



Lines from the Environmental Education Forum

Vol. 3 Issue 3 SUMMER 2006

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FOUR PAGE SUPPLEMENT

YOUTH AND THE
ENVIRONMENT



ENVIRONMENT AFTER SCHOOL



The Youth Service sector of Northern Ireland plays a major role in supporting and encouraging young people to mature and reach their potential as valued individuals and responsible citizens.

The aim of this issue of LEEF is to explore ways in which the EEF's members and the Youth Service can work together to promote the education of children as environmentally aware individuals and empower them with the knowledge, skills and experience to lead sustainable lifestyles in the future.

Environmental Education Forum

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RECYCLED PAPER

SNJ Put Their Faith In Waste ?

Sustainable NI— Faith Waste Project



An exciting new project is under way, run by Sustainable Northern Ireland and funded by Belfast City Council through the Better Belfast scheme.

The **Faith Waste Project** is a 12 month programme, the aims of which are to:

1. Educate about and promote waste minimisation among Belfast's faith groups and encourage them to reduce their waste.
2. Raise awareness of the inter-relationships of the various environmental and social / economic aspects of re-use.
3. Establish linkages between the faith communities and groups involved in social projects to promote re-use (e.g. charity shops).
4. Encourage people to recognise that items which are no longer of use to them can have a productive use for others, at home or abroad.

We hope to achieve this by:

1. Contacting and networking with all major Faith Groups, working specifically with 20 Faith Communities within the Belfast City Council area.
2. Encouraging the concept of Reduce, Re-use, Recycle, within the groups, with the

aim of designing a waste programme tailored to their specific needs, which can be delivered to the faith community by a member of the group.

3. Organising field visits to the Dargan Road landfill site, Bryson House recycling centre, and a glass recycling plant.

4. Holding two workshops (April and August). The first was to raise awareness and provide information to representatives of each community, the second will highlight good practice.

5. Providing newsletters which will allow exchange of information, updates from each group and information on the Council's waste management programme and the results of a Competition.

6. Facilitating a conference which will act as a further networking event and to draw up proposals for further development.

Diversity of the Groups:

The aim of this project is to promote waste minimisation among the city's groups who hold differing beliefs, whether in terms of faith or philosophy. We seek to involve a broad range of communities covering the Belfast Council area. Our goal is to raise awareness of the issues amongst the various participating groups as to the social and economic aspects of waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

We will endeavour to treat all groups with equity and in a way that accepts difference.

The pilot project has a wide variety of groups connected only by their having a belief system and a desire to care for a world with limited resources. We have included schemes which cut across social and economic barriers, cross-community projects, disability groups, ethnic bodies, and various ages from children to students and to older generations. The work includes schemes to integrate vulnerable persons back into society through dealing with waste materials, which will hopefully take root in the blossoming social economy sector; a specific primary schools package; and by looking at a comprehensive approach of stakeholders to waste issues in the University area. The scale of work varies from the actions of a few individuals to participating in province-wide events.



Volunteers collecting litter in Belfast. Photograph courtesy of the Church of Scientology

To find out more about the Faith Waste Project please contact:

Terry Morrison/Angela McLaughlin
Sustainable Northern Ireland
89 Loopland Drive
Belfast
BT6 9DW
Tel: 028 9050 7850
Fax: 028 9094 2151
Email: angela@sustainableni.org

EEF News

Building a Forum for the Future!

The EEF has in recent months been striving to build on the initial success and interest generated by its re-launch at the January conference.

A variety of projects have been completed and many more are on-going. A new website is now online (www.eefni.org.uk), and two successful issues of the LEEF newsletter have been sent to every school in the country, (one being on the Waste Free Classroom, the other being on Coasts in the Curriculum). As well as this a new leaflet and logo have been designed and are now in general use, the Forum meetings have been well attended by members and an increasing membership base has led to a increase in activity and interest surrounding the Forum and its work.

It is hoped that this good start and initial progress will be strengthened by this issue of LEEF which will be targeted at and distributed to many of the Youth Service sector groups in Northern Ireland, as well as this year's Local and Global environment days, the new environmental education resource document and the Autumn conference at the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Oxford Island on 11th October.



Local & Global Environment Days

Planning for this Autumn's Local & Global environment days is well under way. These days have been a great success in the past in affording an opportunity for trainee teachers to come into contact with many of the organisations carrying out environmental education in Northern Ireland, and in the process allowing them to fully appreciate the importance of teaching environmental and sustainable development issues in the classroom across a range of curriculum subjects.

The good news is that both Stranmillis University College and the University of Ulster at Coleraine have agreed to set aside time in their busy curriculums to facilitate an L&G day during the next academic year. This means that one of the Forum's main targets of affording an opportunity to every trainee teacher passing through the University system in Northern Ireland to experience one of these days by 2007 is well on its way to being met.

Local & Global Days Resource Document

With the continuing success of the L&G days in mind **ALL** members are reminded that the resource document given to every trainee teacher is being updated. Any groups who have an education programme and who wish to be included in this resource document should send Andy updates on their current programmes, contact details and good quality images to go with their individual entry.

Local & Global Days 2006/2007 Dates

Thursday 19 October

St Mary's College year four day
9.30am - 3.30pm — Key Stage
1&2 student teachers

Friday 3 November

Queen's University day
9.00am—4.00pm— Key Stage
3&4 student teachers

October/ November 2006 Exact Dates to be arranged

Stranmillis University College
day. Key Stage 1&2 student
teachers

Mid January 2007 (t.b.c)

University of Ulster, Coleraine
day. Key Stage 3&4 student
teachers

Thursday 8 March 2007

University of Ulster, Coleraine
day 10.00am - 4.00pm. Key
Stage 1&2 student teachers

LEEF 4.1— Sept 2006

The next issue of LEEF (4.1), is due out in September 2006.

As you already know, LEEF is sent to a named teacher contact in every school in Northern Ireland. This issue will be the first of the new school year and will be a great opportunity to tell the teachers about your education programmes and how they link in with all areas of the current curriculum. If you have any members news, events or publications that you would like included please send to Andy at the usual e-mail address:

eef@nienvironmentlink.org

Environmental Education News

BBC Breathing Places Taking Off

Breathing Places is a three year campaign run by the BBC and its conservation partners, aiming to transform 50,000 local green places across the UK, making them better for wildlife and people. The main aim is to inspire individuals to create and care for their local green places by helping with already existing initiatives or by starting their own project.

The BBC is working with more than fifty conservation organisations on its Springwatch Survey and Breathing Places campaign. These include BTCV, BTO, English Nature, RSPB, The Natural History Museum, The Wildlife Trusts, The Woodland Trust and Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust.

The campaign itself will run from 2006 – 2009 and the projects will be integrated into the BBC schedule at a local and national level through programmes such as Spring watch, Animal Arc, Animal Rescue, Really Wild Show and the Nature of Britain.

A successful Flagship event took place on 3rd & 4th June at Lough Neagh Discovery Centre Oxford Island. Activities at the event included a bicycle-powered smoothie making machine, the Really Rubbish Orchestra, children's workshops and carnival, a puppet show promoting biodiversity and *Honey I Shrunk the Kids* green screen fun, as well as a variety of workshops including

'Transform your garden in 20 minutes' and 'Planting flowers to attract wildlife'.

The project now has an extensive database of more than 1,000 Breathing Place events and activities available at bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces

For further information on Breathing Places on one of the many projects taking off across the country please contact:

Laura Francis, Breathing Places Event Producer
BBC NI
Broadcasting House,
Ormeau Avenue,
Belfast
BT2 8HQ
Tel 9033 8207
laura.francis@bbc.co.uk

Environmental Youth Speak Awards 2006

The Annual Environmental Youth Speak took place at Belfast City Hall on 30th May. Since its inception in 1997 as a competition for local pupils from Ards, Down and North Down Council areas, the awards have developed into an opportunity for school pupils all over Northern Ireland.

The aim of the awards, however, remains the same, to allow young people to speak their minds on environmental issues and to give them the opportunity to research and address environmental issues, thus encouraging environmental awareness amongst young people. The competition is organised by Northern Ireland's three regional waste management

groups (North West, Southern and ARC21 Eastern Region), in co-operation with the Environment and Heritage Service, and involves primary 6 & 7 and year 8 & 9 pupils talking on a variety of themes. This years competition saw the Junior (primary) Section research and present the topic 'Wake up to Waste - Reduce Reuse Recycle', whilst the Senior (secondary) Section had to talk on 'Waste Minimisation in YOUR home'.

The competition itself was very well attended and hard fought between all the speakers. The overall winners of each section were:

SWaMP Region

Junior:

Gavin Rodgers
Derrygonnelly Primary School,
Fermanagh

Senior:

Rachel Flynn
Sacred Heart Grammar School,
Newry **(Overall winner)**

ARC21 Region

Junior:

Eva Richards
Broughshane Primary School,
Ballymena **(Overall winner)**

Senior:

Brendan McGlade
La Salle Boys School, Belfast

North West Region

Junior:

Seón Simpson
Bushvalley
Primary School, Stranocum

Senior:

Rachel Wilson
Coleraine High School.
Coleraine

Members' News

Young people and their environment

The "Young Environmentalist Awards" is an all-Ireland annual environmental awards programme for young people, run by ECO-UNESCO, and supported by Environment and Heritage Service in Northern Ireland. The programme is carried out by groups of young people between the ages of 12 and 18 who are interested in environmental issues.

By getting involved in the Awards young people can make a positive contribution to their environment and community. The programme promotes environmental awareness, personal development and social responsibility, as well as encouraging participatory action and active citizenship. The awards allow participants to develop organisation and communication skills, while gaining knowledge on a range of environmental issues. They also learn to work with others, develop confidence, and cultivate leadership qualities.

Since the awards began in 1999 many youth groups taking part in the programme have devised, developed and carried out projects. The awards entail an easy to follow six-step programme where you form a team, decide on a topic, decide on a plan, decide on the central action, carry out the action and raise awareness in communities and schools through contacts with local authorities and local media.

Ronanstown Youth Service – Charlie the Recycled Man

This group decided to highlight

the problem of litter in their area by encouraging people to "reduce, reuse, recycle". Their investigations revealed that every green space in the area was littered to some extent and that there were few public bins. The group carried out a litter collection and then created a life-sized figure made of litter, a recycled man, Charlie. With the figure ready to go on display, the team wrote an article for a local newsletter in which they called attention to the problem of litter in their area and made everyone aware of how they can all contribute either to the problem or its solution.

Cabra Youth Service - Love the Environment

The aim of the Cabra Youth Service project was to make the area more environmentally friendly. After an initial talk from ECO-UNESCO they set up their own composting/vermiculture bin. To make their overall environment more appealing and environmentally friendly they carried out some planting, coupling it with their artistic talents by painting their plant pots. They also started a recycling scheme in the Youth Service and made awareness raising posters. An Open Day was also held to help raise awareness of their activities and ways in which everyone can help the environment.

For further information on the Young Environmentalist Awards please visit the following website: www.ecounesco.ie or contact Elaine Nevin, ECO-UNESCO, 26 Clare St., Dublin 2 tel: 01 6625491 or email: ecounesco@eircom.net or yea@ecounesco.ie

Scouts put their Trust in Woodlands

Making the environment inspiring and fun for people of all ages is a shared aim of both The Scout Association and the Woodland Trust. This year the two organisations are asking Scouts to help in a UK-wide study of the timing of natural seasonal events (known as phenology) – such as the fall of leaves in autumn. These records will form part of the UK Phenology Network's research to assess the rate of climate change in the UK. Climate change is the greatest threat to ancient woodland. Nature Detectives is the junior version of the project, and provides online resources for children and youth groups to learn about everything from the changing seasons, plant and animal species to climate change and its impact on our environment. Please visit www.naturedetectives.org.uk for more information.

In 2007 The Scout Association and the Woodland Trust are continuing their partnership to plant thousands of trees as part of the Trust's Tree For All campaign, which aims to plant 12 million in all. This will provide a lasting legacy for Scouting's Centenary year. In 2007 Scouting will celebrate its Centenary Celebration with a programme of events and activities in the UK and worldwide. The world will come to the UK for the 21st World Scout Jamboree, the highlight of the World Scouting calendar. For more information visit www.scouting2007.org.uk



Members' News

Getting to Grips with a Sticky Problem!

Currently Belfast City Council spends £60,000 a year on gum removal, but could spend ten times that and still not crack the problem. To try and tackle the problem Belfast City Council have handed out 5,000 gum pouches to the public as an alternative to dropping gum on the street and reminding people they will face a £50 fine if they do so. Forty new gum bins have also been installed in the city centre and a chewing gum poster campaign is being launched as part of the latest drive to raise awareness and reduce the amount of litter on Belfast streets.

Get your free gum pouch here by emailing:
catcleansingservices@belfastcity.gov.uk



Anti-litter workshops

Belfast City Council's Cleansing Services' Community Awareness team offer a range of anti-litter workshops to schools and after school groups. The aim of this is to encourage children and young adults to take an active role in improving their local environment by not dropping litter.

The anti-litter workshops can be tailored to suit the requirements of your group

and are adaptable to any age group from five years upwards. They include a brief interactive talk about litter followed by fun activities to reinforce the anti-litter message. A variety of activities are available, including badge and poster making, litter relay races and puzzle sheets.

To find out more about the anti-litter campaign or to book a free anti-litter workshop for your group please contact Kirsty Torney on 028 9032 0202 extension 5379 or via email:
torneyk@belfastcity.gov.uk

T.A.C.T Wildlife Centre in the Community

For many years the T.A.C.T Wildlife Centre has been working with the Northern Ireland Youth Service sector, providing talks and visits to groups and organisations interested in learning about wildlife conservation and caring for animals. The Centre itself is based in Crumlin and is a voluntarily run charity that cares for and rehabilitates sick and injured wild birds and mammals, attempting to release as many back to the wild as possible.

The Trust has an extensive education programme both in schools and with after schools groups and is actively involved in a wide range of projects encouraging community participation in wildlife issues.

T.A.C.T can visit your group for an interactive and highly stimulating hands-on experience with live animals, and works with a range of organisations such as Scouts,



Members of a Brownies group get hands-on with an Eagle Owl.

Girls Brigades, Boys Brigades, Youth Clubs, Summer Schemes, Mother's Unions, Community and Development Associations, Chest, Heart and Stroke groups and Playgroups.

T.A.C.T's work complements the role of many voluntary and statutory agencies, supporting community workers in raising environmental awareness in their area and promoting mutual understanding and encouraging cultural diversity.

T.A.C.T education staff are available to visit groups off-site as well as facilitating on-site visits to the Centre itself. If you would like to know more about the work of T.A.C.T and the services that it provides to community groups please contact:

Debbie Nelson
Education work leader
Tel: (028) 9445 9739
E-Mail:
debbie_tacteducation@yahoo.co.uk



Members' News

ECOS Centre - Serious Summer Fun!

Are you a teacher looking for a summer scheme activity after a year of hard work in the classroom? Maybe you're a youth leader planning a fun day out to end your winter programme. Well, why not make life easy for yourself this summer and bring your group along for a fantastic day out at the ECOS Centre in Ballymena, where a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities have been designed to entertain kids of all age groups, whatever the weather!!



Enjoying the Summer sun at ECOS!

Groups of 15 or more are invited to choose from a wide range of activities including Beetle Drives, Gruesome Grass Heads, Badge Making, Pond Dipping, Nature Walks, Bird Watching, Treasure Hunt, Duck Feeding, Litter Relay and Don't Waste My Time! quiz game. In addition, **FREE** self-catering facilities are available.

Contact us on our Bookings Hotline (028) 2566 4404 and make your booking now! Let us make your life easier this summer. For more information on activities at ecos click onto www.ecoscentre.com

RSPB Awards for Young People.

This RSPB award scheme for young people is all about finding out about wildlife, doing practical things to help and telling other people. Lots of things threaten our wildlife, but there are things you can do to help. This award scheme shows you how. It's easy to take part and achieve the awards, either as an individual or a group. There's a bronze award, a silver award and a gold award and the activities you can do to achieve them are divided up into four sections:

- Finding out what's there
- Helping wildlife
- Being environmentally friendly
- Spreading the word

There are 28 tasks in the award scheme and you get one point for each with extra points for various other activities. To find out more visit the following website address: www.rspb.org.uk/youth and click on 'make and do'.

Hot News! - Youth making a difference!

RSPB are meeting climate change head on and encouraging young people to take part in a brand new scheme called The Climate Action Awards. These awards have been produced as part of the RSPB's contribution to the Stop Climate Chaos campaign.

Anyone can take part and it's free! There is a booklet available which is full of fun ideas for helping to save the planet. Participants need to do

six out of eleven activities. Tell us which ones they did, and we will send them some stickers and a certificate.

If you know someone who would like to take part, e-mail explorers@rspb.org.uk with their name and address and we will send them a free copy.

WILDLIFE ACTION!

Planning to undertake an environmental project with your group, but you just don't know where to start?. For help and advice contact the Ulster Wildlife Trust who have developed a 'Wildlife Action' programme. This is an environmental citizenship programme for young people.

If we have a UWT youth officer in your area they could come out to help and assist you in a project. If not, you can receive a 'Wildlife Action' manual which is an A4 ring binder containing a progressive series of games and activities for use with young people. The eight stages of the manual begin with environmental ice-breakers and moves through teamwork games, communication skills, making rules, community importance and exploring the environment. The final stage culminates with a Project where the group must choose something themselves which they have to plan, budget and implement. The 'Wildlife Action' programme was developed through funding from the Youth Council and Environment and Heritage Service. For more information contact: Cathy McCann: 028 4483 0282 or email: cathy.mccann@ulsterwildlifetrust.org

Members' News

COME AND CELEBRATE WOODLAND WITH A PICNIC IN THE WOOD

The Woodland Trust's series of events to inspire children about their local woodland culminates with family fun and games in the Trust's woods over the summer period. The public are invited to join the youngsters, their families and friends at a series of 10 summer evening picnics, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, throughout July and August and to enjoy the great outdoors themselves.

tree planting and then spring Nature Detective's forays into the woods. The events, carried out in partnership with the Ulster Wildlife Trust, gave young people the chance to witness woodland and the precious wildlife it supports. Enthusiastic support from the teachers involved helped make the year a great success. Teachers and their pupils can now follow up on the Nature Detectives' website at www.naturedetectives.org.uk

As trained detectives they can now register and record their

Discovering Wetlands at Ballyronan Marina

Ulster Wildlife Trust programmes are now available at Ballyronan Marina making us more accessible to groups in Derry, Antrim, Cookstown and Magherafelt areas. Youth groups can visit the site to gain experience with bird watching, woodland games, and learning about wildlife.

Also, thanks to our funders Lough Neagh Strategic Partnership Fund and Heritage Lottery Fund, we can offer groups free advice and support for projects they would like to carry out in their local area, plus a refund of 50% of their transport costs to Ballyronan.

Adults: Free
Young people: £1

For more information contact Eileen on 07725703361 or email:

eileen.young@ulsterwildlife.org
ulsterwildlife.org

This project is part financed by the European Union through the Lough Neagh Strategic Fund and Heritage Lottery Fund, Young Roots Fund.

<u>Woodland Trust Woods</u>	
July	
Friday 7th	Woodland Walkway, Clarawood, East Belfast
Friday 14th	Bog Meadows (UWT site) West Belfast
Friday 21st	Ligoniel Wood, North Belfast
Friday 28th	Old Warren Wood, Lisburn
August	
Tuesday 1st	Seymour Hill, Dunmurry, Lisburn
Friday 4th	Woodland View, Bowtown, Newtownards
Tuesday 8th	Corrog Wood, Portaferry, Ards Peninsula
Tuesday 15th	Oakfield Glen, Carrickfergus
Tuesday 22nd	Monkstown Wood, Newtownabbey

Entertainment and light refreshments, subject to availability, will be provided, thanks to funding support from Better Belfast Landfill Tax Credit Scheme and EHS. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Outdoor clothes and footwear suitable for taking part in fun games and activities should be worn. Please note that there are no toilet facilities in the woods!

The year-long series of related events tracked the seasons from autumn; through winter

local nature evidence which will build into a bigger picture of our changing seasons and climate.

So grab a picnic, bring a rug or seat, and come and join us at one of the events listed above.

For further details please contact either:

Cathy McCann
Ulster Wildlife Trust
028 4483 0282

or
Rosanna Ballantine
Woodland Trust
028 9127 5787





Diary Dates

EEF Events & Meetings

Tuesday 5 September 3 pm
Forum Meeting
Rowallene House, Saintfield

Wednesday 20 September 3pm
Management Meeting
River House, Belfast

Wednesday 11 October 9.30am
Autumn Conference
Lough Neagh Discovery Centre,
Oxford Island, Craigavon

Members Events

JULY 2006



Every Saturday in July—Portmore
Lough reserve,
**A guided walk around the
reserve, with pond-dipping on
the meadow between 2-4pm**
RSPB Event. Starts at 11.30am
Telephone: (028) 9049 1547

Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 July
**Animal Magic, WWT, Castle
Espie**
10.30am to 5.30pm
Telephone: (028) 9187 4146

Tuesday 4 July
'A Fortunate Series of Events'
Discover the amazing story of
Slievenacloy nature reserve. 2pm.
Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Wednesday 5 July
Over the Hill—Belfast Council
A guided tour of Cave Hill Country
Park. 10.30am to 2.30pm.
Telephone: (028) 9066 2259

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 July
Birds of Prey at Belfast Zoo
10am—4pm
Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Sunday 9 July
Butterfly and Damselfly Walk
A walk through Colin Glen Forest
Park. 11am—4pm
Telephone: (028) 9061 4115

Sunday 16 July
National Trust—Holiday Dander
Take a walk around the pathways
of Divis Mountain.
Telephone: (028) 9061 4115

Monday 17 July
**Pond Dip at Sir Thomas & Lady
Dixon Park. 2 sessions, 2&3pm**
Organised by Lagan Valley
Regional Park & Belfast Council
Telephone: (028) 9049 1922

Monday 17 to Friday 21 July
**Native Species Week organised
by Belfast Zoo and partners**
All day event
Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 22 July
Dunluce Summer Fair—EHS
Family fun day with medieval fair
Telephone: (028) 2073 1938

Saturday 22 July
**Wildflowertastic at Lagan
Valley Meadows Nature
Reserve 11am**
Come along for a guided walk and
find out more about flowers
Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 July
Biodiversity Fair at Belfast Zoo
Come along and see what the Zoo
are doing for our native wildlife
Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 July
Aren't birds brilliant! - RSPB
Come along and wave goodbye to
the Puffins at the Westlight
viewpoint on Rathlin Island as they
get ready for their annual leaving
Telephone: (028) 9049 1547

Saturday 29 July
Go Batty at Delamont Park
Family fun at this bat evening 8pm.
Organised by UWT & NI Bat Group
Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Saturday 29 July
Walk and Picnic on Slievenacloy

Pack a hamper and enjoy a
leisurely stroll around the reserve.
Organised by Belfast Hills
Partnership—11am—2pm
Telephone: (028) 9060 3466

Sunday 30 July
**International Bog Day at
Peatlands Park, 12noon—5pm**
Celebrate Ireland's Bogs with a
range of activities and displays
Telephone: (028) 3885 1102

Saturday 29 July
Go Batty at Delamont Park
Family fun at this bat evening 8pm.
UWT & NI Bat Group Event
Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

AUGUST 2006



Tuesday 1—Thursday 31 August
**Feathertastic Trail at WWT
Castle Espie—All day event**
A chance to explore the reserve
with this self guided trail
Tel: (028) 9187 4146

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 August
Family Fun Days at Belfast Zoo
Including face painting, bouncy
castles and magic shows
Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 5 August
Castle Archdale Craft Fair
EHS Event, 11am—4pm
Telephone: (028) 6862 1588

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 August
Family Fun Days at Belfast Zoo
Including face painting, bouncy
castles and magic shows
Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 August
**Pond Dipping at WWT Castle
Espie**
Drop in between 2pm and 4pm to
find out what lives in the ponds at
the reserve
Telephone: (028) 9187 4146

Diary Dates

Monday 7 to Friday 11 August

Environment Week

Events for members of the local and wider community around Colin Glen Forest Park. 11am—2pm

Telephone: (028) 9061 4115

Wednesday 9 & Sunday 13 August

Bog Meadows Guided Walks

Come to take a guided walk of the reserve and learn about its history, wildlife and future plans.

Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Saturday 12 & August

Dundrum Castle Summer Fair

EHS Event—great family day out

Telephone: (028) 9043 4320

Saturday 12 August

Butterfly and Damselfly Walk at Lagan Valley Meadow Reserve

Join UWT staff on as they enter the world of these fascinating little creatures. 11am—1pm

Telephone: (028) 9049 1922

Sunday 13 August

Marine Day at Portrush

Countryside Centre 12—6pm

A celebration of Marine Week in conjunction with the Ulster Wildlife Trust, with rock pooling and whale and dolphin watching.

Telephone: (028) 7082 3600

Saturday 19— Monday 28 August

Rhino Week at Belfast Zoo

In support of the EAZA campaign to save Rhinos from extinction.

Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 19 August

Countryside Experience at Roe Valley Country Park. 12—5pm

Stalls and organic produce, guided walks and birds of prey. EHS Event

Telephone: (028) 7772 2074

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 August

Exotic Creatures at Castle Espie Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

An all afternoon display of exotic animals, including spiders, insects, scorpions, lizards, frogs and toads.

Telephone: (028) 9187 4146

Saturday 19 August

Scrago—The Scraggy Hill

Take a ramble around Scrago and learn more about its history 2-4pm

Telephone: (028) 9181 1491

Wednesday 23 & Wednesday 30 August

Castle Archdale Bat Evenings

An illustrated talk on our native bats followed by a visit to a local roost—8pm—10pm

Telephone: (028) 6862 1588

Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 August

Birds of Prey at Belfast Zoo

Colin Urwin presents many different types of Hawk, Owl and Eagle. 10am—4pm

Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

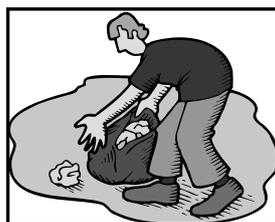
Thursday 31 August

Birdwatch Morning at Castle Espie

Start at 10.30am

Telephone: (028) 9187 4146

SEPTEMBER 2006



Friday 8 September

Night Walk at Lagan Meadow

Chance to meet our nocturnal neighbours—9.30pm

Telephone: (028) 9049 1922

Saturday 9 September

Tree Trek through Moreland's Meadows and Belvoir Forest.

Organised by Lagan Valley Regional Park and the Forest of Belfast. 11am

Telephone: (028) 9049 1922

Saturday 9 / Sunday 10 September

European Heritage Open Days

Chance to visit some of Northern Ireland's most interesting buildings

Telephone: (028) 9054 3022

Sunday 10 September

Grandparents Day at Belfast Zoo

Bring your grandparents along for a special thank you day

Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 16 September

Farm Day at Belfast Zoo

A day at the farm. Come along and join in the activities.

Telephone: (028) 9077 6277

Saturday 16 September

Beach Clean at Kilkeel—12-2pm

A talk on the effects of waste on marine life followed by a survey and cleanup as part of the 'Beachwatch' campaign. UWT Event

Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Sunday 17 September

Redburn Pack Horse Trek at Redburn Country Park—12-6pm

A guided walk through the park to the top of the hill. EHS Event

Telephone: (028) 9185 3621

Sunday 17 September

Beach Clean at Ballyhorgan Bay

Come and help our marine environment by taking part in this cleanup as part of the 'Beachwatch' campaign. UWT Event—12-2pm

Telephone: (028) 4483 0282

Sunday 17 September

Dinosaurs of Colin Glen. 11am

An exploration into the geology of the park and a search for fossils. Organised by the Colin Glen Trust

Telephone: (028) 9061 4115

Sunday 24 September

The Good Life at Quoile

Countryside Centre—2pm—5pm

Aspects of country smallholding to inspire the beginner. EHS Event

Telephone: (028) 4461 5520

Saturday 30 September

Binevenagh Hill Walk—EHS

A walk in the countryside explaining the cliff geology, flora and fauna of the reserve. 2-5pm

Telephone: (028) 7776 7532



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REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE!



Resources and Training

CVNI Training Courses

Conservation Volunteers is running a variety of training courses to help anyone who wants to gain the skills and knowledge to improve the environment. Training is available in a wide range of subjects including practical skills, habitat management, people management and wider environmental knowledge. There are also opportunities to gain accreditation through NVQ's / other forms of training.

For further information please visit the CVNI website at www.cvni.org/training

CENI Courses

Community Evaluation Northern Ireland (CENI), are running a series of one day introductory training courses throughout 2006. They include the following:

- Introducing Self-evaluation
- Getting the most from External Evaluation
- Introducing Outcomes

Cost: £85 per person for community & voluntary organisations, £150 per person for statutory organisations. ILM award costs an additional £40 per person.

Venue: All courses will be held at CENI premises: Floor 1, Block 5, Jennymount Business Park, North Derby St, Belfast.

Times: courses run from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Further details and prices can be obtained from the CENI website at www.ceni.org

Environmental Trainers Network

The Environmental Trainers Network (ETN) was established in 1991 as a network of trainers and managers in environmental organisations. Its activities are overseen by a Steering Group drawn from Black Environment Network, BTCV and RSPB.

The ETN training programme has been running since 1994, and is aimed at encouraging contact and networking amongst participants and their organisations as well as providing quality training at reasonable cost to voluntary, public and statutory organisations.

There are a wide range of training courses available in the 2006/07 programme. This include aspects of:

Working with Communities
Regeneration & Sustainability
Promoting Diversity
Communication and Interpretation
Fundraising and Income Generation
Supervision and Safety
Youth and Education
Training and Personal Effectiveness

Course Fees for 1 day events:

Voluntary Orgs: £105 + VAT
Statutory Orgs: £160 + VAT

For further information and a full list of courses please contact ETN at this address:

Environmental Trainers Network, c/o BTCV
Radio House
Aston Road North

Birmingham
B6 4DA
Tel: (0121) 359 2113
Fax: (0121) 359 2114
E-Mail: ETN@btcv.org.uk

Book Online at:
<http://shop.btcv.org.uk/etn>

Wheely Good Training and Development

The Wheel has a series of programmes to provide much needed funding and support for training and development in the voluntary and community sector.

Training Links: a training networks programme.

This programme will provide an opportunity for a number of organisations, working together in a training network, to access training grants of up to €50,000 per network.

Stronger Leaders: a leadership development programme.

This programme will provide an opportunity for a number of paid leaders within the sector to avail of a cutting-edge leadership development programme, tailored for the sector. The true cost of this programme per participant is €6,500. However, due to substantial funding, the actual cost per participant is only €1,700.

Programme information and application packs are available from www.wheel.ie or from Elizabeth Bolger, email: elizabeth@wheel.ie or Tel: 00 353 1 454 8727.

Resources and Training

Global Education Resources For Use

The Centre for Global Education has an extensive collection of resources such as teaching packs, videos, DVDs, CD ROMs, books and periodicals - available to loan to members. Many of these resources address sustainable development issues that are central to the work of many EEF members. They explore the relationship between human development and the natural environment and how this interaction can diminish natural resources and traditional, sustainable lifestyles. A resource catalogue of new teaching resources is available on-line and in hard copy and a database of books is available in the Centre's resource base. For further information on our resources and membership rates contact: Information Officer (028) 9024 1879 or e-mail info@centreforgloboaleducation.com

ENFO Resources

ENFO is a public service organisation based in Dublin which provides easy access to wide-ranging information on the environment. It was established in 1990 by the Dept. of the Environment Heritage and Local Govt.

ENFO collects and maintains up-to-date information on all aspects of the environment and sustainable development and makes it readily available to anybody who wants it. ENFO services include:

- A range of information leaflets/fact sheets/posters on a wide variety of environmental topics
- Query answering service, by post, phone, or e-mail
- Reference Library with books, journals, reports, microfiche, computer databases.

- Video lending for schools and environment groups
- Teaching resource pack lending for teachers.
- Exhibitions and exhibition lending for any interested groups.
- Group visits, talks and activity trail for visiting schools and other groups of all ages - assistance will be provided to meet the requirements of individual groups. Prior booking for groups is recommended.

For further details please contact ENFO offices at the following address:

17 St. Andrew Street,
Dublin 2, Ireland.
Tel: + 353 1 888 2001
Fax. No. + 353 1 888 3946
E-mail info@enfo.ie

The EEF is supported by



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What is the Environmental Education Forum?

The Environmental Education Forum is a networking organisation that promotes a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of environmental education in Northern Ireland. Members include representatives of central and local government, the voluntary sector and educationalists.

What are the aims of the Forum?

The Forum itself was established in 1995 with the aim of enhancing the profile of environmental education in the Curriculum. It aims to promote the role of environmental education in the delivery of many core and non-core Curriculum subjects, encourage partnership, improve co-

operation, exchange information, avoid overlaps in provision and to promote greater interaction among all those involved in environmental education and education for sustainable development.

How can I join the Forum?

Membership of the Forum is open to organisations and individuals interested in environmental education. Environment and Heritage Service funds the core administrative costs of the Forum, but contribution is levied from members to cover the direct costs of running the Forum. Annual membership fees are based on a 'band' system depending on organisational status and the number of people benefiting from the Forum's activities within that organisation