

New stamps encourage everyone to 'Protect Nature'

JAMES DILLON

An Post is issuing two new 'Protect Nature' stamps developed in conjunction with Ireland's National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS).

They were unveiled by Christopher O'Sullivan, Minister of State for Nature, Heritage and Biodiversity.

And the timing couldn't be better with the National Biodiversity Week starting May 15th – and finishing May 24th).

The new Protect Nature stamps highlight how everyone's actions impact the natural world around us. It emphasises the



importance of us all playing our part in protecting nature in our everyday leisure and work activities.

The effect of water pollution and fire on our natural surroundings and wildlife are the key design focus on the stamps.

They carry the message to Observe, Respect and Protect all nature, now and for generations to come.

Mr O'Sullivan said "This set of two stamps from An Post reminds us all of the need to protect Ireland's natural heritage and highlights two of the biggest threats faced by wildlife and habitats – fire and water pollution. As National Biodiversity Week approaches, it's particularly timely that An Post is highlighting the message to 'observe, respect and protect' our natural world."

He added: "Small

changes in our behaviour outdoors can make a big difference, particularly at this time of year. These include simple actions like keeping your dog on a lead, sticking to the paths in sensitive habitats like dunes and bogs, leaving the barbecue at home and keeping your distance from nests and wildlife."

The set of two 'N' rate national stamps, for letter postage within the island of Ireland, a special First Day Cover envelope and cancellation designed by CI Studio are available from Thursday 7th May at selected post offices and at anpost.com/shop, with free delivery.

They were unveiled at Knocksink Wood Nature Reserve, Co. Wicklow, one of the many NPWS sites across the country offering 'up-close' access to nature, and thousands of stunning places for a relaxing walk or picnic with family or friends in the company of native wildlife, waterways and



Christopher O'Sullivan TD with responsible Dublin dog walkers Joan O'Neill and Aidan Gorman and their canine friends, Percy and Hannah in Knocksink Wood Nature Reserve plant life.

Owen Keogh, An Post's chief sustainability officer said "An Post has set the goal of restoring the biodiversity within our land and property portfolio to 1984 levels by 2030.

This ambition is informed by a first-of-its-kind assessment in Ireland of An Post's impact on nature and the associated risks and opportunities for our business."

What we can do to Protect Nature:

As the weather improves and the evenings grow longer, we all love to spend time outdoors, enjoying nature, but it is important to do this with respect.

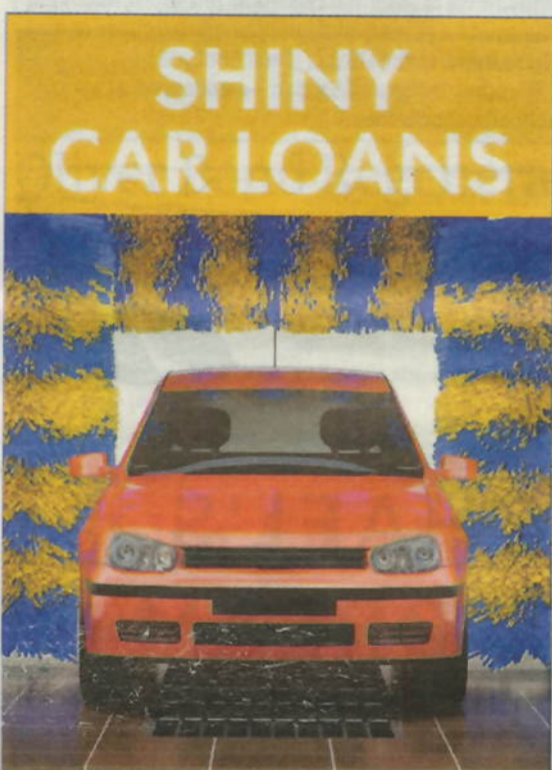
Stay on designated roads and footpaths, particularly because birds are nesting and nurturing their young

- Mind your step and take care to avoid disturbing ground nesting birds and sensitive habitats.

- Give wildlife space. Keep your distance from nesting birds.

- Be responsible for your dog. Keep your dog on a lead in areas where birds are nesting and where signage asks you to do so.

- Pick up your litter and your dog's poo – leave no trace.



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Applications open for local enterprise showcase 2027

Applications are now open for craft and design businesses from Fingal to participate in Local Enterprise Showcase 2027, taking place in the RDS Dublin from 17–19 January 2027.

Local Enterprise Showcase is one of Ireland's most important trade opportunities for emerging craft and design businesses. More than 100 companies from across the country will take part, gaining the opportunity to meet high-quality buyers from Ireland and overseas, including the UK, USA, mainland Europe, Asia and Africa.

An initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices, Local Enterprise Showcase is a dedicated area within Showcase that highlights Ireland's newest and most exciting design talent. Businesses selected to participate receive significant support in advance of the event, including mentoring in merchandising, marketing, pricing and sales tech-

niques, to ensure they are fully prepared to maximise opportunities during the three-day trade show.

Oisín Geoghegan, Head of Enterprise at Local Enterprise Office Fingal, said: "Being exposed to such a concentrated group of high-quality buyers in one place can be a game-changer. Fingal has a strong design and craft sector, with numerous producers supplying high quality products to global markets. LEO Fingal is committed to supporting innovation and growth in this sector."

Showcase 2027 is presented on behalf of Design & Crafts Council Ireland, with support from Enterprise Ireland in promoting the event internationally through its overseas network, and the Local Enterprise Offices nationwide.

Further details on eligibility, application deadlines and support available can be obtained from Local Enterprise Office Fingal or by visiting www.localenterprise.ie/fingal

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



ACQUISITION NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ACQUIRE LAND UNDER SECTION 45 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000 (AS AMENDED AND SUBSTITUTED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2024 AND ALL OTHER ACTS THEREBY ENABLING ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE LANDS AT CARDY ROCK VIEW, BALBRIGGAN, COUNTY DUBLIN

Notice is hereby given that Fingal County Council in exercise of the power conferred on them by Section 45 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, intend to acquire by Order that section of the land described hereunder.

A copy of the map referred to in the Order may be seen and inspected at the offices of Fingal County Council, Reception Desk, County Hall, Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 X8Y2 and Fingal County Council, Reception Desk, Civic Offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, D15 W638, Monday to Thursday 9.00 am – 5.00 pm, Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm (excluding Bank Holidays) from 14th of May 2026 to 12th of June 2026.

The map is also available on the Fingal County Council website www.fingal.ie/vesting-order.

Further information may be obtained from Aisling Doyle, Senior Staff Officer, Property Services Division, Fingal County Council, County Hall, Swords, Fingal, Co. Dublin, K67 X8Y2. Telephone no. 01 890 5000, E-mail: property.mgt@fingal.ie.

Any person having an interest in the land to which this acquisition notice relates, may before the 12th day of June 2026 appeal to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND INTENDED TO BE ACQUIRED

Open Space at Cardy Rock View, Balbriggan, County Dublin.

Dated this the 14th day of May 2026.

Natalie Dineen,
Administrative Officer,
Property Services,
Economic, Community & Cultural Development.