



DONEGAL COMMUNITY BULLETIN NUAHTÁN POBAIL DHÚN NA NGALL

May 2010/ Bealtaine 2010

Issue/Eagrán 4

CONTENTS/CLÁR

Page

1. <u>General/Ginearálta</u>	2
Donegal County Development Board Peace and Reconciliation Partnership Conference 2010	2
Meet the Peace III Development Officers	2
Older & Bolder Meeting	4
Donegal Walking Week 23rd to 30th May 2010	4
Wheel Conference Working Better, Growing Stronger	4
Donegal Road Safety Working Group	5
• Missing the call won't kill you, Taking it might!	5
• New Road Safety Plan-Public Consultation	5
Project St. Patrick	5
2. <u>Cultural Services/Seirbhísí Cultúrtha</u>	6
Bealtaine Festival 2010	6
Europe Direct Information Centre	6
FÁS eLearning training project	7
Launch of Donegal Heritage 'Life & Lore' Collection	7
Register your Heritage Week Events	7
Women in Donegal County Archives	8
Plantation Series Booklets- A Guide To The Plantation Of Ulster	8
3. <u>Funding opportunities/Deiseanna maoiniú</u>	9
Dormant Accounts funding for Youth Cafes	9
Community grants from Bord Gáis Energy	9
Seniors Alert -Communities Supporting Older People	9
Genio Trust Information Funding 2010	10
Energy Efficiency Grants	10
4. <u>Training opportunities/Deiseanna oiliúina</u>	10
The Voice for Older People-Advocacy Training	10
Diploma In Drug And Alcohol Studies	11
5. <u>The Environment/An Timpeallacht</u>	11
Citizenscape	11
Beach Clean-ups	12
Composting workshops	12
6. <u>Community & Voluntary Register/Clár do grúpai pobail agus deonach</u>	13
7. <u>Insurance/Árachas</u>	13

1. General/Ginearálta

Donegal County Development Board Peace & Reconciliation Partnership Conference 2010 Thursday 27th May 2010 in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal.

The Donegal Peace III Partnership invite you to their Conference entitled 'Belonging - It's a Human Right!' which is being held on Thursday 27th May 2010 in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal.

On the attached links please find a brochure and booking form, which gives full details of the conference including the agenda for the day and the guest speakers, which include Fr. Peter McVerry, Professor William Schabas, Mr Eamonn McCann and Mr Ian McCracken.

If you wish to register to attend this conference, please complete the attached booking form and return to: Ms JoAnne Kilmartin, Programme Development Officer, Peace III Secretariat, Community and Enterprise Unit, Station Island, Lifford, Co Donegal on or before Friday 14th May 2010 or return by email to: peace3@donegalcoco.ie

In the meantime if you have any queries in relation to this event, please contact the Peace III Office, on 074 91 72232.

Anne Marie Conlon
Peace III Partnership Secretary.

<http://dcc-intranet/sites/communityenterprise/Projects/PEACE%20III/PR%20-%20Brochure.pdf>
<http://dcc-intranet/sites/communityenterprise/Projects/PEACE%20III/PR%20-%20Application.jpg>

Meet the Peace III Development Officers

The following actions were identified within the Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2007-2013 to meet the aim and objectives as set out in the plan.

1. Supporting ethnic minority communities in Donegal.
2. Combating racism and sectarianism and supporting integration in Donegal.
3. Building better relations between Traveller community and wider community in the county

The following Development Officers are now on board to roll out these actions. Detailed hereunder is a short synopsis of the roles of the Development Officers and their contact details.

Sarah Lapsley-Peace III Anti Racism Sectarianism Awareness Officer

There are two main objectives of this post

1. To promote best practice in relation to voluntarism
2. Developing a multi-annual awareness raising campaign around work being done in the county. Promoting cultural diversity, inter-culturalism, anti-racism and anti-sectarianism.

Contact:

Sarah Lapsley
Peace III Anti Racism Sectarianism Awareness Officer
Community, Culture & Planning
Donegal County Council, Station Island, Lifford
Tel: 074 91 72586 Mobile:087 9232654 Email: slapsley@donegalcoco.ie

Francis Conaghan, Peace III Integration Office

Francis is tasked with three main actions

1. Development of an independent and confidential incident reporting scheme for sectarian and racist incidents in Donegal
2. Developing a programme of supports for the service providers in Donegal targeting minority groups
3. Developing an Anti Sectarianism / Racism Diversity Plan for Donegal.

Contact:

Francis Conaghan
Peace III Integration Officer
Community, Culture & Planning
Donegal County Council, Station Island, Lifford, Co. Donegal

Tel 074 91 72568 Mob. 087 9367699
E-mail fconaghan@donegalcoco.ie

Catherine Anne Kelly- Peace III Development Officer - Respecting and Connecting Communities

Catherine Anne's role is the development of better relations between the Traveller and settled community.

The project will be rolled out through a series of actions

- the organisation of a range of activities and events which will create more opportunities for social interaction between both communities thus improving relations between individuals and in turn improving the levels of trust and tolerance between both communities.
- Promotion of conflict resolution and mediation at local level by developing a set of good practice guidelines that each of the relevant stakeholders can subscribe and which can be agreed and utilised collaboratively.

Contact details:

Ms. Catherine Anne Kelly
Peace III Development Officer - Respecting and Connecting Communities
Community, Culture & Planning
Donegal County Council, Station Island, Lifford, Co. Donegal

Tel 074 91 72230 Mob. 087 765 8099
E-mail cathkelly@donegalcoco.ie

Karin White, Peace III Cultural Diversity Officer

Karin is based in the new intercultural resource centre in Port House, Letterkenny: 'Port na Failte'. Karin is supporting people from black and minority ethnic groups and from minority cultures to participate fully in life in Donegal, and she supports the local community to appreciate cultural diversity in Donegal. Everyone is welcome to call into the drop in centre to get help and information to use for their projects.

The centre organises cultural celebrations with volunteers from the community, facilitates training and support groups, carry out research and many more projects, which aid integration, mutual respect and appreciation, empowerment and contribute towards social change and the eradication of racism and sectarianism.

Contact

Karin White, Peace III Cultural Diversity Officer
Port na Failte
Port House
Letterkenny
Tel: 087 9365695

Older & Bolder Meeting with Older People in Donegal on Thursday 13th May

Older & Bolder is an alliance of eight organisations in the age sector in Ireland. The members of the alliance have come together to champion older people's rights and to campaign for the implementation of a National Positive Ageing Strategy for Ireland. Our members are: Active Retirement Ireland, Age & Opportunity, Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Carers Association, Irish Hospice Foundation, Irish Senior Citizens Parliament Older Women's Network and the Senior Help Line.

On Thursday 13th May, Older & Bolder will be holding a meeting for older people in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with coffee and registration from 10.30 a.m. A light lunch will also be provided. The meeting is being organised with the support and assistance of The Voice of Older People Donegal and Mark McCollum is our local contact person.

If you would like further information and/or to book places at the meeting, please call Older & Bolder at 01-87 83623 or email mary.cleary@olderandbolder.ie

Donegal Walking Week 23rd to 30th May 2010

Walk it –Log it is a major new initiative to get people taking part in Donegal Walking Week, and take an active role in managing their own walks.

You will be able to log all of your walks on this site, letting you track how much ground you've covered and to see how your local area compares with the rest of the county.

- Walk it Log it" and record your efforts online
- Fitwalk Clinics get the most from your walking
- Register a walk in your area
- List of organised walks throughout Donegal

For more detailed information log onto: www.letswalkdonegal.com

For more information on Donegal Walking Week please contact Donegal Sports Partnership:

Donegal Sports Partnership

River Front House, Pearse Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland

Tel: +353(0)74 9116078/9116079

Fax: +353(0)74 9116707

Email: info@activedonegal.com

Web: www.activedonegal.com

Wheel Conference Working Better, Growing Stronger 2nd June. Sligo

The Wheel are holding a conference, entitled Working Better, Growing Stronger aims to equip community and voluntary groups in you area with the latest information and advice on a number of key issues, including: Governance, The Charities Act 2009, Employment Law, Financial Management, Fundraising, Online Marketing and Social Media. The event will feature inputs from a practising barrister, a top facilitator and The Wheel's own team of experts.

For further information [Conference in Sligo](#) (website)

Donegal Road Safety Working Group

Missing the call won't kill you, Taking it might!

The Donegal Road Safety Working Group is currently focusing on the dangerous use of mobile phones by drivers. In what is becoming an increasingly common sight motorists continue to flout the law and put lives at risk by calling or texting whilst driving. It has been an offence to hold a mobile phone while driving since the 1st September 2006, and the offence has now overtaken seatbelt offences to become the second highest penalty point offence after speeding.

According to Garda Traffic Inspector, Michael Harrison, drivers and other road-users should be aware of the dangers of using mobile phones when driving, "Research tells us that you are four times more likely to have a crash if you use a hand-held mobile phone when you are driving. It clearly distracts the driver, impairs their control of the vehicle and reduces their ability to react to what is happening around them."

Mayor Brendan Byrne has endorsed the campaign and believes that this emerging culture of using a phone when driving must be changed. He said, "Phones in cars can have many benefits. They provide security and help in an emergency. However, they are distracting if used when driving and this increases the risk of you being involved in a serious collision. It is hard to do two things at once and to drive safely you must fully concentrate on the road."

Further information on the topic can be found in the RSA's information leaflet 'Mobile Phones and Driving' which can be downloaded from www.rsa.ie.

New Draft Road Safety Plan for Donegal-Public Consultation opens 17th May

The Donegal Road Safety Working Group (DRSWG) has launched a public consultation process seeking the views of the general public and other stakeholder groups on their new draft road safety plan for the county. The proposals relate to improving road safety under the headings of Education, Empowerment, Enforcement, Engineering and Evaluation. The Plan will cover the period up to the end of 2015. The consultation document will be available for download at www.donegalcoco.ie on Monday 17th May, and comments can be submitted to the Road Safety Officer, Donegal County Council, Road Design Office, Lifford, Co. Donegal.

Stephen Lambert, Chairman and founding member of the Donegal Road Safety Working Group is encouraging all stakeholders and anyone with an interest in road safety to look at the document and submit their views. He stated, "As we are all road users of some type, drivers, passengers, walkers or cyclists we hold views on what can be done to improve road safety in the county. This consultation process is about affording everyone the opportunity to contribute their thoughts to the future direction of road safety in the county. I would urge people to have a look at the document and let us know their views."

The consultation is opened until Friday, 18th June 2010. It is hoped that the final plan will be published early in the summer.

Project St Patrick

Project St Patrick is a newly formed group of Fermanagh and hinterlands citizens, keen to put St Patrick back on the streets of Enniskillen for 2011. We are particularly eager to hear from Donegal Youth Clubs, Sporting Organisations, Arts Groups etc who would be interested in getting involved or participating in our inaugural parade. For further

details please email the man himself stpatrickenniskillen@yahoo.ie or leave a message on 07804024101

[Back to top](#)

2. Cultural Services/Seirbhísí Cultúrtha

Bealtaine Festival 2010

This year the *Bealtaine Festival* for older people celebrates its thirteenth year in Donegal. Since it began, Donegal County Council's Cultural Services staff have worked on delivering exciting & varied programmes in association with a wide range of partner organisations. As part of this year's festival, staff have organised a programme with a wide range of events to take place in libraries & Taobh Tíre outreach centres throughout the County, & the Regional Cultural Centre.

The line-up of creative local talent includes Aussie Bryson, Fergus Cleary, Mary McGranaghan and many more. Bealtaine 2010 will include a diverse range of events including *who do you think you are?* workshops on family history research, storytelling, circular knitting, traditional besom making, Internet training, a creative writing evening, flower arranging, gardening, card-making, music & song. There is something for everyone.

All library and Taobh Tíre events are free & booking in advance is advised to avoid disappointment. For more information & full details of the programme which will take place in May please contact your local library or Taobh Tíre centre, see www.donegallibrary.ie for contact details.

Europe Direct Information Centre

Europe Direct Information Centre, Central Library, Letterkenny is the EDIC for the North West catering to Counties Donegal, Sligo & Leitrim, one of seven throughout the Country. Each Centre provides a range of services, including free publications, brochures and guides; an on-the-spot question and answer service; computers with access to the EU's Europa website – www.europa.eu; a meeting room capable of hosting talks, promotional events etc. on European matters and free-phone access to the Europe Direct call centre in Brussels. The project is co-ordinated by An Comhairle Leabharlanna/The Library Council and funded by the European Commission.

The Europe Direct Information Centre will sponsor two library events in May.

'Ulster Scots Songs and Stories' is a musical and storytelling event with Joe Lynch on Monday, 24th May, Central Library, Letterkenny. There will be three sessions, two for schools (from 11am -12 noon/1pm – 2pm)) and one 'drop in' session for the general public from 12 noon to 1pm.

'Can Europe take the lead in dealing with Climate Change?' talk by Tony Kearney, local environmentalist, Friday 5th May, 11am, Central Library, Letterkenny. This will be a lively discussion on the realities of climate change and how we as Europeans can make a difference in our everyday lives. The talk will be illustrated by a film featuring a collection of stories on people who are trying to make a practical difference in their lives for the good of their local environment.

Entry to all library events is free.

FÁS elearning @ the library project – Phase II open now

Donegal County Library and FÁS are delivering an **e-learning project** to adults across its library and Taobh Tíre network. The project provides a range of online courses, accessible in the library or from home, supported by a facilitator. 140 people signed up to courses during Phase I.

12 libraries and 4 Taobh Tíre locations across the county are taking part, offering training opportunities in the heart of the community. Libraries have user-friendly opening hours, which enable people to learn at their own time and pace.

The programme is free and open to everyone over 18. It will benefit those new to computers and those who wish to update or extend their skills through workshops and the use of online courseware. Facilitators provide support and guidance at the learner's pace and participants can use library facilities for coursework during library opening hours.

Extensive courses include Introduction to Computers, Internet and E-mail, ECDL, Microsoft Office Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Participants can also access a range of additional online courses eg. Project management.

Participating Libraries and Taobh Tíre Centres include Ballybofey, Bunrana, Bundoran, Carndonagh, Donegal Town, Killybegs, Letterkenny, Lifford, Milford, Moville, Na Rosa, Ramelton, Baile na Finne, Kilcar, Pettigo and Downings.

For further information please contact your local library (contact details at www.donegallibrary.ie). Phase III will commence in September 2010..

Launch of Donegal Heritage 'Life & Lore' Collection County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny on Wednesday, May 19 at 1:30 p.m.

The County Donegal Heritage Office and the County Donegal Heritage Forum invite you to the launch of the Donegal Heritage 'Life & Lore' Collection of circa 60 oral recordings on CD of the reminiscences of County Donegal residents. The launch will take place in the County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny on Wednesday, May 19 at 1:30 p.m. Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh of Altan & Donegal Person of the Year will launch the collection which was recorded by Maurice O'Keeffe. The launch is open to the public and light refreshments will be served from 1 p.m. The Donegal Heritage 'Life & Lore' Collection was commissioned by Donegal County Council and The Heritage Council as part of the County Donegal Heritage Plan (2007-2011). If you would like to attend the launch, please contact the County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny on (074) 912 4613 or by e-mail at: museum@donegalcoco.ie

Register Your 'Heritage Week' Events Events must be registered by Monday, May 31

National Heritage Week takes place from Saturday, August 21 to Sunday, August 29 this year. The principal aims of 'National Heritage Week' are to foster awareness of the built, cultural and natural heritage thereby encouraging its conservation and preservation and to raise interest in our shared Irish and European heritage. If your group or organisation is planning a 'Heritage Week' event, help is available. The Heritage Council is producing a countrywide guide to 'Heritage Week' events.

You can register your event by submitting the details on-line at www.heritageweek.ie or completing a 'Heritage Week' registration form available from The Heritage Council on 1850 200 878.

The County Donegal Heritage Office will compile a booklet of 'Heritage Week' events in County Donegal as well. The information submitted to The Heritage Council (either on-line or in paper form) will be used to compile the county booklet that proved to be very popular again last year.

Women in Donegal County Archives

March is the month in which we celebrate women. The 8th March was International Women's Day and Mother's Day is also celebrated in March. To celebrate the history of Donegal women a small exhibition entitled ***Women in the County Archives***, is currently on display in the foyer of the Archives office (the exhibition area), first floor, Three Rivers Centre, Lifford. All are welcome to come and see it during normal office hours, Monday - Friday.

Donegal County Archives has an immense variety of archives relating to the history of women in Donegal. This small but rich exhibition assembles a selection of photographs, letters, posters, registers and other archives, which reflect the lives of women and girls from the 19th century onwards.

The exhibition cases display photographs of mothers and their children; there are poignant letters to mothers from their grown up children; photographs and correspondence relating to women in the workplace, images of women rich and poor, women at work or as patients in 19th century workhouses and hospitals.

The display will continue until the end of May. Also on permanent display at the Archives in Lifford is ***The Past in the Present exhibition***.

Plantation Series Booklets– A Guide To The Plantation Of Ulster

Donegal County Museum, Cultural Services Division, Donegal County Council in association with Derry City Council Museum and Heritage Service, have launched their unique Plantation Series Booklets– A Guide To The Plantation Of Ulster in Derry And Donegal, Plantation Architecture And Landscape In Derry And Donegal and The Legacy Of The Plantation In Derry And Donegal. They were officially launched on Thursday 18th February at 12o'clock in the Donegal County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Donegal County Museum and Derry City Council Heritage and Museum Service engaged Dr. Eamonn O'Ciardha, Lecturer in Irish/ English History Literary & Historical Studies, Academy for Irish Cultural Heritages at the University of Ulster at Magee, Duncan McLaren of Deadalus Architecture and Dr. William Kelly, Institute of Ulster Scots Studies at the University of Ulster at Magee to write these booklets. The booklets are available in hard copy and as PDF format, free of charge.

This joint Plantation project between Donegal County Museum and Derry City Council Heritage and Museum Service, aims to increase awareness of the Plantation and its impact amongst all communities in both Derry and Donegal. These unique booklets will enable a better understanding of the influence of the Plantation on the environment and landscapes in which we live. It will also allow those with no previous knowledge of the Plantation to gain some insight into this important period in our history.

Donegal County Museum would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism in the production of these booklets. They are also an Action of the County Donegal Heritage Plan (2007-20011).

Donegal County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny, Co Donegal T 074 9124613
E museum@donegalcoco.ie

[Back to top](#)

3. Funding opportunities/Deiseanna maoiniú

Dormant Accounts funding for Youth Cafes

- Submit applications to Catherine Breslin, HSE Children's Services, Euro House, Killybegs Road, Donegal Town Email: catherine.breslin@hse.ie **by 21 May 2010**
- Submit applications using the attached application forms provided by Pobal and completed in accordance with Guidelines issued by Pobal (see attached). Applicants will receive an acknowledgement of receipt of application form.

For application forms and guidelines, please feel free to contact Anne McAteer, Donegal Childrens Services Co-ordinator at 074 91 68001 or email: Anne.McAteer@hse.ie

Community grants from Bord Gáis Energy closing date for applications is 16th June

To mark reaching one million customers, Bord Gáis Energy wants to support local, regional and national projects that demonstrate potential and community impact. Energy funding to the total value of €100,000 will be awarded to community projects that demonstrate the biggest potential impact and exponential growth the energy funding will deliver.

€ 100,000 worth of energy has been provided by BGE in funding for 16 projects.

1 X €25,000 of energy

5 X €10,000 of energy

10 X €2,500 of energy

Application forms will be available at public libraries for local groups or from the BGE website at www.bordgaisenergy.ie. The fund goes live on 6th May, will be advertised on local radio from 10th May, the closing date for applications is 16th June.

Seniors Alert -Communities Supporting Older People

The Department intends to introduce a new scheme to replace the Scheme of Community Support for Older People during May 2010. The Department wishes to invite expressions of interest from organisations in contract with the Community Services Programme who may be interested in delivering the new scheme.

Expressions of Interest should be sent to Philip Finn at pfinn@pobail.ie

Genio Trust Information Funding 2010

GENIO is a non-profit organisation rooted in the belief that by valuing diversity both the individual and society can benefit from the unique contribution of all citizens. GENIO is working with key stakeholders in the disability and mental health fields to accelerate the availability of proven, cost-effective, personalised supports and information, enabling people with disabilities and mental health difficulties to live full lives.

The Office of Disability and Mental Health, Department of Health and Children, the Health Service Executive and GENIO invite applications for funding from groups and organisations that:

- provide personalised support and are focused on changing the lives of identified individuals with disabilities or mental health difficulties;
- contribute to overall aims of increasing availability of personalised supports in other focused and strategic ways.

This fund comprising of €3,665,000, combines an allocation of health innovation funding announced in this years budget by Minister John Moloney and an allocation from the Atlantic Philanthropies.

INTERESTED go to www.genio.ie or contact Genio Trust at 044 9362222 or email trust@genio.ie

Energy Efficiency Grants

There are a number of grants and schemes available:

[Home Energy Saving Scheme](#). This scheme provides grants to help you increase the energy efficiency of your home, including grants for home insulation.

[Greener Homes Scheme](#). Grants to help homeowners purchase new home heating systems that use renewable sources of energy, for example, solar power and bio-mass systems.

[Warmer Homes Scheme](#). This scheme aims to increase the energy efficiency and warmth of homes of individuals and families on a low-income.

[Back to top](#)

4. Training opportunities/Deiseanna oiliúina

The Voice of Older People, Donegal asks "Do you want YOUR VOICE heard?" Advocacy Training

Advocacy Training for Older People and those interested in issues relating to Older Adults this innovative and creative approach to advocacy training is aimed at older people interested in becoming more involved in running their club/group. The training will involve the development of group management skills and creative approaches to team building through practical example, so as to better prepare our community leaders to address the many changes facing our communities, and also to help them identify the issues are of concern to their group members

Monday - Friday

31st May - 4th June 2010

This training is FREE and open to all with an interest in Older Adults

To book a place, or for more information please contact Margaret on 086 795 6616 or 074 91 73818

**Diploma In Drug And Alcohol Studies
(Part Time)
September 2010
Closing date for applications is: Friday 21st May 2010**

The University of Limerick in partnership with Donegal VEC, North West Regional Drugs Task Force, North West Alcohol Forum Ltd. and the Health Service Executive (West Donegal) are offering a Diploma in Drug and Alcohol Studies

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The diploma is designed as a progression route for those who have completed a certificate in addiction studies, or related field, or equivalent. It is expected that applicants have a minimum of two years experience of working in the area of Drug and Alcohol, Community Development or a related field.

Application Forms and supporting documentation are available from:

www.donegalvec.ie

The course will take place in either Errigal College, Letterkenny or Magh Ene College, Bundoran depending on demand.

For any further enquiries contact: **Christina McEleney**, Co-ordinator, University of Limerick Diploma Drugs and Alcohol Studies, County Donegal VEC, Administrative Offices, Ard O'Donnell, Letterkenny. Mobile: 087 9369312 Tel: 074 91 61508 Email: christinamceleney@donegalvec.ie

[Back to top](#)

5. The Environment/An Timpeallacht

Does your group want to get involved and share your ideas / activities with other groups and the council?

Then www.donegal.citizenscape.net could be the place for your group! Donegal County Council has been working on a web based project to allow community groups, schools and the general public get more involved in environmental topics. The website also provides information in a more user friendly and interactive way by using videos, blogs, forums and event calendars.

Groups, schools, members of the public can write a blog on their activities and link it to the site, they can upload photographs of activities or events such as clean-ups, if you have an upcoming event you can post the information on the event calendar. You never know you might get more people interested or you might learn something from another group or school.

Why not Blog about a Beach Clean up at.....

Donegal Beach Cleanup Blog: www.donegalbeachcleanups.wordpress.com

- To blog on this site please send your wordpress username to suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie and we will set you up as a contributor to this blog. Otherwise you can view posts and comment on them.

- To setup a wordpress username and password, go to www.wordpress.com and click on the orange "sign up now" button. You will be asked to create a username and password and a few other details. Be sure to tick the "just a username, please" option at the bottom of the page. It's as easy as that. You will probably get an email to activate your username etc..
- To add a post to the Donegal Beach blog, login with you username and password and you will be able to add new post. Give your post a title and type in your blog. You can upload images by using the upload/insert icons. You can also categorise your blog based on the categories listed to the right. This makes it easier to organise all the blogs. If you tick the allow comments option at the bottom, this will allow readers to add comments to your blog without having to log in.
- Posts will be sent to the blog administrator who will publish them as soon as possible.

For more information contact Suzanne Tinney, Waste Awareness Officer, Donegal County Council (074) 91 76276 or email suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie.

Ever thought of a beach clean up?

Spring Clean time is coming around again and thousands of volunteers throughout Donegal will organise clean-ups of their local areas. If you haven't done one in the past why not head off to your local beach or the nearest Blue Flag beach and include a beach clean-up in some of your activities for Summer 2010.

Why not make a contribution to our blog www.donegalbeachcleanups.wordpress.com or post information of your planned clean-ups on the events calendar and much more at www.donegal.citizenscape.net .

If you are planning a Beach Clean up we can help. Every year as part of the Spring / Summer Clean-Up campaign Donegal County Council provides bags, gloves, litter pickers and a limited number of Hi Viz vests to groups that apply. We can also arrange to lift the collected bags of litter by prior arrangement.

Donegal County Council wants to hear from you. Spring / Summer Clean-Up applications will be available at www.donegalcoco.ie or at your local Donegal County Council Environment Office. Don't forget you can also register for National Spring Clean at www.nationalspringclean.org registration is now open! Over 505,000 volunteers took part in some 5058 events nationwide in 2009. An estimated 1,596 tonnes of litter was collected and 35% of the total amount of waste collected was recycled.

Let us know if you plan to do a local beach clean-up so we can help.

For more information please contact Suzanne Tinney, Waste Awareness Officer (074) 91 76276 or by email Suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie

Composting workshops

In 2010, the Waste Awareness Officer will once again deliver a number of Composting Workshops to local community groups. 1/3 of our household waste is organic waste that can be composted. This can be done using a compost bin or heap and will turn food waste into rich compost that can then be used as a garden fertiliser. Diverting this food waste from you regular waste bin will also cut down on waste to landfill and waste costs for the householder.

If any group would be interested in hosting a composting workshop please contact Suzanne Tinney. Waste Awareness Officer directly at (074) 91 72538 or email stinney@donegalcoco.ie .

[Back to top](#)

6. **Community & Voluntary Register/Clár do grúpaí pobail agus deonach**

If you are aware of other community and voluntary groups who would like to receive the monthly Donegal Community Bulletin, then please advise the group to contact Ms Breid Neely, Community & Enterprise, Station Island, Lifford, Co Donegal, Tel: 074 9172573 or Email: bneely@donegalcoco.ie. In order to receive the monthly bulletin, the group must be registered as a community and voluntary group with Donegal County Development Board Community & Voluntary Register.

[Back to top](#)

7. **Insurance/Árachas**

The Irish National Community and Voluntary Forum has teamed up exclusively with leading insurance broker BHP Insurances to assist in minimising insurance costs for its members. The INCVF is the umbrella body for the community and voluntary sector and this arrangement will give its 22,000 members direct access to the most competitive and comprehensive insurance package for their sector. Savings of up to 45% can be expected.

If you wish to avail of this competitive insurance package, you must have your ID number to hand when contacting BHP Insurances, together with your existing insurance arrangements where applicable.

To obtain your ID number you should contact **Breid Neely, Community Development Officer, Community, Culture and Enterprise Directorate, Donegal County Council at 074 91 72 573.**

A dedicated BHP Forum helpdesk and free phone number has been set up to deal with all enquiries on 1890 666 111. You can also find out more information on the insurance package at BHP's website, www.bhpinsurance.ie.

[Back to top](#)



Extracted from C&V sector e-bulletins & websites, newsletters, for Voluntary and Community Sectors