Wexford Tidy Towns

Policy Document

Wexford Tidy Towns are a group of volunteers who are working together to make Wexford the best it can be. The Tidy Towns committee enter the National Tidy Towns competition every year with the aim of retaining our gold medal status and increasing our marks. Gaining high marks would not be possible without all our volunteers who work tirelessly to achieve great results.

Volunteers are made aware of the following 8 categories that we are judged on in the National Tidy Towns Competition. This will allow them to be be part of the process if they so wish.

* Community – your planning & involvement
* Streetscapes & Public Places
* Green Spaces & Landscaping
* Nature & biodiversity in your locality
* Sustainability – doing more with less
* Tidiness & litter control
* Residential Streets & housing Areas
* Approach Roads Streets & Lanes

**The Volunteer Role**

The volunteers offer a service by giving their time and dedication without pay. It is important to ensure that Wexford Tidy Towns protect volunteers by making sure that volunteers are well looked after and that they are fit to work. It is important that volunteers are treated with respect and dignity and share the goals of Tidy Towns Ireland.

**Volunteer Expectations**

Volunteers agree to meet for a minimum of one hour per volunteering session. Each session lasts between one and two hours. Volunteering sessions occur on Wednesdays and Saturdays starting at 6pm on Wednesday evenings and 10am to 12pm on Saturday mornings.

**Current Projects**

* Litter picking
* Planting and maintaining trees and pollinators
* Promoting wildlife
* Promoting Biodiversity
* Improving townscapes
* Promoting Wexford Town

This is just a few and Wexford Tidy Towns will introduce you to the full list of projects and encourage you, as a volunteer, to continue to promote the work of Wexford Tidy Towns in line with our shared goals.

**Purpose**

The aim of this policy is to produce a clear framework for the use of volunteers working as part of Wexford Tidy Towns. People volunteer for a variety of reasons and can contribute in a range of ways according to individual needs and talents that they bring. Volunteers will need to abide by the values, principles and policies which form the framework of Wexford Tidy Towns.

**Equal Opportunities**

Wexford Tidy Towns are committed to the development of equal opportunities and believe that opportunities should be open to all regardless of social class, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, religion, colour, race or ethnic or national origin. Teamwork promotes mutual interests, harmony, respect, cooperation and understanding between volunteers from diverse backgrounds.

**Recruitment and Selection**

Volunteers will be recruited and selected according to their suitability in helping meet the needs of Wexford Tidy Towns activities.

Volunteers over 18 can sign up themselves and commit to the service. Child members can only attend with a parent or guardian. Volunteers have a duty to take reasonable care of themselves and others who could be affected by what they do or fail to do. Wexford Tidy Towns reserves the right to end a volunteer agreement at any time.

**Health and Safety**

When required, volunteers will be provided with safety equipment which they are required to use.

**General expectations**

Volunteers should:

* Have the right to be made welcome and to feel involved and valued.
* Be expected at all times to promote a spirit of cooperation with other team members. They are expected to acquaint themselves with and work in accordance with the values of Wexford Tidy Towns.
* Undertake only those tasks and responsibilities as arranged.
* Respect confidentiality
* Report all accidents, serious incidents or damage to equipment immediately to the leader of the project.
* Have the right to representation on the project co-coordinating committee provided an active part is taken in the project.
* Have the right to withdraw volunteering services without notice.

**Specific Expectation**

* All projects and project funding are assigned by the chairperson.
* Volunteers are encouraged to take leadership on a Wexford Tidy Towns project. Projects are subject to agreement by the chairperson prior to commencing and monthly updates to be sent to the Secretary.

**Expenses**

Subject to prior agreement and the project budget, any eligible costs incurred during volunteering will be reimbursed.

**Insurance**

Public Liability cover is in force to protect the project's legal liability for third party injury or property damage arising in connection with the work. Health and safety equipment provided must be used at all times.

**Student Volunteer Policy**

**The Student Volunteer Role**

It is important that volunteers are treated with respect and dignity and share the goals of Tidy Towns Ireland.  Students participate under the support and guidance of their parents / guardians / school.

Volunteers agree to meet for a minimum of one hour per volunteering session. Each session lasts between one and two hours. Volunteering sessions occur on Wednesdays starting at 6pm and Saturday mornings starting at 10am. The Wednesday evenings run from April to September.

The hours that students need to complete for their Gaisce Irish President's Award can be made up during any of these scheduled sessions. For all other students, a minimum of 2 hours per month are expected.

**Current Projects**

* Litter picking
* Planting and maintaining trees and pollinators
* Promoting wildlife
* Promoting Biodiversity
* Improving townscapes
* Promoting Wexford Town

This is just a few. Wexford Tidy Towns will introduce you to the full list of projects and encourage you to continue to promote the work of Wexford Tidy Towns in line with our shared goals.

**Purpose**

The aim of this policy is to produce a clear framework for the use of volunteers working as part of Wexford Tidy Towns. People volunteer for a variety of reasons and can contribute in a range of ways according to individual needs and talents that they bring. Volunteers will need to abide by the values, principles and policies which form the framework of Clonmel Tidy Towns.

**Equal Opportunities**

Wexford Tidy Towns are committed to the development of equal opportunities and believe that opportunities should be open to all regardless of social class, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, religion, colour, race or ethnic or national origin. Teamwork promotes mutual interests, harmony, respect, cooperation and understanding between volunteers from diverse backgrounds.

**Recruitment and Selection**

Volunteers will be recruited and selected according to their suitability in helping meet the needs of Wexford Tidy Towns activities.

Volunteers over 18 can sign up themselves and commit to the service. Child members can only attend with a parent or guardian. Students who are volunteering as part of their Gaisce award may attend a group session as independent volunteers. Volunteers have a duty to take reasonable care of themselves and others who could be affected by what they do or fail to do.

Wexford Tidy Towns reserves the right to end a volunteer agreement at any time.

**Health and Safety**

When required, volunteers will be provided with safety equipment which they are required to use.

**General expectations**

Volunteers should:

* Have the right to be made welcome and to feel involved and valued.
* Be expected at all times to promote a spirit of cooperation with other team members. They are expected to acquaint themselves with and work in accordance with the values of Clonmel Tidy Towns.
* Undertake only those tasks and responsibilities as arranged.
* Respect confidentiality and GDPR laws at all times.
* Report all accidents, serious incidents or damage to equipment immediately to the leader of the project.