

**DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH DHÚN GARBHÁN/LEASA MHÓIR  
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DUNGARVAN/LISMORE**

**TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL**

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT**

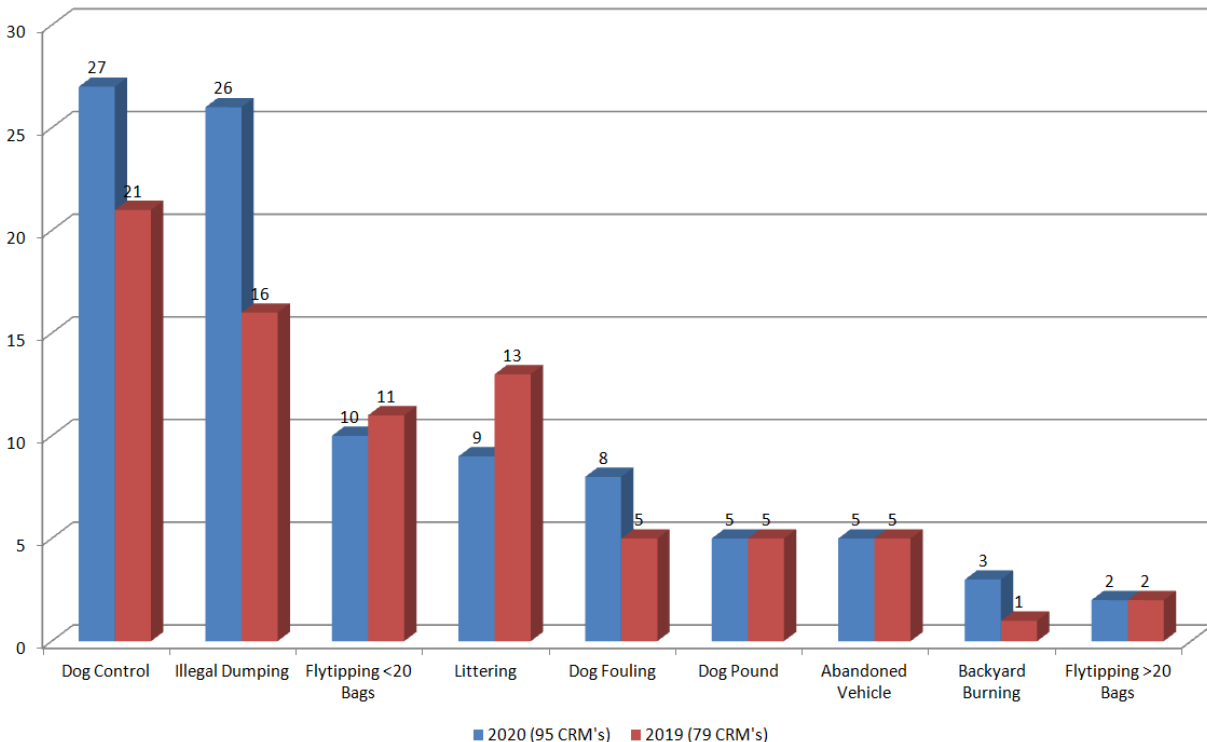
**MÁRTA 2020**

**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.

The following graph shows a comparison of the top ten categories of CRM cases recorded in the Dungarvan / Lismore area during January & February in the years 2019 & 2020. Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate complaints received and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where offences are detected. The Waterford City & County Councils Dog Wardens continue to investigate all control of dogs issue throughout the City & County.



## **Presentation & Cleansing**

### **Dungarvan:**

Presentation staff within Dungarvan have in recent weeks been undertaking a revamp of the Rose beds in front of the Castle, in recent years the existing roses which have been in place for a long time, have started to show their age and can no longer withstand fungal disease which can cause almost complete defoliation of bushes resulting in a weakened rose bush on which cane die-back and cankers become severe. Staff have recently removed the existing roses together with the soil from the rose bed and now have replaced this with new clean soil. Planting of the bed with some new varieties of rose will commence shortly. Grass cutting season is commencing with initial cutting being carried out to remove the longer winter growth. The humming of lawnmowers will become a more frequent sound in the coming weeks as the season develops.

## **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 21<sup>st</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> 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 through the offices of Waterford City and County Council in Waterford & Dungarvan. Schools and community groups are urged to first register their events with the Tree Council ([www.treecouncil.ie](http://www.treecouncil.ie)) and then contact Waterford City & Council to obtain saplings (*subject to availability*).

### **Green Schools Programme**

As part of Waterford City and County Council's support of the An Taisce's Green Flag programme for schools, work is ongoing with schools to provide advice and support them in their work. Renewal visits for the next flag and first time assessments are also underway and will continue until the deadline of 27th March. These renewal visits cover topics such as energy, water, biodiversity, etc. while the first time assessment addresses litter and waste.

### **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.

### **Talks on recycling/waste prevention**

Two talks about recycling/waste prevention were given in February, with another two planned for March and two for April. The groups to which talks are given range from active retirement groups and women's groups to scout groups, with group numbers varying between 10 – 70.

### **Tidy Towns**

Tidy Towns groups are working towards entering this year's competition. Waterford City & County Council have been providing information and advice on projects completed in their area for inclusion in applications.

### **Local Waste Prevention Grant**

This grant supports communities to take steps on waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local areas, and encourage partnership between local businesses, schools, charities and voluntary groups. Waterford City and County Council is offering community groups an opportunity this year to promote waste prevention, creating an opportunity to look at waste differently and to determine if we can handle our resources better and encourage a circular economy. Previous examples of funded projects include up-cycling community workshops creating sustainable products from waste, food waste prevention, repair/up-cycling events for Re-Use Month (October annually), bicycle repair workshops and projects that encourage the elimination of single use plastic within a community setting. The application form is available on our website [www.waterfordcouncil.ie](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie) or from the Environment Section, Waterford City and County Council, phone no.: 0761 10 20 20. The Grant Application Form should be completed and returned to the Environment Section for consideration by the closing date 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### **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](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie)