

PRESS RELEASE

MAYOR DENIS RYAN LAUNCHES NATIONAL TREE WEEK 2010 IN ROSCREA CIVIC AMENITY SITE

March 5th, 2010 To celebrate National Tree Week 2010 (March 7th-13th), North Tipperary County Council will be distributing free trees to schools, Tidy Towns and Community groups throughout the county.

The theme is 'Twenty Ten – Plant Again'. "The aim of National Tree Week is to raise awareness about trees and this year we are asking people to make a renewed effort to go out and plant more trees during the week" according to Deirdre Cox, Environmental Awareness Officer with North Tipperary County Council. "Trees are an essential part of our environment and by doing something as simple as planting a tree; everyone can play their part in helping the environment."

North Tipperary County Council's celebration of National Tree Week 2010 was launched this week by Mayor Denis Ryan at the Roscrea Civic Amenity Site. He was assisted by members of Roscrea Tidy Towns and Saint Cronan's Green School Committee.

"I am delighted to launch National Tree Week in North Tipperary and to be part of the celebration of our native trees. I hope everybody will play their small part this week in celebrating the importance of trees in our environment", said Mayor Denis Ryan.

Despite the great advances in the past 100 years, Ireland remains one of the least wooded countries in Europe with only 10% of our land planted with trees compared to the European average of 36%. Ireland has agreed a target to increase our forest cover to 17% by 2035. This initiative will provide thousands of new jobs, build our forestry industry and help improve our environment.

If your community group or school would like to plant one or more trees, please contact Jimmy Cahalan at 087 673 6241 from March 8th to 12th only. All trees must be collected from Nenagh during working hours, 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Numbers of trees available are limited and will be distributed on a first come first served basis. Planting advice will be available on request when you are collecting your trees.

Remember, when selecting a tree for planting; always choose the right plant for the right place. Use native species to support wildlife, particularly in a village or rural setting.

This Tree Week, why not get involved in a local community tree planting, plant a tree yourself in your own garden or do some clearance and maintenance work on old trees that have been neglected.

Ends

Further information

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