

Come along to our free Tidy Towns Seminar!

North Tipperary County is encouraging Tidy Towns committees to attend a talk and walk presentation on “Improving your Tidy Town Plan” which will be led by Dara Hilliard, of Dara Hilliard Design. This free presentation will be held on Thursday 5th May at 7pm in Matt the Threshers in Birdhill.

Dara Hilliard Design is a landscape consultancy based in Co. Wexford. Dara has worked with numerous Tidy Town groups in Louth, Meath, Cavan, Galway, and Wexford. He has helped them improve the presentation and content of their plans and assisted in the improvement of their appearance, amenities, biodiversity and environment. He was an advisor and contributor to last year’s national tidy town award winner Tallanstown’s plan in 2009 and 2010.

On the night, Dara intends to bring people through the marking scheme of the Tidy Town competition and give practical examples of where marks can be picked up, no matter what level an entrant is at. He will cover the areas specific to landscaping but will also cover all of the ten criteria that each entrant to the Tidy Towns is assessed under. In addition he will give practical advice on the presentation of the plan and how this can help you get additional points in the competition.

Following the talk, there will be a walk around Birdhill (weather dependant), to look at the village and to learn from their experience in the competition. Options for further development to illustrate how a village might progress their Tidy Town plan will be given. The walk will be followed by a question and answers session which will finish at 9.00pm.

Environmental Awareness Officer, Deirdre Cox, will briefly talk about grants/assistance available from the Local Authority to Tidy Towns groups. “Tidy Towns are playing their part in sustaining and enhancing a vibrant natural environment” said Deirdre. “The aim of the evening is to provide practical information to communities who devote their time to improving their local environment”.

The Tidy Towns initiative is over a half-century in existence and is a lot more than just a competition. It is a simple but powerful idea that people can make a difference to their own area. It provides a framework for such ideas to come to life and then be independently and constructively assessed against a general standard of excellence and each other, thereby increasing standards year on year.

ENDS.

Further information:

Deirdre Cox,

Environmental Awareness Officer