



POWERSCOURT
ESTATE

Working with Nature
RESPECT . RESTORE . RECONNECT



“Working with Nature Awards”

Recognition of Nature Protection

The Powerscourt “Working with Nature Awards” recognises and celebrates people (especially community groups), small businesses and community projects across the island of Ireland who have contributed and are committed in any way to protecting & restoring nature.

CATEGORIES:

Category 1: Working With Nature “Pollinators” Awards Category.

This category recognises people, small businesses, small farmers, pollinator friendly planting or projects working with pollinators. **Examples** - Beekeepers, community bee hives, wildflower meadows, community green spaces. Small farmers & community farmers.

Category 2: Working With Nature “Biodiversity & Rewilding” Awards Category.

This category recognises people, small businesses, small farmers or projects protecting & restoring biodiversity (all ecosystems - land & waterbodies). **Examples** - designating areas for wildflowers, small farmers & community farmers - organic & regenerative farming, tree & native species planting and water protection projects.

Category 3: Working With Nature “Nature Media” Awards Category.

This category recognises people, small businesses, projects, initiatives or organisations creating any public facing media & storytelling - visual or other which highlights the biodiversity crisis challenges & solutions and inspires people’s love of nature. **Example** – Documentaries, films, TV series, photography, visual arts, books, poetry, podcasts, craft, painting, dance, songs, music scores, musicals, online media & exhibitions.

Category 4: Working With Nature “Nature Education & Wellbeing” Awards Category.

This category recognises people, projects, initiatives, organisations or communities educating people on the wonders of nature, helping people reconnect with nature for health and wellbeing. **Example** – Community-based nature groups, community-based foraging walks, nature education programmes, nature & health education programmes, mindful experiences in nature.

Timeline:

- **8th April, Tuesday:** Soft launch open for entry & nominations / Online entry form – open for **8 weeks**.
- **14th April, Monday:** Photo call at Powerscourt with judges.
- **3rd June, Tuesday:** Nominations close.
- **6th June, Friday:** Shortlist announced.
- **26th June, Thursday:** Event at Powerscourt to announce winners.

Recognising Protectors & Restorers of Nature: Winners announced from each category (4 categories) and one overall winner.

- A unique award meticulously crafted from hand-picked wood from Powerscourt Estate.
- A hamper from Powerscourt Garden Pavilion.
- A €500 bursary to be used towards the nature-based project.

The overall winner and **“Outstanding Nature Protector”** will be gifted the **Ultimate Powerscourt Experience** (includes a stay at Powerscourt Hotel*, Tour & food pairing at Powerscourt Distillery, Annual Membership to Powerscourt Gardens, 4 Ball at Powerscourt Golf Club.

*T&Cs apply to date of stay.

Nominations Criteria:

Nominations must be beyond an initial concept stage and be established with demonstrated environmental impact to date. It is preferable that your nomination is **established for more than 6 months**.

Please note that only **one nomination is allowed per category per person** submitting the nominations. As this is a biodiversity award the nominated people, small businesses or community project might be relevant to several or all categories. Please submit for the categories which are most relevant for your nomination. If the judges, consider that your nomination is more appropriate to another category your nomination will be transferred to that category to maximise your nomination’s ability to win an award.

If you are a person, small businesses or community project based on the island of Ireland **you can nominate yourself**, but you can **only nominate yourself once in each category** as per above.

Details of the categories and the judging criteria are below. Please note you do not need to meet all the criteria below and the criteria used by the judges is not limited to the list below. The example of projects per category is just a guide and not an exhaustive list of what will be considered under the categories.

Judging Criteria:

Category 1: Working With Nature “Pollinators” Awards Category.

Must be established, cannot be at concept or ideas stage:

Must be beyond initial concept stage and be established with demonstrated environmental impact to date. It is preferable that your nomination is **established for more than 6 months**.

Demonstrate passion, inclusivity & community:

- Evidence of passion for biodiversity by those involved.
- Evidence of community engagement & involvement.
- Evidence of consideration of accessibility & inclusivity.

Demonstrate communication & building awareness:

- Communication – any awards or recognition (International, National, Local).
- Communication – articulate impact to date and potential into the future.

Demonstrate measuring & monitoring:

- Evidence of appreciation and understanding of biodiversity baseline status (pollinator baseline status).
- Evidence of improvement to enhance biodiversity (pollinators).
- Monitoring biodiversity & pollinators (increase or decrease in pollinator numbers, flora & fauna).
- Evidence of protection but also restoration of ecosystems through ecosystems management (example - protection for pollinators by reducing human interference).

Demonstrated progress & impact:

- Proof of impact (no matter how small).
- Proof nomination is established and having impact with recordings of information & regular public facing updates.

Awareness of a systems thinking approach:

- Consideration of ecosystems (engagement with multi-tiered stakeholders & surrounding landowners).
- Awareness of carbon footprint or main source of footprint.
- Awareness or recording of where materials are sourced.
- Provenance of plants & materials (where they come from).
- Consideration of engagement with ethical companies (including for sourcing).

Future Roadmap & visibility:

- Proof of commitment to future enhancement and plans – strategy, road maps or collaborations.

Examples of qualifying projects – Not limited to the list below.

Beekeepers, community bee hives, wildflower meadows, community green spaces. Small farmers & community farmers. Tidy Towns projects.

Category 2: *Working With Nature* “Biodiversity & Rewilding” Awards Category.

Must be established, cannot be at concept or ideas stage:

Must be beyond initial concept stage and be established with demonstrated environmental impact to date. It is preferable that your nomination is **established for more than 6 months**.

Demonstrate passion, inclusivity & community:

- Evidence of passion for biodiversity by those involved.
- Evidence of community engagement & involvement.
- Evidence of consideration of accessibility & inclusivity.

Demonstrate communication & building awareness:

- Communication – any awards or recognition (International, National, Local).
- Communication – articulate impact to date and potential into the future.

Demonstrate measuring & monitoring:

- Evidence of appreciation and understanding of biodiversity baseline status & state of ecosystem (pollinator baseline status).
- Evidence of improvement to enhance biodiversity (pollinators).
- Monitoring biodiversity & pollinators (Increase or decrease in pollinator numbers, flora & fauna).
- Evidence of protection but also restoration of ecosystems through ecosystems management (example - protection for pollinators & animals by reducing human interference).

Demonstrated progress & impact:

- Proof of impact (no matter how small).
- Proof nomination is established and having impact with recordings of information & regular public facing updates.

Awareness of a systems thinking approach:

- Consideration of ecosystems (engagement with multi-tiered stakeholders & surrounding landowners).
- Awareness of carbon footprint or main source of footprint.

- Awareness or recording of where materials are sourced.
- Provenance of plants & materials (where they come from).
- Consideration of engagement with ethical companies (including for sourcing).

Future Roadmap & visibility:

- Proof of commitment to future enhancement and plans – strategy, road maps or collaborations.

Examples of qualifying projects – Not limited to the list below.

Designating areas for wildflowers, small farmers & community farmers - organic & regenerative farming, tree & native species planting and water protection projects.

Category 3: *Working With Nature* “Nature Media” Awards Category.

Must be established, cannot be at concept or ideas stage:

Must be beyond initial concept stage or be a work in progress (art & nature exploration) or finished piece of work currently accessible to the public.

Demonstrate passion, inclusivity & community:

- Evidence of passion for biodiversity by those involved.
- Evidence of community engagement & involvement.
- Evidence of consideration of accessibility & inclusivity.

Demonstrate communication & building awareness:

- Communication – any awards or recognition (International, National, Local).
- Communication – articulating impact of work to date and potential into the future.

Demonstrate measuring & monitoring:

- Evidence of appreciation and understanding of the importance of communicating the science and wonder of nature.
- Evidence of improvement to enhance the public’s understanding of nature.
- Monitoring positive impact & awareness created by work on the public’s perception of the science and wonder of nature.

Demonstrated progress & impact:

- Proof of impact (no matter how small).
- Proof nomination is established and having impact with recordings of information & regular public facing updates.

Awareness of a systems thinking approach:

- Consideration of collaboration with multi-tiered stakeholders and communities.
- Awareness of carbon footprint or main source of footprint.
- Awareness or recording of where materials are sourced.
- Consideration of engagement with ethical companies (including for sourcing).

Future Roadmap & visibility:

- Proof of commitment to future work or plans – build on current success.

Examples of qualifying projects – Not limited to the list below.

Documentaries, films, photography, visual arts, books, poetry, podcasts, craft, painting, dance, songs, musical scores, musicals, exhibitions, online creative works – e.g. social media channels where appropriate.

Category 4: *Working With Nature* “Nature Education & Wellbeing” Awards Category.

Must be established, cannot be at concept or ideas stage:

Must be beyond initial concept stage and be established with demonstrated impact to date. It is preferable that your nomination is **established for more than 6 months**.

Demonstrate passion, inclusivity & community:

- Evidence of passion for biodiversity by those involved.
- Evidence of community engagement & involvement.
- Evidence of consideration of accessibility & inclusivity.

Demonstrate communication & building awareness:

- Communication – any awards or recognition (International, National, Local).
- Communication – articulating impact of work to date and potential into the future.

Demonstrate measuring & monitoring:

- Evidence of appreciation and understanding of the importance of communicating the science and wonder of nature.
- Evidence of enhancement of the public’s understanding of nature, and its health and wellbeing benefits.
- Monitoring positive impact on nature and communities.
- Evidence of impact on wellbeing for people and communities.

Demonstrated progress & impact:

- Proof of impact (no matter how small).
- Proof nomination is established and having impact with recordings of information & regular public facing updates.

Awareness of a systems thinking approach:

- Consideration of collaboration with multi-tiered stakeholders and communities.
- Awareness of carbon footprint or main source of footprint.
- Awareness or recording of where materials are sourced.
- Consideration of engagement with ethical companies (including for sourcing).

Future Roadmap & visibility:

- Proof of commitment to future work or plans – build on current success.

Examples of qualifying projects – Not limited to the list below.

Community based nature groups, community-based foraging walks, nature education programmes, nature & health education programmes, mindful experiences in nature.

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