

Local Environmental Action Fund



Communities Working Together for Climate

The Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF) supports community groups to deliver projects that enhance the environment, promote biodiversity, and take meaningful climate action.

Funded in partnership with IPB Insurance and Cavan County Council, LEAF provides grants to Tidy Towns and voluntary groups working together with local partners to improve their communities.

Purpose & Funding

- Established to mark IPB Insurance's 100th anniversary.
- Marks the first anniversary of the Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme partnership, which has removed insurance barriers for eligible groups.
- Providing €50,000 per local authority, funded by IPB.
- Supports Tidy Towns and similar voluntary community groups delivering environmental and climate-focused projects.

Objectives

The fund aims to:

- Support sustainable, climate-focused projects
- Strengthen community collaboration
- Enhance local biodiversity and green infrastructure
- Increase public awareness of environmental issues

What's Available

- Grants from €1,000 to €25,000
- Funding for environmental and climate action projects
- Support for collaborative, community-led initiatives

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Who Can Apply

Applications are open to community-based voluntary groups involved in environmental improvement and sustainability initiatives, including:

- Tidy Towns groups
- Residents' Associations
- Other voluntary community groups undertaking similar environmental or community enhancement activities.
- Be registered with their local Public Participation Network (PPN)
- Demonstrate collaboration with at least one other community stakeholder (e.g. schools, sports clubs, youth groups, Men's Sheds, etc.), or clearly explain why this is not possible

Applications Timeline

Applications will be open from Monday 28th September to 5pm Sunday 11th October.

Projects must focus on climate action, biodiversity and/or environmental enhancement. Examples include but not limited to:

- o Biodiversity conservation (e.g., creating pollinator-friendly spaces).
- o Tree planting and urban greening initiatives.
- o Waste reduction and recycling initiatives.
- o Water conservation projects.
- o Public education campaigns on sustainability.
- o Climate Awareness Campaigns.

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Application Requirements

Applications are administered by Cavan County Council. To apply, groups must submit a completed application form to include:

- Project proposal (500–1500 words)
- Budget breakdown
- Proof of PPN registration
- Environmental impact statement

Applications should clearly outline:

- Project objectives and delivery plan
- Community involvement
- Expected environmental outcomes

Monitoring & Reporting

Grant recipients should provide the following:

1. Final Impact Report: Provide a brief summary of activities, outcomes, and expenditure report (including receipts).
2. Before and After Photos where relevant: To visually demonstrate the impact of the project.
3. Community Feedback: Consideration of request to include feedback from community group members involved or affected by the project.