

DO: GACH BALL DE CEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

MÁRTA 2020
MARCH 2020

General Environment Enforcement

Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where offences are detected.

Members of the public are encouraged to contact the local authority to report all incidents of illegal dumping or littering by using the following telephone number: 0761 10 20 20

Presentation / Parks & Open Spaces

Waterford City:

Tree works represent the largest element of our current works programme and staff have been carrying out works on trees at Viewmount; Powerscourt; Ardkeen Village; Collins Avenue and Closegate Street. Works at Hillview which require the replacement plantings of trees will be completed shortly. Tree planting at various locations throughout the city will be completed during the coming weeks. Ground conditions have slightly improved and with an increase of grass growth our grass contractor has commenced the initial grass cutting.

Works at Playgrounds

Works are being undertaken at following playgrounds:

Blackberry Fields: The last of the equipment in this playground damaged as a result of vandalism have been removed and will be replaced with a basketball ring.

Manor St. John: Timber boundary being removed and replaced with blockwork.

Ballybeg: Repairs to be carried out to include addition of new swings.

Six Acres Park : Access paths to be improved.

Railway Square: Static rail carriages which have limited play value are subject to ongoing anti-social behaviour will be removed and relocated to the Greenway at a location within the Metro area.

Tramore:

Improving weather and ground conditions have provided staff with the opportunity to carry out some grass cutting. This initial cut is used to remove the longer growth which has occurred over the recent months. The ground conditions are the determining factor here and therefore not all areas can receive this initial cut; however as conditions improve staff shall be becoming more active in this element of our work and progressing around to all the areas which we maintain.

Environmental Education & Awareness

National Tree Week

The Tree Council of Ireland, Coillte and Waterford City and County Council are again partnering for National Tree Week which takes place 21st -27th March. This year's theme is "Healthy Trees Healthy Planet" to promote tree health and the important role trees play in protecting our planet by taking on climate change and providing natural renewable resources. It also references the health benefits, both physical and mental, that trees and forests provide. Native tree saplings such as oak, birch, alder, and rowan will be available for collection in Dungarvan and Waterford through the City and County Council. Schools and community groups are urged to first register their events with the Tree Council (www.treecouncil.ie) and then contact their local County Council to obtain saplings (*subject to availability*).

Climate Change Event

A week long environmental event will be held in conjunction with Waterford Europe Direct Information Centre in Central Library. This event, Our Planet, Our Future which is focused on fighting climate change together takes place on the week beginning 20th April and focus on how we can all take real action on climate change.

Clean Coast Roadshow

A Clean Coast Roadshow will be held in the Surf Lifesaving Centre, Tramore at 6-8pm on 26th March in partnership with An Taisce's Clean Coast programme. The focus of this event will be on coastal and river water quality, with speakers from the Clean Coast programme, Adamstown Water Treatment Plant and Duncannon's Blue Flag Project.

National Spring Clean

National Spring Clean is now in its 21st year and will take place in April this year. The campaign encourages every sector of society to actively participate and take responsibility for litter, by carrying out clean ups in their own local environment. Bags, litter pickers, gloves and high visibility vests are provided by Waterford City and County Council for any group, school or individual carrying out a cleanup during National Spring Clean, or any other time of the year. National Spring Clean has been coordinated by An Taisce since 1999 in partnership with the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government. The size and scale of National Spring Clean has grown steadily and significantly over the years.

Community Clean Ups.

Waterford City & County Council offer assistance throughout the year to the general public to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. Coastal communities are being engaged with and supported in conjunction with An Taisce's Clean Coasts programme. Waterford City & County Council support groups and individuals by providing the clean up materials and collecting the bags of litter for disposal.

Website

Environmental Information continues to be added to the Environment section of the Waterford City & County Council website which can be found at www.waterfordcouncil.ie