

Clare Communities to Benefit from CLDC Biodiversity Training Programme

Community groups in fifteen areas across Co. Clare are set to benefit from an innovative LEADER funded biodiversity training programme. Clare Local Development Company (CLDC) is inviting applications from local groups to participate in the training programme to be delivered by Burrenbeo Trust in each selected area during 2019.

The 12month training programme will consist of a series of modules, demonstration days and workshops and will equip participants with the necessary skills to design and conduct a local biodiversity audit and to subsequently develop a biodiversity action plan for their local area.

Participants will also be upskilled in the implementation of those actions by way of a series of biodiversity information events and workshops. The 12month programme will culminate in an exhibition the public which will showcase the plans produced by each group and will highlight local features and sites of biodiversity importance.

CLDC LEADER Coordinator, Ms. Gloria Callinan has urged groups with an interest in the protection and enhancement of local species and habitats to apply for a place on the course for which there is no charge.

“It is envisaged that the biodiversity training programme will be of interest to numerous community representatives including tidy towns groups, heritage groups, farmers, landowners, schools, PPN member groups including environmental and Tidy Towns groups. It will also be of interest to Community Employment, Tús and RSS workers and supervisors as well as sporting clubs, farmers, farming organisations, anglers, residents groups, scout groups and many others”, said Ms. Callinan.

“The training programme will deliver on the biodiversity objective of our Local Development Strategy to deliver training for individuals, landowners and community groups that stimulates actions to protect and enhance vulnerable species and habitats” she added.

Founding Director of Burrenbeo Trust, based in Kinvara, and trainer on the programme Dr. Brendan Dunford expressed his enthusiasm at working on the programme and in working with 15 communities around the County.

Information sessions will take place at Seedsavers in Scarriff at 7.30pm on Monday, 14th January, Vandeleur Walled Garden, Kilrush on Tuesday, 15th January at 3.30pm, CLDC’s office in Ennis on Thursday, 17th January at 5.30pm and in the Pavilion Hall Lisdoonvarna at 7.30pm on Monday 21st January. The training will commence in February 2019.

Training application forms will be available at the information events or from the CLDC offices at Westgate Business Park, Kilrush Rd., Ennis, 065-6866800 or on email from leader@cldc.ie. Forms are also available from www.burrenbeo.com The closing date for applications is 25th January, 2019 and applicants will be notified subsequently if their application has been successful.

Further details of the training programme and an application form are available from Gerry McDonagh, LEADER Development Officer, CLDC, Phone 065 6866800, Email gmcdonagh@cldc.ie or from Annalisa Murphy, Burrenbeo Trust, Phone 091-638096, Email annalisa@burrenbeo.com

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