodanna Ginearálta

- Fágtar mar atá:** is éasca na gnáthóga atá ann a choimeád seachas gnáthóga nua a chruthú. Marcáiltear na gnáthóga atá ann cheana (fálta, talamh féaraigh etc.) ar léarscáil, agus bíodh siad san áireamh sa phlean caomhnaithe agus feabhsaithe. Tugann sé seo an deis duit a thaispeáint cá bhfuil na gnáthóga reatha, agus béimníonn sé go bhfuil siad á slánú, nuair a bhíonn tú san iomaíocht i gcomórtas mar Chomórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara.
- Bíonn líonraí de láithreacha fiadhúlra** níos luachmhaire ó thaobh na héiceolaíochta ná limistéir aonaránacha. Nuair is féidir cruthaítear nasc-chonairí, trí fhálta a chur, nó a choimeád, nó a fheabhsú, nó coimeádtar stráicí d'fhéar fada ar thaobh na mbóithre.
- Speicis chuí:** baineann an-tábhacht le roghnú an speicis chuí, bíodh crann nó tor i gceist, i gceantair uirbeacha, áit a mbíonn an spás teoranta. Nuair is féidir úsáid speicis dhúchasacha. Is minic gurb é an rogha is fearr don bhaile agatsa na crainn nó na toir a fhásann go nádúrtha sa dúthaigh mórthimpeall. Cothaíonn siad an fiadhúlra áitiúil, réitíonn an aeráid agus an ithir leo go breá, agus is beag cothabháil a bhíonn uathu. Ní chothaíonn speicis neamhdhúchasacha an méid céanna fiadhúlra. Fásanna crainn áirithe, cufróg Leyland agus cufróg Lawson cuir i gcás, an-tapaídh go deo, gineann siad fadhbanna cothabhála, baineann siad den radharc tíre, agus ní chothaíonn siad mórán fiadhúlra. Ní mholtar iad a chur.



- Foinsí síl:** nuair atá meascáin síl á roghnú, deimhnítear go bhfuil an síol a roghnaítear oiriúnach don láthair, go bhfuil an t-ábhar ar chaighdeán ard, agus go gcloítear leis na rialacháin maidir le sláinte plandaí. Nuair is féidir is cóir teastas maidir leis an bhfoinse, a léiríonn cad as don síol, a lorg. Nuair is féidir is cóir ábhar logánta plandaí a lorg, ar ndóigh. Ná cuirtear meascáin de shíol 'fiabhláthanna', mar a ghlaotar orthu.



- Fiaílí ionracha:** ionróirí neamhshrianta is ea speicis áirithe neamhdhúchasacha plandaí. Ina measc seo tá glúineach bhiorach, ródaideandrón, balsam Himiléach agus ollfheabhrán. Má tá na fiaílí seo ag fás ar an mbaile agatsa, faigh comhairle speisialtóra maidir len iad a dhíothú. Má deintear bainistiú cóir ar an láthair, déanfaidh bláthanna fiáine áitiúla coilíniú go nádúrtha uirthi. Ná cuirtear lus linne d'aon sórt i sruthán nó i mbealach nádúrtha uisce ar bith. Ligtear don dúlra féin an saothar a thabhairt i gcrích.





# Caomhnú agus Feabhsú an Fhiadhúra i mBaile agus i Sraibhailte

TREOR DO GHRÚPAÍ AITÚLA POBAIL



OFÍSIÓN OIHRÉACHTA NA hODRÁS AITÚIL

AN  
CHOMHAIRLE  
OIHRÉACHTA

