

## **Press Release**

### **National Tree Week 2013**

**3 to 10 March**

This is the 29th annual tree week. The theme for this year is 'A Feast of Trees'. This has been chosen to highlight the important role that trees play as a source of food for humans, birds, animals and insects. The fruits and berries provided by trees are the most obvious source by which trees provide food but the bark, leaves and roots also provide an important source of food. Trees also play an important role both directly and indirectly in pollination which is essential to the production of food. Examples of the importance of Irelands' native trees in the provision of food are the Mountain Ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*) which through its white flowers in early Summer provides an important pollen source for insects. The berries which follow on in late Summer are an important food source for birds. The Hazel tree (*Corylus avellana*) which is commonly found in wet areas of ground and in hedgerows produces hazelnuts which can be eaten by humans, birds and animals. There are many different varieties of Hazel tree which can be grown in the garden.

To mark National Tree Week, Kildare County Council in conjunction with Coillte have organised a series of woodland walks. These will be lead by qualified & experienced speakers who will impart their extensive knowledge about trees, their features, the wildlife and ecology associated with them and how trees are managed. The venues for the woodland walks are :

**Donadea Forest Park (meet at the Castle) – Sunday, 3rd March at 2.30pm**

**Moore Abbey Wood (meet at Car Park), Monasterevin – Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm**

For further details contact;

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Photos from last years National Tree Week Events in Kildare



Tree walk in Donadea Forest Park



Hedgelaying Demonstration The Wonderful Barn, Leixlip