

Cork Harbour: *Creating the Change* Art Competition

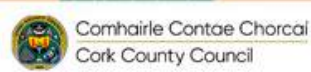
Clean Coasts Information Booklet



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CORK HARBOUR: CREATING THE CHANGE



About The Competition

The competition is run by Clean Coasts in collaboration with Cork County Council, and Bus Éireann support the competition and further promote competition entries and winners.

This is an art and visual media competition for Cork secondary school students. We are asking student to submit entries within their categories as outlined below, a poster competition for junior cycle student and video competition for senior cycle students.

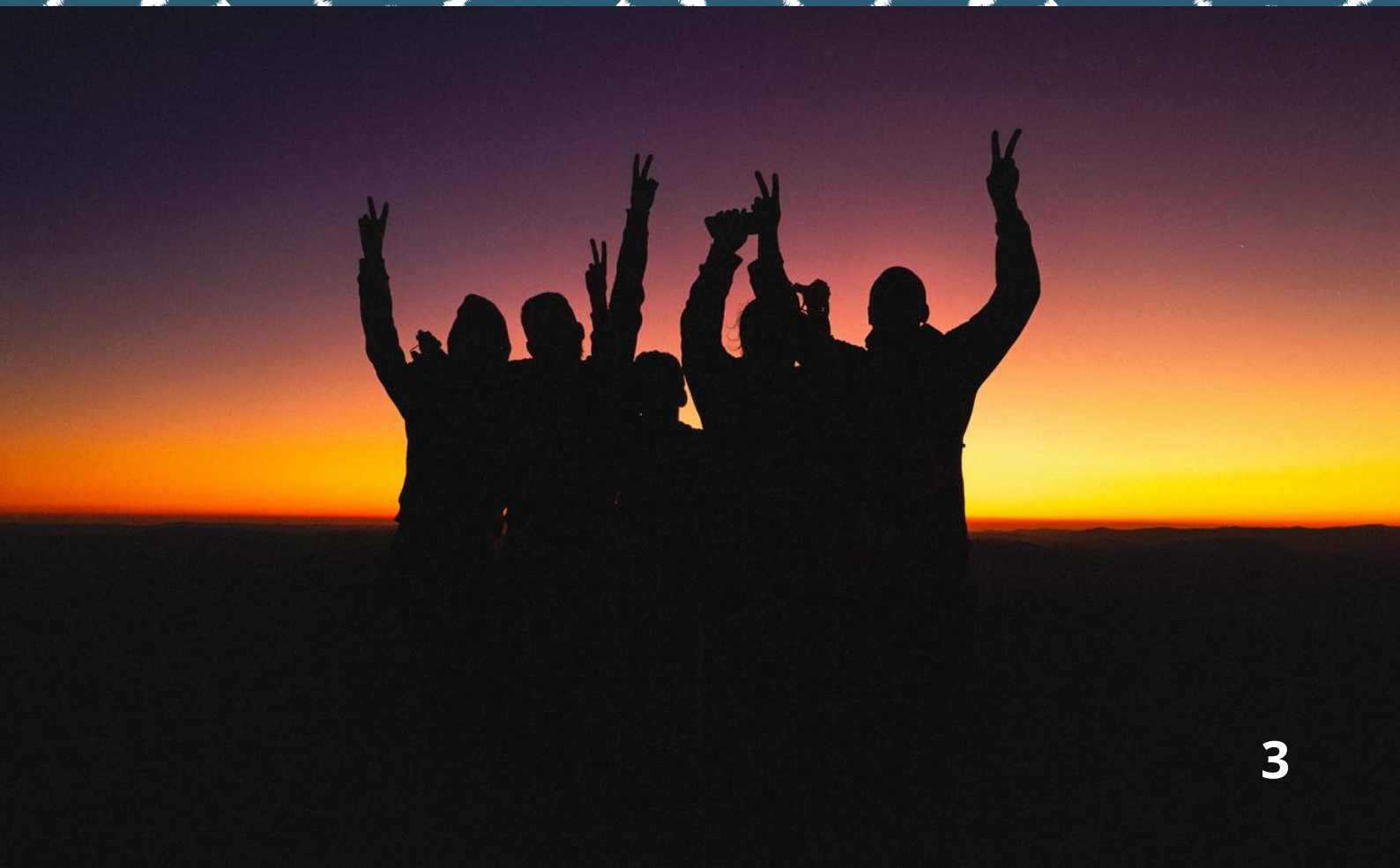
Students are asked to provide campaign poster/video to promote positive environmental action in Cork Harbour area.

The aim of the competition is to help promote the respectful treatment of Cork Harbour's coastal environments among young people who live in and enjoy the area.

We all enjoy the beach and coast during the Summer months, and beyond. Unfortunately some coastal regions and parks can become very littered, having an extremely negative impact on these regions and wildlife that reside in them. Clean Coasts are asking for students help to promote the message of taking your waste home with you.

Find out more about our competition at:

www.cleancoasts.org



Our Partners



Cork County Council

Cork County Council is the second largest Local Authority in the Republic of Ireland and the largest based on geographic area size. The Council has an annual revenue budget of €338m and services a population of 332,255 people, or 117,742 households. Current staff numbers total 2,000 WTE approximately.

The County Council has an elected membership of 55 Councillors who are elected to the Council every five years. The primary purpose of the Elected Members is to develop and implement policy for the range of services delivered. In conducting its business, the Council meets twice a month as a full Council and is split into three Divisional Committees; North, South, and West, each of whom meets monthly.

The Council delivers a broad and diverse range of services, including roads, housing, planning, environmental services, economic development & tourism, community development, motor taxation, fire services and library services.

Bus Éireann

Bus Éireann operates the Cork city bus service on behalf of the National Transport Authority (NTA).

A recent report by KPMG calculates Bus Éireann's value to Cork city at €40 million. Bus Éireann employs 570 people who live in County Cork and transports 16,000 students on school transport in the county each school day.

As the operator of Cork city's bus service, in addition to rural PSO and inter-county Expressway services, Bus Éireann has a special commitment to not only enhance their services for passengers, but to improve their sustainability. This commitment was underlined in 2021 when they launched Bus Éireann's first Sustainability Strategy - Driving Change which commits to a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Environmental Issues in the Cork Harbour Area

Cork Harbour is one of the largest natural harbours in the world representing a unique coastal and marine ecosystem comprising a symbiosis between flora, fauna and people.

Unfortunately, it is subjected to a lot of pressures resultant from human activities such as shipping (merchant, navy, fishing), manufacturing, legal and illegal dumping, and leisure activities. The ultimate negative outcome of all these activities will be the pollution of Cork Harbour waterways.

We can see evidence of human caused pollution in all parts of the harbour including coastal areas, seabed, and water column. It will be true to say that many of us really love and appreciate the harbour for its natural beauty and opportunities it provides for various leisure activities such as fishing, sailing, kayaking, rowing, swimming, wind surfing, etc.

Clean Coasts would like more people to become aware of marine pollution issues and together do our best to protect our coastal and marine environments.



Marine Litter



Photo by Cathal Noonan of Clean Coasts Ballynamona

Up to 80% of marine litter comes from land-based activities and at Clean Coasts we promote the “Source to Sea” approach as the first port of call in preventing litter from getting into our marine environment. Plastics makes up 80-89% of all marine litter and annually the UN estimates that up to 10 million tonnes of litter is entering the marine environment.

If current consumption patterns and waste management practices do not improve, by 2050 there will be about 12 billion tons of plastic litter in landfills and the natural environment. Plastics can take between 450 and 1,000 years to break down when they enter the marine environment, but rather than disappearing altogether, plastics end up breaking down into smaller fragments known as microplastics, which in turn negatively impacts the natural environment.

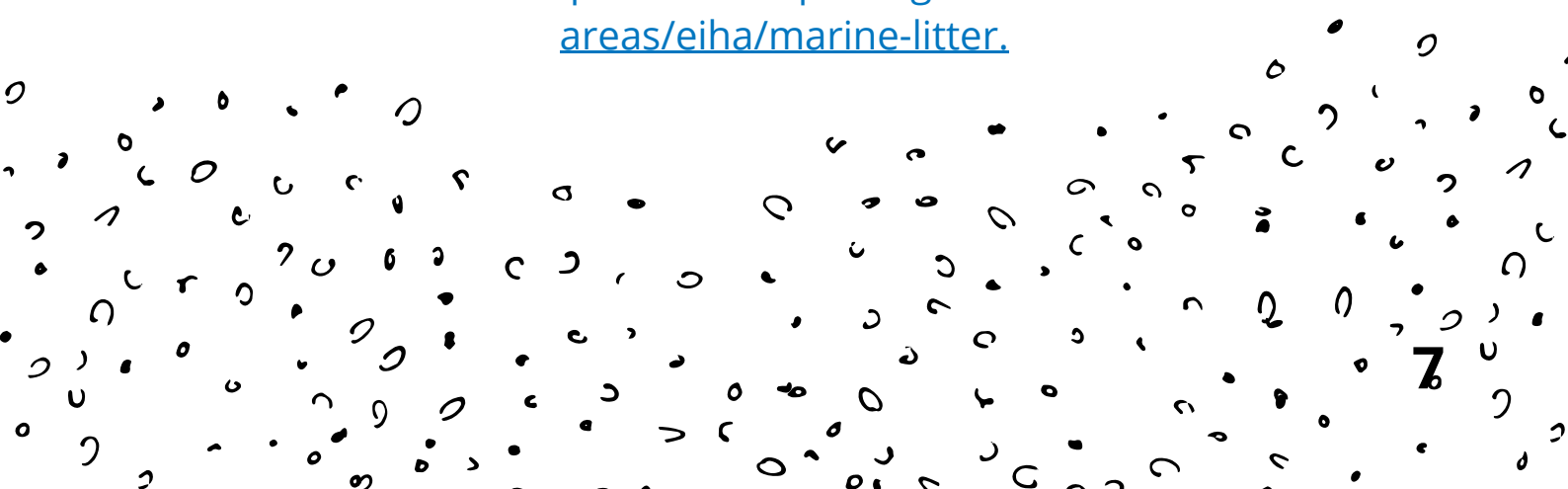




As indicated by 2017 OSPAR study based on evaluation of litter caught by fishing trawls, seabed in the Celtic Sea area to the south of Ireland is substantially polluted with various plastic items. The seabed in Cork Harbour area has been sampled with dredges and other sampling equipment onboard RV Celtic Voyager between 2006-2014, which demonstrated very high concentration of marine litter with some litter items being over 100 years old. Most litter encountered in Cork Harbour area would be of terrestrial origin or dumped from ships passing through the harbour.

**To find out more about marine litter
please visit:**

<https://cleancoasts.org/marine-litter/> and
<https://www.ospar.org/work-areas/eiha/marine-litter.>





With regards to coastal litter, recent 2021 IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter) survey has identified two litter hotspots in Cork Harbour including the coastline near Blackrock Castle and White Bay with both locations described as 'heavily littered'. The marine litter problem is unfortunately reflected in most parts of Cork Harbour.

It is very disappointing to look at river Lee in the upper Cork Harbour or the coastline at Little Island or Great Island at low tide and observe significant amounts of litter washed ashore by the tide with some of it heavily embedded within intertidal sediments. To improve the quality of life and enjoyment for all users of the Cork Harbour area we need to do what we can to minimise pollution at least the part resultant from our day to day and leisure activities.

We need to always remember that every bit of plastic that people throw into the harbour will disintegrate into smaller fragments and subsequently contaminating the seabed and water and may end up being consumed by marine life.

The plastic may cause the death of the sea creature and might also end up on our own plates as we consume contaminated seafood. As responsible citizens we need to do our best to minimise the negative impact of pollution, we can do this minimising the amount of waste we generate and educating others about the detrimental impacts that pollution imposes on our coastal and marine environments.

Sources of Ocean Plastic & Marine Litter

Litter dropped in towns and cities



Overflowing litter bins



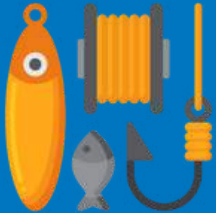
Litter dropped at the beach



Poorly managed industrial waste discharges



Lost shipping containers



Lost/discharged fishing gear



Recreational litter blown by the wind



Poorly managed landfill sites



Microbeads from personal care products



Sewage related litter

Enjoy & Protect

With the Enjoy and Protect campaign, we are asking people to celebrate our stunning coastline, beautiful beaches, epic cliffs and outdoors areas, while also protecting these natural treasures for future generations to enjoy. Together we can make Cork Harbour even more beautiful and enjoyable, by taking steps to follow some of Clean Coasts' simple recommendations when going into the great outdoors.

You may arrive in an area where the bins are full, or if you visit more remote locations, there might be no bins at all. We believe if you can bring it with you, you can bring it home. For that reason, remember to bring bin bags for recycling and general waste and if you can limit your single use waste items by switching to reusable alternatives. To turn your environmental impact from neutral to positive you could pick up some litter you see around you, and to make it even more fun and encourage others to follow your example - do a #2minutebeachclean.





How to take part in the #2minutebeachclean

- Follow Clean Coasts – @CleanCoasts on Instagram/Twitter/Facebook
- Do a #2minutebeachclean
- Take a snap of the marine litter you collect
- Post your snap on Instagram/Twitter using the hashtag #2minutebeachclean and tagging @CleanCoasts so we can reshare them
- Dispose of the waste you collected properly, recycle it/bin it!

Why should you do a #2minutebeachclean

- It will have an immediate positive impact on our environment
- You will be an example and inspire other people to take action too
- You will contribute to creating a more sustainable community
- It's an easy way to be active and exercise
- A cleaner environment means better health
- Spending time by the sea and outdoors is good for the body and for the mind
- You will help protect the ocean and marine life
- You will also help protect all life on land





At the end of the day, it all comes down to education and resultant appreciation of the environment we are living in. People need to realise that they are part of the natural ecosystem and try to minimise any negative impact or in other words the pressure of their actions on other elements of this ecosystem.

There is an old saying: “Don’t spit in the well as one day you might need to drink the water from it!”. The world and Cork Harbour can be a better place if everyone was remembering this saying and applying it to their behaviour. In our journey to make this world better, lets start small from one of the biggest natural harbours in the world by doing what we can to make it clean and enjoy it in a sustainable way.



About Clean Coasts

Clean Coasts is a charity programme, run through the Environmental Education Unit of AnTaisce, which engages communities in the protection of Ireland's beaches, seas and marine life. Clean Coasts works with communities to help protect and care for Ireland's waterways, coastline, seas, ocean and marine life. Clean Coasts thrives to create tangible and immediate improvements to Ireland's coastal environment, involving thousands of volunteers removing large quantities of marine litter from our coastline each year.

Currently, there are over 1,800 registered Clean Coasts volunteering groups and over 37,000 volunteers nationwide. There are a variety of group types such as community groups, residents' associations, tidy towns groups, sports clubs, schools, businesses, universities etc. Clean Coasts organises hundreds of beach clean-ups annually mobilising thousands of volunteers, removing considerable quantities of marine litter from Ireland's beaches and waterways.

Artwork Competition

Create an A3 piece of art or record a 1 minute video clip that shows us the impact litter is having on Cork's beaches



CORK HARBOUR: CREATING THE CHANGE



COMPETITION IS ELIGIBLE TO PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11-19

WINNING ARTWORK WILL BE DISPLAYED BY CLEAN COASTS, CORK COUNTY COUNCIL AND BUS ÉIREANN



WINNING VIDEOS & IMAGES WILL BE PROMOTED ON CLEAN COASTS, CORK COUNTY COUNCIL AND BUS ÉIREANN'S PLATFORMS



**CLOSING DATE:
APRIL 29TH 2022
4:00PM**

Submit your entries via our website at www.cleancoasts.org or email cleancoasts@eeu.antaisce.org

Mail entries to:
5a Swifts Alley,
Francis Street,
Dublin 8,
D08 TN88