



E-BULLETIN

ECO-UNESCO

Ireland's Environmental Education
and Youth Organisation



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Opportunities

For current volunteering opportunities see the [full details on our website](#)

ECO-UNESCO Clubs

Want to set up an environmental club? Contact us to find out how you can start an [ECO-UNESCO Club](#) in your school, community or youth group. We'll help you out with resources and support to help make your club a success.

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Dear friends of ECO-UNESCO,

Director's Message



Welcome to our June e-bulletin, packed full of updates from our summer programme of events, activities and trainings.

We've had a busy during the month running our Green Teen Camps, providing a fun way to learn about the environment inside and outside the classroom. At ECO-UNESCO we want young people to experience and learn in the outdoors and we have organised outdoor events to Phoenix Park, Howth, St. Stephens Green, Merrion Square and Trinity College for groups on our Youth for Sustainable Development and ECO-Choices programmes.

We've also been travelling around the country giving workshops in Athlone, Limerick, Dublin, Wexford and Meath and dropped into Body & Soul to deliver nature workshops to young festival goers, read on to find out how we got on.

Participants on Green Skills programme are also out of the classroom as they are completing the work experience element of the programme at green organisation all across Dublin. We're delighted to be starting a new 10 week Green Skills course on 10th July for the first time in Bray, Co. Wicklow. Places are filling up fast, for more information and how to sign up see the update below.

We're also taking bookings for an accredited EPV Primary Teacher training on how to engage young people with the environment. It's taking place 3-7 July at our office in Dublin. Please see below for details on how to register.

Looking ahead to the rest of the summer, we have plenty of events and activities coming up. Until next time be sure to keep up to date on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [website](#).

Until next time,
Elaine Nevin
National Director

New Green Skills course in Bray now accepting places!



ECO-UNESCO is delighted to announce that we will be running our first [Green Skills](#) course, supported by Accenture, in Bray, Co Wicklow. Green Skills is a 10 week programme (Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm) that supports young people (16-25 years old) towards meaningful employment and further education.

The course combines specialist training; a practical work experience placement; mentoring; project work, along with supports including employment and further education support. By the end of the course participants will gain QQI Level 3 qualification in Eco-Community Development along with work experience and post course employment support.

Book your place online now by [clicking here](#) or contact Triona on yei@ecounesco.ie or call 01 662 5491.

Green Skills working for success



Picture: Green Skills participants on hike to Howth

Participants in the [Green Skills](#) programme are currently on their individual work placements at various locations around Dublin. The participant's interests and work placements range from the Irish Environmental Network, the Simon Community, and private environmental organisations. We are looking forward to finding out how they get on!

Youth for Sustainable Development planning their summer projects



Picture: young people from YSD enjoy learning outdoors

It's been another busy month for the young people in the Youth for Sustainable Development Programme. With the brighter evenings and the vast improvement in the weather, our usual Wednesday workshops have been taking place outside the office when possible.

Our young people have been enjoying taking their learning and project work out to Dublin's green spaces to St. Stephens Green, Merion Square and Trinity College. They are now working on developing a new range of action projects to carry out on their school holidays - a very dedicated lot!

Youth for Sustainable Development expanding!

We're delighted to announce that the Youth for Sustainable Development programme will be launching outside of Dublin later this year in four locations around Ireland. Keep an eye on upcoming E-bulletins, our website and social media for more information to come!

Youth and Environment Europe meeting in Finland

ECO-UNESCO is a member of the Youth and Environment Europe Network and will be travelling to Helsinki to attend their annual Board Meeting from 14-16 July. Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) is a network of youth non-governmental organisations coming from many different European countries. YEE's activities aim to promote sustainable

development, environmental protection, nature conservation, and to educate and raise awareness about environmental issues among young people. This will provide a great opportunity to network and get to know other youth environmental organisations; and bring back some inspiration from the great activities happening in Europe!

Soul Kids enjoy nature at festival

ECO-UNESCO Clubs attended the Soul Kids area of the Body & Soul festival from 23-25 June to provide guided nature walks in the woodlands of Ballinlough Castle over the three-day event. The young festival goers enjoyed learning how to identify trees and went on bug hunts.

They also learned about communication in the world of songbirds and about the interconnectedness of all species. A great time was had by all!



Photo: ECO-UNESCO workshops at Body & Soul

Learning2Change our World travelling the country



Photo: Teacher training in Portlaoise

During May, the Learning2Change (L2C) programme continued its dash around the country delivering its signature workshop on Sustainable Development in Athlone, Limerick, Dublin, Wexford and Meath.

The L2C team also delivered an extremely well-received Teacher Training workshop in Portlaoise (pictured). This involved presenting an overview of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and how it fits into the Post-primary curriculum. Teachers got the opportunity to observe and take part in a wide variety of activities exemplifying active learning methodologies. This exceptional group of teachers generated rich discussions on the efficacy of such methodologies and explored with each other how they might implement them in their own classrooms. Thanks to the glorious sunshine on that day, part of the workshop was held outside which lent itself nicely to connecting with nature.

The Learning2Change programme 2016/2017 is now complete. To participate in next year's programme, please contact: youth@ecounesco.ie.

Do you want your organisation to be more sustainable?



Earlier this month we delivered a training to Sunbeam House in Bray, the latest organisation to sign up to the [ECO-Sustainability Award](#). The first meeting consists of a preliminary inspection of the premises and some tips and advice on how to improve the organisation's green performance. We wish them the very best in working towards the Bronze Award.

We work with organisations who want to improve their green practices to become more sustainable, by supporting them to achieve an . This is a whole organisation approach to sustainability which recognises organisations for the work that they are doing towards sustainability.

If you or your organisation is interested in taking part in the ECO-Sustainability Award, please contact Niall at (01) 662 5491 or email ysd@ecunesco.ie.

Ends

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