



Healthy Campus Case Study



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AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS

UL BioBlitz 2024

Name of institution and initiative lead
University of Limerick UL Environmental Committee (Liz Gabbett & Yvonne Ryan) & UL Environmental Society
Date and timeframe
16th April 2024
What was the reach?
This was a campus wide initiative and sought to involve the campus community, staff, and students. External engagement came from the biodiversity recorders and wildlife organisations.
Aims and Objectives
Monitor and record as many species on campus as possible
Engaging the campus through public facing events
Linking student environmental societies through bioblitz
Provide training and mentoring opportunities for students through engagement with experienced biodiversity recorders
Providing a fun event and social space for the biodiversity recording community locally

Aligned frameworks, policies, or strategies
UL Mission-based Sustainability Framework 2030 All-Ireland Pollinator Plan National Biodiversity Action Plan (2023-2030)
Project Collaborators
INTERNAL
UL Environmental Committee (staff) UL Environmental Society (students) UL Buildings and Estates
EXTERNAL
Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland National Biodiversity Data Centre Irish Wildlife Trust, Limerick Branch Ballyhoura Development Limerick Birdwatch Group Environmental Societies on other campuses

Key Learning Points
Local biodiversity recorders are keen to engage and be provided with a platform to meet and collaborate
Committed students will travel to engage and participate
Summary
A Bioblitz is an event that aims to record all biodiversity in a given area over a short period of time. Students were asked to document what they saw using a digital mapping app on their phone, creating a geolocation, and allowing for better identification of species of plants, insects, and wildlife. Several experienced ecologists supported the students in recording and identifying species. A nature walk along the riverbank was also held, highlighting environmental management issues of the Shannon, and the impact of invasive alien species on native biodiversity.

Healthy Campus Process	Whole Campus Approach	Topic	Population Group
Create	Campus Environment (Facilities & Services)	Health & Sustainability	Students
			Staff
			Wider community

