

Family Fun on Biodiversity Day at Rinville Park Sunday 24th May

Biodiversity week is coming up and it's time to celebrate the nature all around us. Events will be running right throughout the country to mark the occasion. To commemorate Biodiversity in Galway, there will be an afternoon of nature-related fun in Rinville Park, Oranmore on Sunday next, 24th May from 2 to 5pm.

This annual event is a lovely afternoon out with nature themed activities for all ages including a seashore walk with Joanne Casserly from Galway Atlantiquaria and an illustrated woodland bird talk with John Lusby from the Birdwatch Ireland Raptor Conservation Project. For children there will be pond dipping, seed planting, corn dollies and other nature arts and crafts and face painting.

As always there will be a variety of demonstrations and information points on biodiversity and sustainability including interests such as bats, beekeepers, thatching, eco-tourism, natural beauty products and gardening.

Members of the Conservation Volunteers Galway team will be on hand to show visitors the newly created orchid grassland which was transplanted over the last year in the walled area next to the lower car park.

Rinville Park is a wonderful amenity on the shores of Galway Bay and this is a great way to get close to nature and learn a little about the habitats on your doorstep and the trees, flowers, birds and animals that inhabit them. Or simply enjoy the fresh air and nature with a leisurely stroll around the park or the excellent playground facilities.

All events are free of charge and open to everyone. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The meeting place for most events is the green area behind the castle by the playground.

The seashore walk will take place at 3pm from the lower car park. The bird talk will take place in the old café at 4pm

This event is an action of the Galway County Biodiversity Action Plan in partnership with Galway County Council, Conservation Volunteers Galway, the Heritage Council, NUI Galway and Oranmore Tidy Towns. For more information, please contact the People and Nature Project Manager, Elaine O'Riordan at 091 495921 or email: elaine.oriordan@nuigalway.ie.