

# Riverwood Residents Biodiversity Group Resource Document

## Useful Resources:

**National Biodiversity Data Centre:** <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/>

One stop shop for everything to do with Irish species, Invasive species, All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, useful pollinator guides and Community Group resources and Guides, submitting biodiversity records etc.

**National Biodiversity Data Centre All Ireland Pollinator Plan Resources:**

[https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Local-Communities\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-2018-WEB.pdf](https://pollinators.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Local-Communities_actions-to-help-pollinators-2018-WEB.pdf)

## Biodiversity Action Plans:

Provide useful list of flora and fauna for that area and often map protected sites, nature reserves etc.

- [https://www.wicklow.ie/Portals/0/Documents/Arts%20Heritage%20&%20Archives/Heritage/Natural%20Heritage/Biodiversity%20in%20Wicklow/Biodiversity%20Plan/County\\_Wicklow\\_Biodiversity\\_Plan\\_2010-15.pdf](https://www.wicklow.ie/Portals/0/Documents/Arts%20Heritage%20&%20Archives/Heritage/Natural%20Heritage/Biodiversity%20in%20Wicklow/Biodiversity%20Plan/County_Wicklow_Biodiversity_Plan_2010-15.pdf)E.g. County Wicklow Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015

## Irish Wildlife Trust ([www.iwt.ie](http://www.iwt.ie)):

- 'Irish Wildlife' Magazine sent to you when you join.
- <https://iwt.ie/biodiversity-awards/>: Awards to celebrate work of individuals or groups.

## Wildlife Assistance and Rehabilitation:

- <http://www.irishwildlifematters.ie/animals/fox.html> (What to do if you find an injured wild animal)
- <http://wri.ie/wildlife-course/index.html> (Wildlife Rehabilitation: Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland. Run 2 day Courses: Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation)

## Bat Conservation Ireland ([www.batconservationireland.org](http://www.batconservationireland.org)):

Lots of useful information about Ireland's bats, echolocation, publications etc.

- <https://www.batconservationireland.org/what-we-do/publications>  
Useful publications for Tidy Towns and general conservation measures for bats e.g. Bat Conservation Ireland; 2014; Bats in Buildings, Guidance Notes for planners, engineers, architects and developers.  
[https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/BCIrelandGuidelines\\_Building.pdf](https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/BCIrelandGuidelines_Building.pdf)

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### Bat sound recordings:

Leisler's Bat recorded at 25KHz. :

[https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Leislars\\_25kHz.wav](https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Leislars_25kHz.wav)

Soprano Pipistrelle Bat recorded at 55KHz:

[https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SopranoPip\\_55kHz.wav](https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SopranoPip_55kHz.wav)

Daubenton's Bat recorded at 45KHz:

[https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SopranoPip\\_55kHz.wav](https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SopranoPip_55kHz.wav)

Bats and Tidy Towns Projects: [https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/BCirelandGuidelines\\_TidyTowns.pdf](https://www.batconservationireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/BCirelandGuidelines_TidyTowns.pdf)

### Make your own batbox:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/buildabatbox/>

### BirdWatch Ireland ([www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)):

Great resource for bird information. Provides news regarding latest bird sightings, nest boxes, what to expect to see, how to get involved, birdwatching, local events, publications etc.

### Barn Owl Trust nice barn owl video :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ohqEquNnzfU>

### Swift Conservation Ireland (<http://www.swiftconservation.ie/>):

All information on Swifts, the Swift Bird Survey, how to build a nest box, videos etc.

### BirdWatch Ireland Saving Swifts Booklet:

[https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/10/Saving-Swifts-Guide\\_pdf.pdf](https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2019/10/Saving-Swifts-Guide_pdf.pdf)

### BirdWatch Ireland Barn owl booklet:

<https://birdwatchireland.ie/app/uploads/2021/01/Barn-Owl-information-and-conservation-advice-booklet-For-Web.pdf>

### Make your own bird nestbox:

<https://birdwatchireland.ie/irelands-birds-birdwatch-ireland/garden-birds/nestboxes/>

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BirdWatch Ireland. 2021. *Wildlife in Buildings; linking our built and natural heritage*. Kerry Co. Co., Donegal Co. Co, DoHLGH.

New publication showing what species use the buildings around us and how to survey for them and mitigate against any damage to these species.

Part 1: [AIPP-Working-Together-for-Biodiversity-2015-2020-WEB.pdf \(pollinators.ie\)](#) and

Part 2: [Wildlife-in-Buildings ENG LR Part2.pdf \(birdwatchireland.ie\)](#)

**The Heritage Council publications:**

<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/publications/natural-heritage-biodiversity>

Very useful Guides for General Public. Click on *Category* and select *Biodiversity and Natural History* e.g. :

- Conserving Hedgerows (2016)
- Conserving Bats (2004)
- Birds, bats, buildings and you (2009)
- Ireland's Coastline seaweed (2008)
- Conserving and enhancing wildlife in towns and villages; a guide for local Community Groups (2005)
- 'Working with biodiversity; the law and you':  
[https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/content/files/working\\_with\\_biodiversity\\_law\\_you\\_2009\\_4mb.pdf](https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/content/files/working_with_biodiversity_law_you_2009_4mb.pdf)

**ENFO:** <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/>

ENFO is now not in existence. It was the public information resource for all things Nature and sustainability. However, the website is still there and has a potentially useful catalogue of e-books per subject and county.

**NoticeNature:** <http://www.noticenature.ie/Publications.html>

Notice Nature is the public education initiative of The Department of the Environment. The website has really useful pdf. downloads on species, pollinators, habitats and Best Practice Guidelines.

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### Wildlife Gardening:

Browne, Juanita. 2020. Gardening for biodiversity:  
<https://www.meath.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2020-06/Garden%20Wildlife%20Booklet.pdf>

Gardening for biodiversity associated videos:  
<https://www.heritageweek.ie/projects/gardening-for-biodiversity>

National Biodiversity Data Centre. 2021. *Working together for biodiversity. AIPP-Working-Together-for-Biodiversity-2015-2020-WEB.pdf* ([pollinators.ie](http://pollinators.ie))  
Lovely stories of successful local Pollinator projects from different sectors across Ireland from the first 5 years of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Wildflowers of Ireland (<http://www.wildflowersofireland.net/>):  
Great Irish website by botanist Zoe Devlin with photos of flowers/plants/trees by colour and month.

**Plant Monitoring Pilot Scheme 2016 Booklet:** Piloted by the National Biodiversity Data Centre in 2016, the monitoring scheme was never continued but this booklet tells you how to survey grasses and plants and gives a grass identification guide.  
<https://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Plant-Monitoring-Scheme-Booklet.pdf>

### Identifying Insects:

<https://www.biodiversityireland.ie/identifying-irish-bumblebees/lesson.html>

<https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FIT-Counts-guide-to-identifying-the-different-insect-groups.pdf>

### Identifying various common garden species:

<https://www.biodiversityireland.ie/projects/additional-survey-schemes/backyard-biodiversity/species/>

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### Ponds:

<https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-08/Wild%20About%20Gardens%20Big%20or%20Small%20Ponds%20for%20all%20booklet.pdf>

<https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-08/Wild%20About%20Gardens%20Big%20or%20Small%20Ponds%20for%20all%20booklet.pdf>

<https://www.froglife.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/JAW-2014-compressed.pdf>

[https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/farming-advice/scrapecreationforwildlife\\_tcm9-255102.pdf](https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/farming-advice/scrapecreationforwildlife_tcm9-255102.pdf)

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=955>

### Hedgerows:

[www.hedgelaying.ie](http://www.hedgelaying.ie)

[https://www.conservationhandbooks.com/how-to-lay-a-hedge/?gclid=EAlaiQobChMItaqXqgWY7AIVmpntCh0K1wJAEAYAiAAEgLAIVD\\_BwE](https://www.conservationhandbooks.com/how-to-lay-a-hedge/?gclid=EAlaiQobChMItaqXqgWY7AIVmpntCh0K1wJAEAYAiAAEgLAIVD_BwE)

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### Satellite Images and old maps:

Really useful for seeing existing habitats and seeing what used to be there in the 1800s.

- Google maps (existing habitats) (<https://www.google.com/maps>)
- Heritage Council historic maps (<https://heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/HeritageMaps/index.html>)

The Heritage Council has a very useful map resource at this location. You can enter your Townland or zoom in to your location and see old maps from the 1800s and modern maps. This is often a great source of information in terms of where place names came from and geography/biodiversity historical data.

### Brief instructions on use of above:

- Go to website
- Turn off 'Layer List'
- Enter your townland. Often doesn't work so just zoom in to your area in map.
- Click on 'Basemap Gallery' (green roundy icon at bottom of page)
- Historic 25" map shows information from 1800s. Useful to see old treelines, hedgerows, streams, rivers.
- [http://libguides.ucd.ie/ld.php?content\\_id=29722508](http://libguides.ucd.ie/ld.php?content_id=29722508)  
This is the legend to decipher the symbols on old maps. Shows you the kind of woodland that was there e.g. coniferous or mixed, reeds, marshland etc. Useful historic context if creating new habitat areas.

### Useful Identification Guides:

- National Biodiversity Data Centre Swatches (<http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/shop/>):
  - Trees, Ladybirds, Bumblebees, Dragonflies and Damselflies, Butterflies, Shieldbugs, Grasses.
- Field Studies Council Guides (<https://www.field-studies-council.org/publications.aspx>):
  - Numerous

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### Tidy Towns Relevant Information

(<https://www.tidytowns.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/TidyTowns-Handbook.pdf>) :

- 8 criteria assessed with a maximum of 450 points in total (50 each).
- 2 criteria particularly relevant to this workshop:
  - Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities
  - Green Spaces and Landscaping



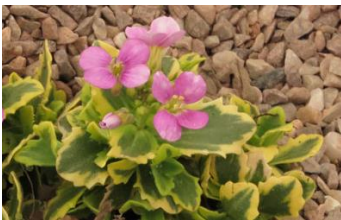


## Some Wildlife Friendly Planting (This is not an exhaustive list).



### Rosemary

- Evergreen. Bushy shrub.
- Flowering starts Spring but occurs at different times of year also.
- Full sun
- Exposed or sheltered.



### Arabis (Rock Cress)

- Evergreen. Annual or perennial. Mat forming.
- Flowers late spring/early summer with white, pink or purple flowers.
- Full sun. Exposed or sheltered.
- Well drained soil.



### Borage:

- Annual or perennial.
- Blue flowers that flower over long period in summer.
- Full sun or partial shade.
- Well drained soil.



### Candytuft

- Annual or perennial evergreen small shrub
- White, pink or purple flowers
- Full sun, exposed or sheltered.
- Well drained soil.



### Wallflowers

- Apricot variety is evergreen perennial.
- Flowers from Early Spring to summer and sometimes into Winter.
- Likes Full sun in exposed or sheltered location , well drained soil.

See [http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf) for further information and species lists.



### **Crocus**

- Early Spring flowering perennial
- Full sun, exposed or sheltered.
- Well- drained soil.



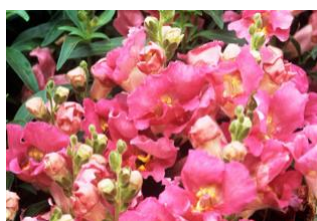
### **Knapweed**

- Herbaceous perennial
- Purple/pink flower Summer to early Autumn
- Full sun and exposed in well -drained soil.



### **Lungwort**

- Herbaceous or semi-evergreen perennial
- Blue flowers from Early Spring
- Full shade or partial shade and sheltered.
- Moisture and well drained.



### **Snapdragon**

- Sunny position
- Any garden soil



### **Primrose**

- Herbaceous perennials flowering in late Winter to Early Spring
- Like full sun to partial shade in sheltered, moist well-drained soil

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### Pot Marigold

- Annuals or perennials that flower in Summer and Autumn
- Full sun or partial shade
- Exposed or sheltered
- Well drained soil



### Cornflower

- Blue flower June to September
- Full sun in sheltered or exposed location
- Well drained soil



### Sweet Alyssum (Snowdrift)

- Annuals or perennials
- Low spreading with white flowers in Summer
- Full sun in sheltered or exposed location
- Well drained soil



### Coriander

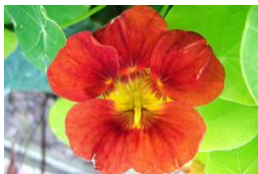
- Hardy annual that lives in sun or partially shaded location
- Susceptible to slugs so use bio-control
- Sow seed early Summer
- Damp soil but not over-wetting or do not let dry out



### Fennel

- Biennial or short-lived perennial
- Full sun or partial shade in sheltered location
- Moist but well drained soil.

### Nasturtium



- Annual that grows in sun in well drained soil/edible petals



### Yarrow

- Perennial that can live in grass, waste areas and roadside locations
- Numerous flowerheads from June to November



### Californian Poppy

- Hardy annuals
- Flowers in Summer
- Sunny location in well drained soil



### Lovage

- Perennial herb
- Sunny or partially shaded location
- Rich, deep, moist soil



### Thyme

- Warm sunny location
- Well drained soil. Will rot in winter if ground too wet.
- Thrives in pots



### Fuchsia

- Deciduous and bushy
- Full sun or partial shade
- Sheltered location in well drained, moist soil.

See [http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf) for further information and species lists.



### **Verbena**

- Full sun, well drained soil



### **Aubretia**

- Perennial low growing evergreen flowers from Early Spring
- Forms mat of flowers, good for 'tumbling' over effect
- Hardy and will grow in sun or partial shade
- Well drained soil and drier conditions



### **Michelmas daisy**

- Perennial in white, blue, purple and pink
- Well drained soil
- Sun or partial shade



### **Sweet William**

- Biennial in pink, white, red and purple
- Sunny or shaded location
- Summer flowers



### **Night Scented Stock (also good for attracting insects for bats)**

- Can be annual, perennial or subshrub
- White, purple or pink flowers in summer
- Full sun and sheltered location
- Moist, well drained soil

### ***Flowers that provide seed for birds:***



#### **Forget-me-Not**

- Annual, perennial or biennial that flowers in Spring and early Summer
- Semi-evergreen and bushy
- Partial shade in exposed or sheltered location
- Moist but well-drained soil



#### **Sunflower**

- Annual that flowers in August
- Small (teddy bear) or tall (American Giant ) varieties
- Full sun in well drained soil



#### **Evening Primrose (also good for attracting insects for bats)**

- Herbaceous perennial that flowers from late Spring to late Summer
- Likes full sun in sheltered locations on well-drained soil



#### **Cosmos**

- Half-hardy annual
- Pink or white petals on flowers in Summer
- Likes full sun in sheltered location on moist but well-drained soil
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#### **Globe Thistle**

- Clump-forming perennial
- Blue-grey to blue flowerheads mid to late Summer
- Likes full sun or partial shade in exposed or sheltered areas
- Moist but well-drained soil

## Pollinator Flowers per Season:

### **Early Spring:**

- Snowdrop (bulb planted in Autumn)
- Crocus (bulb planted in Autumn)
- Wallflowers
- Aubretia
- Primrose
- Lungwort
- Dandelion
- Hazel (Hedgerow species)
- Blackthorn (Hedgerow species)

### **All Spring:**

- Rosemary
- Dandelion
- Willow (Hedgerow)
- Blackthorn (Hedgerow)
- Hawthorn (hedgerow)
- Broom (hedgerow)
- Wild Cherry (hedgerow)

### **Late Spring/Early Summer:**

- Arabis (Rock Cress)
- Forget me Not
- Evening primrose
- Dandelion
- Willow (hedgerow)
- Blackthorn (hedgerow)
- Hawthorn)
- Broom (hedgerow)
- Wild cherry (hedgerow)

See [http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf) for further information and species lists.

## Summer:

- Borage
- Clover
- Sunflowers
- Cosmos
- Globe Thistle
- Sweet William
- Night Scented Stock
- Poppy
- Fennel
- Marigold
- Cornflower
- Sweet Alyssum
- Nasturtium
- Knapweed
- Dandelion
- Honeysuckle
- Thyme
- Raspberry
- Lavender (French and English; English is hardier)
- Bramble (hedgerow)
- Wild privet (hedgerow)
- Crab apple (hedgerow)
- Elder (hedgerow)
- Rowan (hedgerow)
- Whitebeam (hedgerow)
- Wild rose (hedgerow)
- Guelder Rose (hedgerow)

See [http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf) for further information and species lists.



### Autumn:

- Yarrow
- Aster
- Marigold
- Cornflower
- Dandelion
- Nasturtium
- Knapweed
- Clover
- Bramble (Hedgerow)
- Ivy (Hedgerow)
- Honeysuckle
- Gorse

### Winter:

- Gorse
- Winter Honeysuckle
- Snowdrops
- Mahonia
- Winter Clematis
- Winter Heather
- Winter Jasmine

See [http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens\\_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Gardens_actions-to-help-pollinators-July-2016.pdf) for further information and species lists.