

Competition Criteria

This project is open to not-for-profit community groups and organisations such as TidyTowns committees, schools, individual classes, transition years, residents associations, scout clubs and other similar groups in the community.

We want to encourage fresh thinking about the way we live our lives, in order to find new and better ways to tackle waste. This might involve coming up with a brand new idea, combining things in a new way, or finding new ways of making existing solutions work better. We look at innovation very widely. The best innovations do not need to be technical or scientific - they might involve re-organising processes or the way people interact.



WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Fill out the attached application form with as much detail as possible and post with photographs, maps, reports, information, e-mail video clips, radio interviews or any other electronic media that supports the campaign. Please supply all media files on disk.

Alternatively, the information may be supplied in word format under each category heading and emailed to tidytowns@environ.ie



Don't let it all go to waste!



 **TidyTowns**[®]
Caring for our environment

RECYCLEINITIATIVE 2009

Printed on recycled paper



Don't Let It All Go To Waste!

Let 's All Work Together!

This TidyTowns initiative is sponsored by WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Ireland, SIMI (Society of the Irish Motor Industry), Alupro Ireland, IFFPG (Irish Farm Film Producers Group) and Cré (Composting Association of Ireland). This year, these organisations teamed up with an aim to encourage people to recycle electrical equipment, batteries, end of life vehicles, aluminium, silage plastic and compost respectively. This initiative is aimed at community groups who have delivered grass roots answers to recycling initiatives in their community.

The aim of this project is to help TidyTowns committees, communities, clubs and organisations realise what waste they produce and to examine various options for re-use and recycling with a special emphasis on the items mentioned above.

Working Together With TidyTowns



TidyTowns has maintained a leading role in enhancing our local environment. Through various projects and awards, integral parts of TidyTowns, stakeholders have helped local communities in their work; aimed at protecting and enhancing our local areas. Producers Agencies and Government Organisations are involved in various initiatives such as 'The Race Against Waste Campaign'.

What is Waste?

Every year in Ireland, large volumes of waste materials are produced - some of this waste could be prevented going to landfill and given another life through recycling

Electrical	Anything with a plug or a battery
Packaging	Tetra pack, plastic containers, cardboard
Other Recyclables	Newspapers, magazines glass
Metal	Food and Beverage Cans, Menu Trays etc
Green waste	Grass, Hedge Clippings
Food Waste	Kitchen Food Scraps, Vegetable Peelings etc



Current Recycling Initiatives

Green Bins	Civic Amenity Sites	End of Life Vehicle Scheme
Plastic Bag Levy	Bring Banks	WEEE Take Back Scheme
Brown Bins	Home / Community Composting	
Batteries Take Back Scheme	Farm Film Recycling Scheme	

There are a number of national initiatives to encourage us to recycle, but as individuals and communities, could we do more?



This year we are looking for TidyTowns committees, communities, clubs or organisations to volunteer to take part in the recycle initiative to reduce ALL waste in the community. By taking part in the initiative, you will help raise the awareness of waste management, not just for the TidyTowns competition but by developing a recycling initiative that can continue throughout the year.

There is an overall prize for the Recycling Initiative 2009. The prize will be awarded to the highest scoring community, club or organisation deemed to show the most recycling initiative.



Does your group have an on-going recycling initiative that made a difference in your community and helped improve awareness or even rates of reuse and recycling? IF SO TELL US...

If not and you are willing to embark on a project or program, here are some ideas to get you started...

Produce a recycling map of your area and print on recycled paper highlighting public facilities, shops that take back material for recycling and what can be brought where. Distribute throughout your locality as part of a recycling information campaign tailor -made for your area or create recycling information hotspots in community centres or retail centres locally.

Is your school or organisation involved in green activities to recycle more? Could they spread the word by producing a video or radio clip or newspaper ad and working with local newspapers or radio stations or even community newsletters to spread the word of recycling to local adults and children?

Do you know how much waste is REALLY being produced or recycled in your area? Is your neighbourhood better or worse than the national average? Knowledge of the waste produced could help you improve recycling facilities in your locality and highlight areas for improvement.

Some people in your community may not have access to recycling facilities as they do not have transport - how about arranging regular recycling collection open days in conjunction with your local authority or recycling company in an accessible area and ensure the message is spread effectively in advance on what can and can't be recycled on the day, perhaps involving local groups that work with elderly or young people.

Small projects can have a big effect - why not arrange a recycling club within your housing estate or apartment complex aimed at decreasing the amount of waste being sent to landfill - you could have a neighbourhood information website, household appliance swap shop, communal composting area...

