



IDENTIFY:

CELEBRATE - BRINGING WATER & BIODIVERSITY TO LIFE

Bring water & biodiversity to life in your club through one or more of the following actions to promote awareness of and to celebrate the water heritage and biodiversity of your club and local area.

Water & Biodiversity Signage

- Consider installing club signs that highlight the history, wildlife and biodiversity of rivers, streams and wetlands near club grounds.
- Waterford club Affane-Cappoquin worked with a local signage company to design signs that promote awareness of rivers, floods, tides, history, flora and fauna around the club grounds. These were funded through a LAWPro Community Water Development Fund (see funding section below).



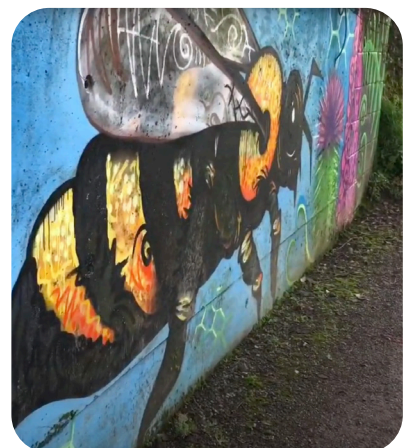
Walkway Enhancement

- If your club has a walkway, introducing bird boxes, bug hotels, pollinator beds and informational signage can be great ways to enhance biodiversity knowledge and to add to the walking experience on your ground. See the Biodiversity Walking Trail action sheet in the 'Identify' section of: <https://learning.gaa.ie/greenclub/biodiversity>
- Introducing sculptures and wildlife themed benches can substantially enhance a walk for both older and younger generations – consider collaborations with Men's Shed or artists in your local area.
- Consider organising nature walks with club teams, local schools and other community groups.



Commission a River Biodiversity Mural

- A river biodiversity mural is a creative and engaging way to raise awareness of local rivers & streams and can be opportunities for partnership with local schools, artists or other community groups. Costs can vary and some projects can be funded under community, water or biodiversity grants (see the funding links below).
- A local tattoo artist was commissioned for the Mullingar Shamrocks mural, which promotes the links between health and wellbeing and biodiversity (see their video case study at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_XVQBuGm7x0)





Yellow Fish

- The Yellow Fish Project is an international initiative aimed at raising awareness of stormwater drains and their connection to local rivers and streams
- Your club can participate by spraying a stencil of a yellow fish by storm drains on club grounds to highlight that these drains lead directly to local rivers and streams and that anything other than rainwater entering them can cause significant harm to river wildlife and biodiversity.
- Signs can be put up inside or outside the club house to explain the significance of the yellow fish to club members.
- For more information see:
<https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/learn/engaging-with-communities-yellow-fish/>
<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/niea-yellow-fish-campaign>

Take part in a river or marine litter pick

- Consider getting the club involved in a community, river or marine litter pick, e.g.:
Big Beach Clean: <https://cleancoasts.org/>
National Spring Clean: <https://nationalspringclean.org/>
Adopt A Spot NI: <https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=61>
- If your club is organising an independent litter pick, ensure that all health and safety measures are followed and that you have confirmed that insurance cover is in place as necessary. Contact your local council point of contact (<https://learning.gaa.ie/greenclub>) or waste management company in advance to arrange litter collection and disposal.

Funding Opportunities

26 Counties

- Ensure you are signed up to your local Public Participation Network (PPN) newsletter to receive updates on funding and projects in your county or council area.
<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/a58b8-community-groups-public-participation-networks/>
- Follow the media channels and website of your local council for news of upcoming funding programmes
- Learn about funding opportunities for water and biodiversity projects under the Community Water Development Fund <https://lawaters.ie/funding/>

Six Counties

- Ensure you check the GrantTracker email that is circulated regularly to by Ulster GAA to club secretaries for any water, biodiversity and community funding opportunities.
- Follow the media channels and website of your local council for news of upcoming funding programmes
- Learn about funding opportunities for community, climate and biodiversity projects at <https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=30> and <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/living-places-and-spaces>