



Meath company pioneering Wildlife Gardening in Ireland

Alder Landscapes, of Julianstown Co. Meath, are one of the first landscape gardening companies in Ireland to pioneer the creation of wild plant and wild life habitats in domestic gardens and have been actively promoting this movement for more than 10 years in the eastern half of the country from Wexford to Louth.

Wildlife Gardening, as it is known, is an ecology-friendly approach which involves creating an environment that is attractive to various forms of wildlife such as birds, insects and animals. And it doesn't require a large space either, as a habitat can be as large as a lawn (which provides worms and larvae for the thrush family), or as small as the space under a decaying log (home to woodlice, beetles and hibernating frogs) – so there is plenty of scope in every garden for great diversity.

“The benefits for the homeowner are immense”, says Joe Doyle (Dip Hort, LS Design), Managing Director of Alder Landscapes and a landscape gardener with twenty years experience, “as they can take pleasure from observing the diversity of wildlife their gardens will attract while at the same time enjoying the fact that they have helped to restore and encourage this natural habitat”.

The Wildlife Gardening approach is still in its infancy in Ireland, but there has been considerable growth in the number of gardeners in the UK and in the US who have implemented it in large and small scales in their own gardens.

Alder are members of the prestigious landscape gardening association in Ireland, the ALCI (Association of Landscape Architects in Ireland), and are one of the select few landscape gardeners to exhibit at the Bloom-in-the-Park exhibition in the Phoenix Park, May 29th to June 2nd, with their 'Rustic Garden' exhibit demonstrating the company's design strength and their ability to blend the traditional and the contemporary in a modern garden.

If you would like to find out more about the benefits wildlife gardening can bring to you, visit www.alder.ie and follow the various links to information sources. Alternatively you can contact Joe or any of his team at their Julianstown office on (041) 9829222.

For further information contact Alder Landscapes at (041) 9829222, or info@alder.ie.

Other sources of information

Information on wildlife gardening can be found on the *BBC website*:
www.bbc.co.uk/nature/animals/wildbritain

The Irish Peatland Conservation Council has lots of books and videos relating to wildlife gardening on sale.

Phone/Fax: 01 872-2397 Website: www.ipcc.ie Email: bogs@ipcc.ie

The Wild Ireland magazine runs regular features on wildlife gardening and is available from www.wildireland.ie Email: sales@wildireland.ie

The Blackrock Education Centre's website has much information and many activities based on wildlife gardening. These activities are done on a monthly basis.

Phone: 01-2300977 Website: www.blackrock-edu.ie