

Planting Scheme for Andrew's Flowerbed March 2011

This project will contribute to the enhancement of urban ecology in Limerick City by planting native shrubs and flower species. Ideally, this project will act as a 'test-bed' and ongoing case study to highlight the importance of replacing low biodiversity value plants with native species of high ecological and heritage significance.

The planting scheme will consist of the following

- Native Wildflowers
- Native Irish Hedgerow
- Native Irish Flowering and Fruiting Shrubs
- Irish Bell Heather Border

Plants Required

Wildflower Mix	No. Required
GF03 - Butterflies, Bees and Bird Attracting Wildflowers	200g bag

Source: www.wildflowers.ie/mixes/gf/gf03.htm

Native Shrubs	No. Required
Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>)	3 (2 female, 1 male)
Common Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)	3
European Spindle (<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>)	3
Guelder Rose (<i>Viburnum opulus</i>)	3
Dog Rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)	6
Elder Berry (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	3
Native Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)	4 (3 female, 1 male)

Source: Irish Seed Savers: www.irishseedsavers.ie

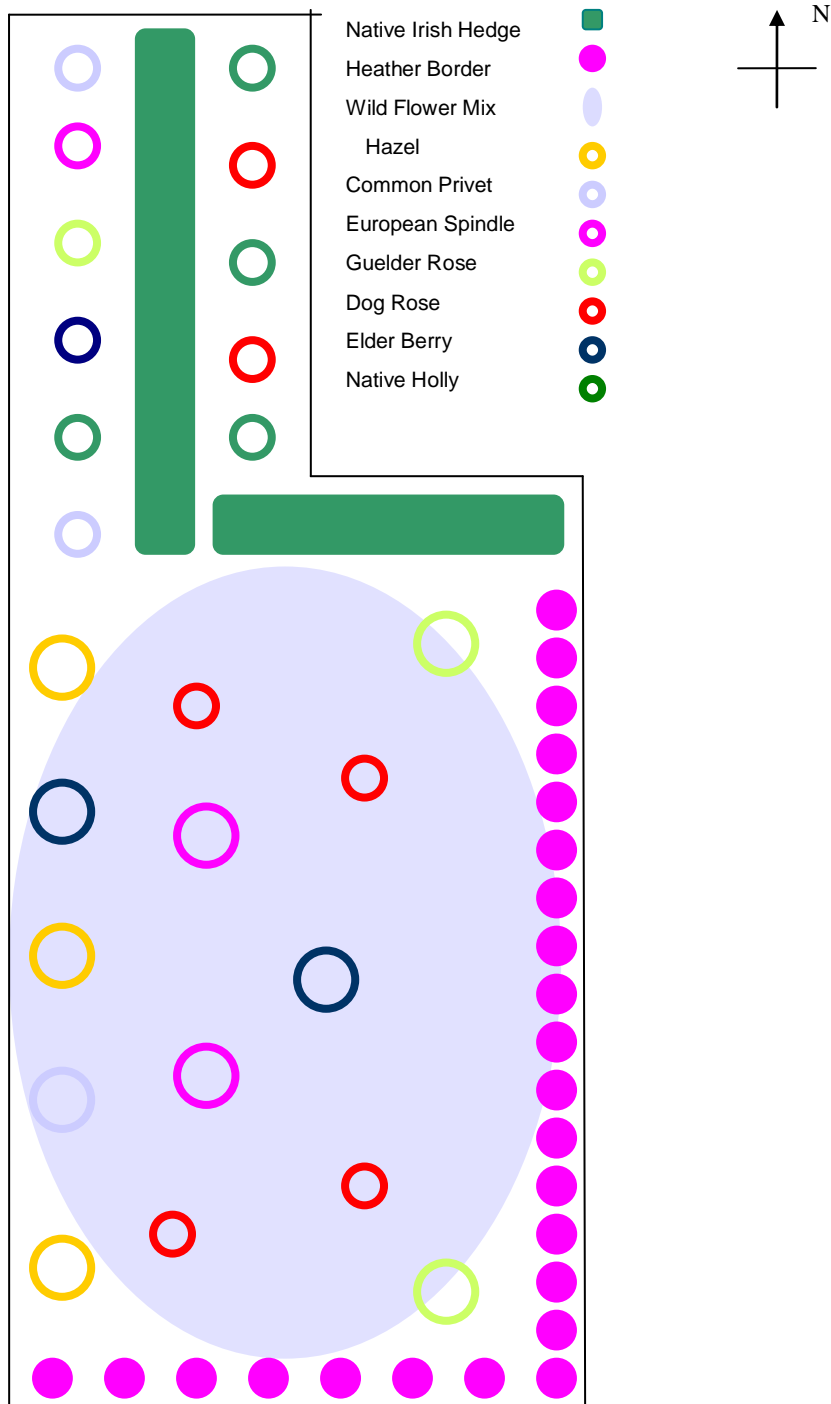
Native Irish Hedge	No. Required (1m height sprigs)
Whitethorn (<i>Sorbus hibernica</i>)	3
Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	3
Elm (<i>Ulmus glabra</i>)	3
Wild cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>)	3
Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>)	3

Source: Irish Seed Savers: www.irishseedsavers.ie

Heather	No. Required
Irish Bell Heather (<i>Daboecia Cantabrigica</i>)	24

Source: Irish Seed Savers: www.irishseedsavers.ie

Proposed Planting Scheme



The above diagram represents a plan for the positioning of the native plants in the flower bed. The south area is filled with wildflower mix and native shrubs providing pollen and nectar, attracting insects and feeding birds. The northern part consists mainly of hedgerow and shrubs which provide shelter and food for birds and other animals.

More information on our Native Plants

Irish Wildflowers (GF03 Mix)

This mixture is designed to provide seed in autumn and winter to attract over 20 of the more common bird and 16 of the 32 Irish native butterfly species. Mix will also provide seed feed for winter migrant birds, such as Goldfinch.



GF03 Mix Species list

Birdsfoot Trefoil, Burdock, Burnet Saxifrage, Common Vetch, Corn Chamomile, Corn Marigold, Corn Poppy, Corncockle, Cornflower, Cowslip, Devil's Bit Scabious, Feverfew, Field Scabious, Fleabane, Foxglove, Greater Knapweed, Greater Trefoil, Hedge Garlic Mustard, Hemp Agrimony, Hoary Plantain, Kidney Vetch, Lady's Bedstraw, Lesser Knapweed, Marjoram, Scented Mayweed, Meadow Vetchling, Meadowsweet, Ox-eye Daisy, Purple Loosestrife, Ragged Robin, Red Campion, Red Clover, Rough Hawksbit, Ribwort Plantain, Shepherds Purse, Sorrel, St Johnswort, Teasel, Water Avens, Wild Angelica, Wild Carrot, Yarrow, Dames Violet, Dog Violet, Wood Sage, Lady's Smock.

Native Irish Flowering and Fruiting Shrubs

The native Irish shrubs are distinguished from native trees by their softer wood whilst achieving a lower ultimate height, usually less than 6 metres (18ft) tall. All bushes can be pruned to a manageable height to be unobtrusive.

Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)

Male catkins and female flowers
2 shrubs needed for cross pollination
Easy to maintain and can be pruned yearly
Form of habitation and food for 73 different insect species
Requires a moist, free-draining, alkaline soil, in full sun to partial shade for the production of hazelnuts
Provides food for birds and mammals



Common Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*)

Strong of scent, leaf and stem
Extremely tolerant of atmospheric pollution, Provides welcome cover for our local birds, Maximum height and spread of 12ft (4 metres), Can be pruned to take on a small tree-like shape, Produces cone-like clusters of creamy-white tubular flowers, Moths rely on them for nectar, Fruit provides a feast for our native birds but should not be eaten by people.



European Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*)

Maximum 6 metres (20ft) in height but can be pruned to a manageable unobtrusive height.
In autumn they come alive with vibrant shades of pink, purple and red.
Richness of their nectar ideal for feeding insect species
Fruit, seed and leaf colour exhibited by Spindle berry in October to December



Guelder Rose (*Viburnum opulus*)

Very easy to grow and self-fertile,
Snowballs central flowers (female) develop into clusters,
Bright red berries from September to October,
Decorative ornamental berries,
Attract insects to flowers and birds to fruit
Striking autumn foliage colours



Dog Rose (*Rosa canina*)

Good resistance to the common fungal rose ills, maximum size of three metres high by three metres wide, Copes in wide ranging soil types, Flowers in June and July
Attracts bees, butterflies and moths
Fruits ripen to an orange-red colour from October to December,
Fruits supply important source of food for cold and hungry birds



Elder / Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*)

Copes with partial shade, coastal winds and harsh pruning,
Approximately 3 metres in height
High medicinal properties
Flowers in June and July
Fruits in August and September
Adds flavour and colour to wine, jams, sauces and chutneys.



Native Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)

Supports plant life, animals, fungi and microbes, Over-wintering evergreen leaves, Bright red winter fruit supports wildlife, Can be easily managed by pruning, Strives on a wide range of soil types, Berries grow only on female flowering holly bushes, Fertilised by a nearby male holly (30 metres maximum distance), Pedalled flowers are particularly attractive to bees, Attracts mistle thrushes.



Native Irish Hedge

Whitethorn (*Sorbus hibernica*)

White scented blossoms in May
Edible red berries (haws) in autumn
Nectar supply for bees and flies in summer
Food supply for birds in autumn and winter
Suitable for all soil types



Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*)

Snow white flowers in March and April
Very hardy plant and copes with most soil types
Nectar supply for bees
Blackish purple sloes in autumn
Provides cover for nesting birds
Attracts insects



Elm (*Ulmus glabra*)

Only native elm to Ireland
Most resistant to disease
Reddish flowers mature into pale green seeds.



Wild cherry (*Prunus avium*,*Prunus padus*)

Prefer fertile limey soils
Cherries are edible
Rough and tough native
Plant in fertile, moist soil
White blossoms April and May
Fruiting in June
Attracts birds to fruit



Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)

Hardy tree tolerant of poor soils
Acid peaty soils with good drainage
Supplies food for 28 insect species
May-June creamy white flowers
September –October fruiting red berries
Berries provide food for thrushes and blackbirds



Limerick City Biodiversity Network 2011

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