

This programme is brought to you with the support of Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht; the Heritage Council; Blackthorn Ecology; Scott Cawley; Louth Nature Trust & An Grianán; the Abbeyleix Bog Project & Heritage House Abbeyleix; and the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group.

In order to continually provide this training and maintain the involvement of our expert workshop leaders the Data Centre has had to arrange fees differently for 2018:

Professional workshops	€50
Standard	€30
Students	€20

Book online at:

www.biodiversityireland.ie/events/ or contact info@biodiversityireland.ie for further information.

NB: Booking fees are non-transferable and non-refundable

**The National Biodiversity Data Centre,
Beechfield House, WIT West Campus,
Carriganore, Waterford.**

Tel: 051 306 240
Email: info@biodiversityireland.ie
Web: www.biodiversityireland.ie



The National Biodiversity Data Centre is an initiative of the Heritage Council and is operated under a service level agreement by Compass Informatics. The Centre is funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Photos generously provided by: Kevin Murphy, Terry Whitaker, Michael Keating and Pádraig Whooley

OTHER EVENTS

2018 Summer and Autumn Workshop Programmes

We will be releasing details of our additional 2018 workshop programmes later in the Spring and Summer respectively. Some of the opportunities that lie ahead for improving your field and identification skills include detailed workshops on: pollinators, shieldbugs and ladybirds, the use of botanical keys, identifying members of the Willow (Salix) family, identifying aquatic macrophytes, bryophytes and their role as indicators of habitat type, an introduction to the Irish Vegetation Classification & ERICA tool use, and much more.

2018 Monitoring Events

Evening talk - Butterfly Atlas 2021

15th March, 2018 (19:30 – 20:30)
Butterfly Conservation Northern Ireland
St. John's Scout Hall, Belfast, Co. Antrim

Evening talk - Butterfly Atlas 2021

20th April, 2018 (20:00 – 21:00)
Birdwatch Ireland
Tinryland Parish Hall, Tinryland, Co. Carlow

Butterfly Monitoring Scheme Workshop

12th May, 2018 (10:00 – 16:00)
Wexford Naturalist's Field Club
Pumphouse, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve, Co. Wexford

For more information on the above schemes and events, go to www.biodiversityireland.ie/record-biodiversity/surveys/ or you can contact Dr. Tomás Murray (tmurray@biodiversityireland.ie).

2018 All-Ireland Pollinator Plan events

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Conference

6th March, 2018 (09:00 – 17:00)
Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Clonown Road,
Athlone, Co. Westmeath

If you are a Local Councillor, Planner, Engineer, Landscape Architect, Heritage Officer, Sustainability Officer, Biodiversity Officer, or Parks and Gardens staff, please save the date for this conference on land management to support pollinating insects. For further information go to www.biodiversityireland.ie/events/ or email info@biodiversityireland.ie.

See www.biodiversityireland.ie/pollinator-plan for other talks and events related to the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.



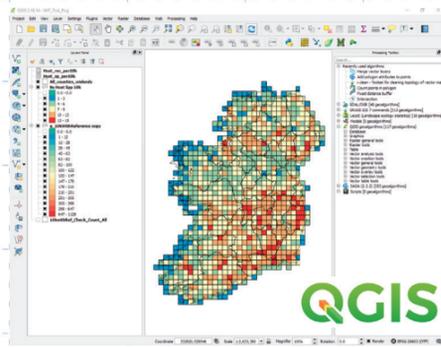
IDENTIFYING & RECORDING

**Ireland's Biodiversity
SPRING 2018
Workshop
Programme**

2018 brings with it the continuation of the National Biodiversity Data Centre's annual workshop programme, which has trained over 2,400 participants to date. This year the programme will be released in three phases: Spring, Summer and Winter with the current Spring workshop programme consisting of six workshops.



SPRING WORKSHOP PROGRAMME 2018



1 Mapping biological records with QGIS (in conjunction with Blackthorn Ecology)

QGIS is powerful, open source, fully functional GIS software. It can be very useful in managing, exploring and displaying biological records. Workshop participants will be introduced to QGIS and how it can be used to perform some typical tasks, such as mapping biological records and exploring species distributions in conjunction with other environmental data. This is a beginner's course, and no previous experience of GIS is necessary.



Workshop Details			
Leader	George Smith	Time	10:00 - 16:00
Date	Tuesday, 13th February	Audience	Trainee and professional ecologists; CPD
Venue	National Biodiversity Data Centre, Co. Waterford	Fee	€50



2 Identifying wetland birds (in conjunction with Louth Nature Trust)

Participants will be welcomed to this workshop with an introduction to our winter waders in Ireland. You will take home insights into the biology of various species, aspects of wetland bird ecology and conservation threats. The talk will however focus on identification in the field, looking at wetland bird plumages and how and where to find and observe waders in Ireland and will include a two hour field trip to the Boyne estuary where you can put your newfound knowledge and keen eye to the test.



Workshop Details			
Leader	Breffni Martin	Time	10:00 - 16:00 (field work included)
Date	Saturday, 17th February	Audience	Beginner & intermediate recorders; Birdwatchers
Venue	An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth	Fee	€30



3 Squirrel and pine marten tracking (in conjunction with Abbeyleix Bog Project)

After a brief introduction to the respective biology of both squirrels and pine martens you'll learn of the latest research and conservation stories revolving around these mammals and how you can go about employing certain techniques to carry out your own surveying. This will be followed by an outdoor session where participants will have the opportunity to visit Abbeyleix Bog to see some of the surveying techniques and conservation enhancements described in the morning session.



Workshop Details			
Leader	Denise O'Meara / Andrew Harrington	Time	10:00-16:00 [field work included]
Date	Saturday, 10th March	Audience	Beginner & intermediate recorders
Venue	Heritage House, Balronan Road, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois	Fee	€30



4 Your garden: how to create a wildlife haven

One of several in a series of land management workshops to come. From first assessing what you have, to making simple changes in the choices of plants and other garden features you should be considering to introduce, this workshop will help you create a space where wildlife can thrive. A member of the Data Centre team will also fill you in on why it is important to start recording your garden wildlife and how you can make a start.

Workshop Details			
Leader	Lynn O'Keeffe-Lascar	Time	10:00 - 16:00
Date	Saturday, 24th March	Audience	Beginner recorders; Gardeners; Tidy Towns members
Venue	National Biodiversity Data Centre, Co. Waterford	Fee	€30



5 Appropriate Assessment - purpose, process and pitfalls (in conjunction with Scott Cawley)

Gain an insight into appropriate assessment in Ireland, what it aims to do, its procedural steps and important terminology. Other aspects of appropriate assessments covered in this full day's workshop include implications of case law and how to carry out your own robust assessments. This is aimed at those with little knowledge of AA, limited practical experience and those wanting to know more or be more confident in their written reports.



Workshop Details			
Leader	Paul Scott	Time	10:00 - 16:00
Date	Tuesday, 3rd April	Audience	Trainee and professional ecologists; CPD
Venue	National Biodiversity Data Centre, Co. Waterford	Fee	€50



6 Cetacean (and basking shark) identification (in conjunction with the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group)

This course is aimed at anyone fortunate enough to occasionally observe whales, dolphins or basking sharks, or indeed anyone who hasn't to date, but would like to. During this one day workshop you will learn about cetacean biology, ecology, and current IWDG research. We may not be able to take you out to show you a whale, we will however bring "the whale" to you, during this relaxed and engaging series of presentations. No particular academic or field experience is required.



Workshop Details			
Leader	Pádraig Whooley	Time	10:00 - 16:00
Date	Saturday, 21st April	Audience	Beginner & intermediate recorders; Possible surveyors
Venue	National Biodiversity Data Centre, Co. Waterford	Fee	€30

Places are limited so advance online booking and payment is essential: www.biodiversityireland.ie/events.

For further information please contact the Data Centre. Tel: 051 306 240 or email: info@biodiversityireland.ie