

LET'S GET KERRY BUZZING WITH BEES

And lots of other pollinators too!



Facts About Food and Pollinators

- ◆ We have 98 species of bees in Ireland, only 1 honeybee species, 20 bumblebees and 77 solitary bees
- ◆ A honeybee needs to visit 2 million flowers to make a pound of honey in the hive
- ◆ Bumblebees make their nests in small holes in the ground, which is why hedges and dry stone walls are so important
- ◆ Pollinators are under serious pressure at the moment, for many different reasons
- ◆ Over 30% of the food we eat is pollinated by insects

What can we do to help Pollinator numbers increase locally?

- Grow plants that attract and feed pollinators in your own garden, school or community spaces
- Change how you mow the lawn- set the blades higher and allow for some wild areas to grow, where you mow after the flowers have gone to seed
- Check out the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for more information and ideas (www.biodiversityireland.ie) - contact your local biodiversity officer in Kerry County Council and see how your community or school can get involved

Biodiversity Projects in Kerry

The following communities have been involved in Biodiversity Projects in their local areas:

Ballymacelligott, Ballylongford, Dingle, Kenmare, Kilorglin, Kilcummin, Listowel, Tarbert and Tralee.

Tidy Towns groups are getting more involved in Biodiversity Projects in their local areas.

Many of these projects have been supported by Kerry County Council and Kerry Education Training Board.



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WHAT CAN WE DO LOCALLY?



Start or get involved in a local biodiversity or pollinator project and improve the future in Kerry for these essential insects

Here are some contact details of people in Kerry involved in biodiversity or pollinator projects (if you know of more that are not on this list, let us know and we can add to it):

- **Biodiversity Office:** Kerry County Council @ 066 7183521
- **Clean Coasts Programme** (An Taisce): Susan Vickers @ svickers@eeu.antaisce.org
- **Gortbrack Organic Farm:** Ian McGrigor @ 087 9246968 // gortbrackorg@gmail.com
- **Green Schools (An Taisce):** Rachel Boyle @ rboyle@eeu.antaisce.org
- **Irish Wildlife Trust (Kerry Branch):** iwtkerry@gmail.com
- **Kerry Education & Training Board's Community Education Programme:** Michelle Anne Houlihan @ 066/7121488
- **Killarney National Park Education Centre:** Chris Baron @ knpeducationcentre@eircom.net
- **Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre:** David McCormack @ 066 7126700//info@traleebaywetlands.org
- **Parishes in Kerry:** Earth Week 'Laudato Si' Project c/o Sylvia Thompson @ sylviajms11@gmail.com www.dioceseofkerry.ie/justice-2/earth-week/earth-week-2016/

Local Transition Groups in Kerry

- **Transition Kerry** // www.transitionkerry.org // info@transitionkerry.org or find us on Facebook // Contact Niamh @ 086 7247066
- **Transition Corca Dhuibhne** (based in Dingle) // ttcordhuibhne@gmail.com

Local Community Garden & Allotment Projects

- **Castleisland Community Garden:** Willie Reidy @ 087 9619351
- **Duagh Community Garden:** Mike Fahy @ 0872700518 // michaelafahysnr@gmail.com
- **Tralee Allotments Project,** Kerry County Council, Caroline Toal @ 066 7183539
- **Tralee Community Garden,** Tralee Town Park: traleepcommunitygarden@gmail.com



SOME UPCOMING EVENTS DATES FOR THE DIARY!

October

Looking for volunteers to help with planting wildlife area in Tralee Bay Wetlands

28th October

Herbs & Composting Course @ Castleisland Community Garden

12th November

Planning and Designing an Organic Garden for Food & Biodiversity @ 10.30 – 1pm @ Gortbrack Organic Farm

November/December

Transition Kerry is looking for 2 communities in Kerry to **plant Community Fruit and Nut Orchards** by March 2017. The group has funding from Kerry County Council under the Local Agenda 21 Funding. If your community wants to take part in this project, contact Niamh @ 086 7247066 or info@transitionkerry.org

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