



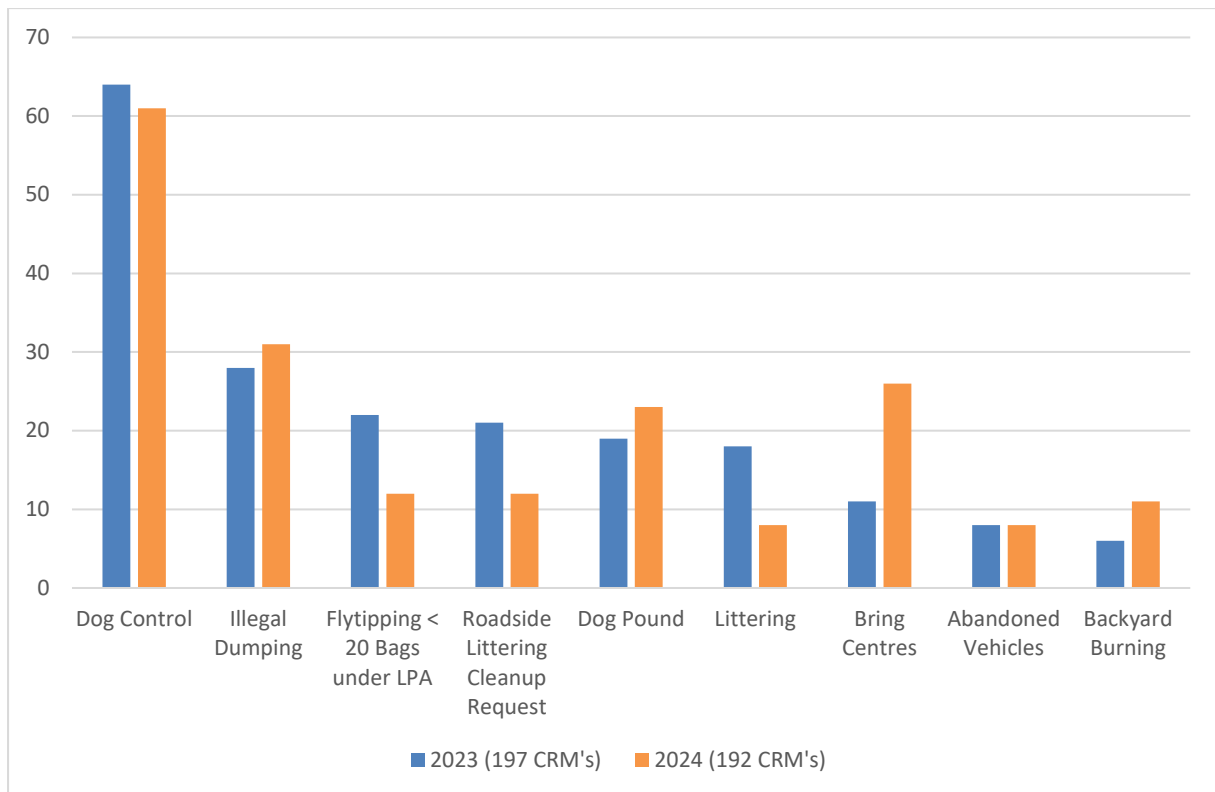
DO: GACH BALL DE CEANTAR BARDASACH AN CHOMARAIGH
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE COMERAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

SAMHAIN 2024
NOVEMBER 2024

CRM Activity

The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded in the Comeragh area during the period to the end of October in the years 2023 & 2024.



General Environment Enforcement

Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where evidence of an offence is available. Waterford City & County Councils Dog Wardens continue to investigate all control of dog issues throughout the City & County.



Environmental Education & Awareness

Schools Programmes



The Tom Murphy Litter Competition for Secondary Schools has begun for 2024. All participating schools received clean up materials to take part, including litter pickers, high visibility vests, gloves and bags. Schools are now busy carrying out regular clean ups between now and the end of December, with some schools carrying out over 3 clean ups a week with different classes. Judging will take during December. Tom Murphy Car Sales have sponsored the prize fund of €1500 for the winning school. The prizegiving and presentation of certificates of participation will take place in the Mayors Parlour in January.

Green Schools visits are underway, with some schools requesting advice and help with their work while others are availing of an early assessment visit to their school. The teacher seminars took place online in October last month to ensure that teachers knew what to expect in the coming year for their current Green Schools theme. We are running a full day's workshop for Green School Committees in Waterford primary schools to teach students and teachers alike about the circular economy. This will introduce the idea of the circular economy to pupils and encourage them to think about how to design items with that in mind. For teachers, they will go away with knowledge needed to run similar workshops/ classes in their school.

35 Waterford primary schools are participating in the Picker Pals litter programme once again this school year. This programme is most suitable for 1st and 2nd class children but has classes participating from 3rd, 4th and 5th class also. It teaches about litter and involves activity based learning to promote a keen sense of responsibility for the environment.

The 8 Secondary Schools taking part in the Composting for Schools programme have received their initial visit. The main purpose of this visit was to carry out a waste audit to help schools to prevent, reduce and reuse their waste, with a strong focus on recycling food waste. Schools have also taken part in 5 online sessions to learn more about waste prevention, recycling and composting within a school.

The first in a series of interactive webinars was held for primary schools in October, talking about litter and biodiversity, 'Explore nature: take action for your local environment'. 25 classes signed up for this online event and took part in quizzes, polls, etc on the day. The next webinar will be in December, 'Exploring nature: climate action for our local environment'.

8 secondary schools across Co. Waterford will receive circular economy workshops with a focus on fast fashion or repair skills this term. These workshops will develop practical repair abilities amongst the students to enable them to prolong the lifespan of everyday items and will empower the students to carry out peer education with the rest of the students.

Community Clean-Ups

Waterford City & County Council facilitates community clean ups throughout the year to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste. We continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers from both Dungarvan and Waterford offices to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter afterwards.



Leave No Trace

A Leave No Trace workshop was held in Dungarvan Library for community groups and individuals. This hands-on session was aimed at educating participants on the principles of responsible outdoor ethics. During the workshop, attendees learn about the seven Leave No Trace principles, focusing on practical techniques to minimise their environmental impact while enjoying nature. The workshop includes discussions, demonstrations, and activities that cover topics like proper waste disposal, respecting wildlife, and sustainable camping practices. The workshop equips participants with the knowledge and skills to promote environmental stewardship and preserve Ireland's natural landscapes. Ten primary schools across Co. Waterford are also taking part in Leave No Trace workshops this term.



Circular Living Month

Globally more textiles are consumed than ever before and Ireland is no exception. An EPA study carried out by researchers at MTU in 2019 found that the per capita consumption of new textiles in Ireland is 53 kg per person per year – that’s almost 1 kg/week of new textiles purchased by every citizen. During October there was a national focus on the circular economy for Circular Living month, with an emphasis on repair and reuse. We ran a series of 4 weekly workshops to teach participants sewing repair for clothes at three locations: Portlaw Family Resource Centre, Carrickpheirish Library and Central Library on Lady Lane. There was also a sewing repair demonstration in Ardkeen and Dungarvan libraries and a clothes swap and bike repair event in Central Library.

Home | Event | Sewing Repair Skills Workshops with Caroline O'Toole at Central Library

Sewing Repair Skills Workshops with Caroline O'Toole at Central Library

OCTOBER 4, 2024 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

ADD TO GOOGLE CALENDAR

***** THIS WORKSHOP IS NOW FULLY BOOKED *****

Free Repair Skills Workshop with Caroline O'Toole of 'Speak in Stitches' <https://www.speakinstitches.ie/>

Workshop will run over four Friday afternoons in October. Learn how to carry out repairs, fitting, hems, and alterations by hand and sewing machine in 4 weeks. No experience necessary!

Date: Friday afternoons, 4th-25th of October
Time: 2-4.30pm
Venue: Central Library, Lady Lane, Waterford
To Book: Call 051 849975 or email centrallibrary@waterfordcouncil.ie

Sewing machines and all materials will be supplied. Places are limited. If you have your own sewing machine and wish to bring that along you are most welcome to!

Bike Maintenance Basic workshop

Renew

BICYCLE REPAIR

Demonstration of the M check for bikes including:
Rear wheel, Spokes, Tyres, Saddle, Chain, Pedals, Stem, Headset
Check if there is any rocking or clicking in the headset, Brakes, Frame and Front wheel.

Wednesday 23rd October
Central Library
4:30pm - 6:30pm

FREE Event. All welcome.
No Booking required

EUROPE DIRECT
Lackanarrahan Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council



Climate Action

Business Pledge for a Cleaner Greener Waterford

Over 1,000 businesses made the pledge to create a greener Waterford before the October 18th deadline. These businesses have set out what they would like to do in the next year to become more sustainable. From hotels to mechanics and onto manufacturing, these businesses will get support over the next few from the Climate Team to make the actions they have set out a reality. Saving the businesses money and helping them to avail of grants and pitch their sustainability credentials to win business



Reusing and Repairing in October

October is national reuse month and many members of the public took advantage of the opportunity to improve their sewing skills and reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill. There were sewing classes in the libraries in Dungarvan and Waterford City and clothes swaps in SETU and in Lady Lane Library. Around the world the equivalent of one rubbish truck of clothes per second is disposed of, learning how to repair and keeping our clothes in circulation for much longer reduces that figure.





Going back to school on air quality

Four schools are currently participating in air quality monitoring programmes. Primary school children in St Stephens and Tramore Educate Together start monitoring the air quality in their area next week after designing a banner for their school and participating in workshops on how we can reduce air pollution. Students in Waterpark and De La Salle are also monitoring air quality. In partnership with local technology company trilateral they have mapped the air quality around their school and will work with their classmates to reduce particulates.

