



MONAGHAN'S
WONDERFUL
WETLANDS



— JOIN THE —
County Monaghan
Wetland Network



MONAGHAN'S WONDERFUL WETLANDS

The County Monaghan Wetland Network encourages conservation or enhancement measures to be undertaken at wetlands, promotes the importance and values of wetlands, helps people to share their experiences and builds capacity to protect our wonderful wetland heritage.

JOIN THE
WETLAND
NETWORK
[CLICK HERE](#)

Read more about the network
in the following pages.



INTRODUCTION

The County Monaghan Wetland Network was developed as part of the County Monaghan Wetland Action Plan. The aim of the Wetland Action Plan is to develop a plan to protect, enhance, conserve, and advocate for the biodiversity and heritage of Monaghan's wetlands.

As part of this action plan, an assessment of the ecosystem services carried out by wetland sites in County Monaghan was undertaken.



What are ecosystem services?

Ecosystem services are the benefits that nature provides for free, for everyone. Loss of ecosystem services can have powerful impacts on our economy and society.

The results of the ecosystem services assessment indicated that most wetland sites in County Monaghan could be enhanced or restored to promote both the quality of the wetland site and the services they provide us with.

Who can join the network?

We encourage any group or individual who has a wetland site in their ownership or that they manage to become a member of the County Monaghan Wetland Network. Members can be part of tidy towns groups, local community groups, schools, businesses, members of the farming community, or private individuals – to name just a few!

The only requirement to join the network is that at least one measure from our list of measures (see list below) has been undertaken at the wetland site, and that groups or individuals might consider undertaking further measures in the future.

<h3>PROVISIONING</h3>  <p>FOOD</p>  <p>MEDICINE</p>  <p>FRESH WATER</p>  <p>RAW MATERIALS</p>	<h3>REGULATING</h3>  <p>POLLINATION</p>  <p>LESSEN WEATHER IMPACTS</p>  <p>AIR QUALITY</p>  <p>SOIL PROTECTION</p>
<h3>CULTURAL</h3>  <p>CULTURAL HERITAGE</p>  <p>RECREATION & TOURISM</p>  <p>EDUCATION & RESEARCH</p>  <p>ABSTHETIC</p>	<h3>SUPPORTING</h3>  <p>SOIL FORMATION</p>  <p>PHOTOSYNTHESIS</p>  <p>NUTRIENT CYCLING</p>  <p>HABITATS</p>

How do I know my site is a wetland?

County Monaghan has a diversity of wetland habitats including rivers, streams, lakes, fens, marshes, bogs, wet woodlands, and wet grasslands. Many of the wetland sites present across County Monaghan have been mapped.

If your site is on this map, then it is a wetland site. If your site is not present on the map, but you feel that it is a wetland habitat, you can send some photos of the site with a brief description to us by email to confirm if it is a wetland or not.

[CLICK HERE
TO VIEW
WETLAND
MAPS](#)

[CLICK HERE
TO EMAIL
YOUR
PHOTOS](#)



What actions can I/we do at our wetland?

Here is a list of potential actions under five broad themes, that can be put in place across a variety of wetland sites to help enhance and conserve them. It might be a good idea to start off gradually, picking one or two actions that could be put in place at your site, and then choosing more actions as required over time.



Action: Protecting wetland species and habitats



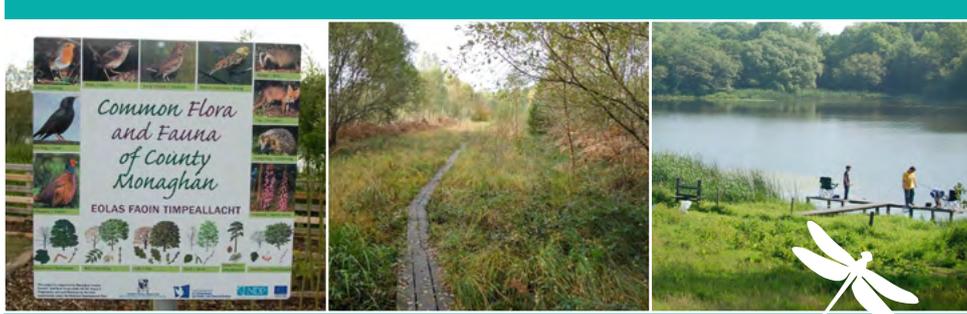
- Fenced off wetland to prevent livestock trampling
- Created buffer zone at edge of wetland
- Wetland is included in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan
- Bird/Bat boxes installed
- Bug hotel installed
- Managing existing wildflower areas for biodiversity
- Installed sympathetic fishing platforms and safe access to wetland
- Installed a constructed wetland to clean waste water on farm
- Installed a constructed wetland to clean town/village waste water



Action: Reduce inputs on wetland



- Insecticide use eliminated
- Herbicide use eliminated
- Fertiliser use reduced
- Fertiliser use eliminated
- Peat free project



Action: Raising awareness

- Site has information sign(s) on biodiversity
- Site has information sign(s) on wetlands
- Boardwalk/viewing platform present at site
- Wetland used for recreation, water sports, fishing etc.
- Educational/art events hosted at site
- Site is used for school tours/projects
- Site is open to public with walking paths
- The historical/archaeological value of the wetland is promoted



Action: Restoration measures

- Removal of invasive species (e.g. Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, Rhododendron)
- Native species planting
- Rubbish removal
- Drain blocking to protect wetland hydrology and improve carbon storage
- Grazing animals excluded from wetland
- Using native breeds to ecologically graze wetland
- Stabilised river banks through willow planting
- Leaky dams and sediment traps installed to manage flood events and silt/erosion



Action: Monitoring



Biodiversity surveys undertaken at wetland

Biodiversity records from wetland submitted to National Biodiversity Data Centre

Butterfly transect monitored at site

Bird species recorded at site

Wetland is an iWebs site

Hydrological/water level readings taken on wetland

Water quality monitoring undertaken on wetland

Why are there so many measures listed – do all these need to apply to my wetland?

We have tried to cover as many measures that can be undertaken on a wetland to help ensure its protection and favourable management. If you have undertaken any of these, tick all that apply to your wetland. You might see some other measures that you could consider at a future time on the wetland.

I think my wetland is fine as it is – and I maintain it as a high quality site. Can I register my site?

If you believe you have a wetland that does not require any of the measures above, because it is already of high quality, please provide details when you register your site in the County Monaghan Wetland Network, and the team will review whether our assessment agrees with your own or possibly suggest some measures.

Is it possible to get funding to carry out actions at a wetland site?

Yes, some grant funding is available through Monaghan County Council, via the Monaghan Wetland Action Plan Fund. Find out more about the and how to apply, click on the button opposite.

The aim of the fund is to incentivise community groups and individual landowners to take positive actions for wetland sites as part of the Monaghan Wetlands Action Plan.

In addition a range of Community grant schemes are available in County Monaghan. For more information click on the button opposite.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY & FIND OUT MORE](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)

How do I include a wetland site in the County Monaghan Wetland Network?

To join the County Monaghan Wetland Network you simply fill out a form (follow the link below) or scan the QR code, which will take you to the Wetland Network app.

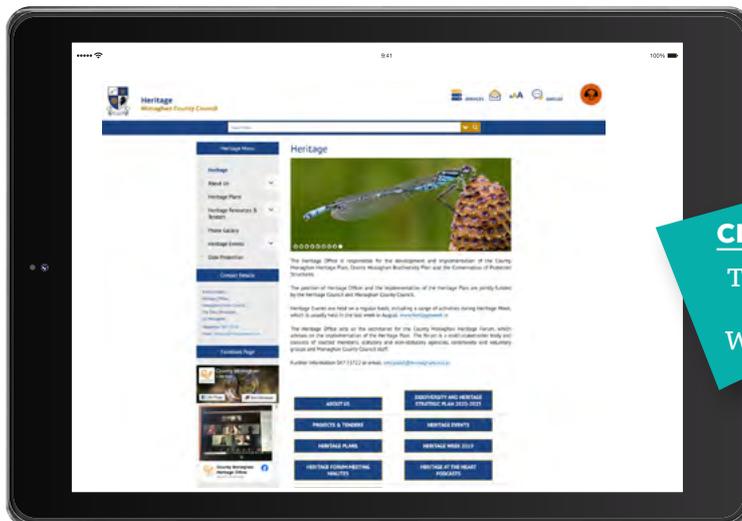


OR



You will be asked some general information about the wetland (name and location), you will need to indicate which action(s) have been undertaken at the wetland, and finally you will be asked to provide us with some contact details.

You can also visit the County Monaghan Heritage website where you will find a link to the Wetland Network app, together with a range of further information on the County Monaghan Wetland Action Plan project.



What do I do if I have more than one wetland to add?

Please submit a separate record for each site you wish to add to the County Monaghan Wetland Network.

I have a question about the County Monaghan Wetland Network – who do I ask?

For further information, or any queries, please contact the County Monaghan Heritage Office.



MONAGHAN'S WONDERFUL WETLANDS



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



MONAGHAN
HERITAGE
OFFICE



The County Monaghan Wetland Network was developed as part of the County Monaghan Wetland Action Plan 2020-2021. The Wetland Action Plan is a joint project initiative of Monaghan County Council, and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.