

## Emo Court Bat Watch

**DATE & TIME:** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 8.45pm

**LOCATION:** Emo Court

**DETAILS:** Watch the bats emerge from their attic home at Emo Court as they prepare for a night's insect catching... Courtesy of the Office of Public Works, NPWS and Scott Cawley

**AIMED AT:** Everyone, particularly suitable for families. Bring insect repellent!

**CONTACT:** National Parks & Wildlife Service:  
Ciara Flynn, Tel **045 534 071**  
Ciara.Flynn@environ.ie

## Dawn Chorus Walk

**DATE & TIME:** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 4am

**LOCATION:** The Green, Clonaslee

**DETAILS:** A gentle walk from the village to Brittas Wood and around Brittas Lake, to experience the beauty of the Dawn Chorus

**AIMED AT:** Everyone, particularly suitable for families. Wear sturdy footwear and bring weatherproof clothing. Breakfast afterwards in Swans bar.

**CONTACT:** Laois County Council:  
Catherine Casey, Tel **057 867 4348**  
ccasey@laoiscoco.ie

## May

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup>** Capard Sunrise Walk  
Abbeyleix Bog Family Fun Day

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup>** Wildlife on your Doorstep

**Tue 18<sup>th</sup>** Wildlife on your Doorstep

**Thur 20<sup>th</sup>** Nature Detectives Bug Hunt  
Emo Court Bat Watch

**Sun 23<sup>rd</sup>** Dawn Chorus Walk

Other biodiversity events will be organised throughout the year. See [www.laois.ie/heritage](http://www.laois.ie/heritage) for local events or [www.biodiversityireland.ie](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie) & [www.noticenature.ie](http://www.noticenature.ie) for details of national events.

Biodiversity Week events are co-ordinated in Laois by the Heritage Office of Laois County Council, with the support of the Heritage Council.

For further information contact Catherine Casey,  
Laois County Council,  
Portlaoise  
Tel **057 867 4348**  
[ccasey@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:ccasey@laoiscoco.ie)  
or see [www.laois.ie/heritage](http://www.laois.ie/heritage)



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

## Biodiversity Week

Laois, May 16<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010



# Biodiversity Week

Laois, May 16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010

2010 is International Year of Biodiversity and our aim here in Laois is bring home to everyone in the county, young and old, how important biodiversity is to all of our lives. From the birds we enjoy watching at our garden feeders, the woodland where we go walking at the weekend, to the medicines produced by rainforest plants, the contribution of biodiversity is all around us.

**Biodiversity Week (16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May)** gives us the perfect opportunity to get out there and explore some of the great biodiversity of Laois, whether it is hiking in the Slieve Bloom Mountains, enjoying the spectacle of the Dawn Chorus or exploring bugs and mini-beasts in a housing estate.

This year's biodiversity events are being held in co-operation with Social Inclusion Week in Laois, which aims to involve all members of the community in enjoying the wide range of activities available in the county. For more information on Social Inclusion week events, contact Dominic Reddin, Tel **057 867 4337**



## Capard Sunrise Walk

**DATE & TIME:** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 4am – 7am

**LOCATION:** Glenbarrow Car Park

**DETAILS:** A walk (about 3 hours) from Glenbarrow to the Ridge of Capard and back to enjoy the early morning sun on the mountains and through the woodland.



**AIMED AT:** Adults & young people, walk grade moderate, along narrow forest trails and forestry roads. Bring sturdy footwear, weatherproof clothing and a snack

**CONTACT:** Coillte Clonaslee: Richard Jack, Tel **057 864 8417 086 250 2573**



## Abbeyleix Bog Family Fun Day

**DATE & TIME:** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30pm

**LOCATION:** Abbeyleix Bog – on the N8 out of Abbeyleix, beside the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel car park.

**DETAILS:** Nature Walks and Talks on the Bog for both children and grown-ups! Raingear and wellies advisable. Also bring fishing nets if you have them as we hope to do some pond-dipping.

**AIMED AT:** Families – suitable for buggies

**CONTACT:** Fiona MacGowan, Tel **087 223 8262** flmacgowan@gmail.com



## Wildlife on your Doorstep

**DATE & TIME:** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May & Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 3.30pm – 5pm

**LOCATION:** Kirwan Park, Mountmellick (Monday) & Derrymore, Portarlinton (Tuesday)

**DETAILS:** Fun nature walks led by Michael Jacob to explore the plants, bugs and creepy-crawlies to be found in and around a typical back garden and housing estate

**AIMED AT:** Children 6 – 12 years (Booking not required but unaccompanied children must bring permission slips signed by parent/guardian – available from Laois Heritage Office)

**CONTACT:** Laois County Council: Catherine Casey, Tel **057 867 4348** ccasey@laoiscoco.ie, or Dominic Reddin, Tel **057 867 4337** dreddin@laoiscoco.ie



## Nature Detectives Bug Hunt

**DATE & TIME:** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 3.30pm – 5pm

**LOCATION:** Town Park, Portlaoise

**DETAILS:** Explore the wildlife in the Town Park and use magnifying glasses and bug jars to become a nature detective!

**AIMED AT:** Children 4 – 8 years. Advance Booking is required.

**CONTACT:** Laois County Council: Catherine Casey, Tel **057 867 4348** ccasey@laoiscoco.ie, or Dominic Reddin, Tel **057 867 4337** dreddin@laoiscoco.ie

