

FORESTRY

October 2023

Forestry Programme information meetings

Edited by
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Forestry Development Officer

Attend one of our forest information meetings to see what the new Forestry Programme offers you. The new Afforestation Scheme 2023-2027 is now open for applications. With many new options and significantly increased payments, it's a good time to take a fresh look at what it offers. The main features of the new Afforestation Scheme are:

- 12 forest type options including a new Forests for Water option;
- afforestation grants for farm forests up to €8,555 per hectare;
- up to 20-year annual premiums for farmers* (NB: 10-year annual premium for agroforestry);
- premiums up to €1,142 per hectare per year; and,
- all grant and premium earnings are highly tax efficient.

**Payment of the farmer premium will be determined by meeting scheme eligibility criteria.*

The Afforestation Scheme provides establishment grants and annual premiums to plant and establish

forests on suitable 'green field' sites. To plant a new forest a farmer must engage a registered forester to make their afforestation application. Afforestation grants usually cover the cost for site preparation, fencing, trees and tree planting. Forestry applicants will also receive an annual forestry premium. Farmers will receive annual premiums for up to 20 years and non-farmer applicants for up to 15 years. The rate of the afforestation grant and premium is determined by the particular forest type option planted.



Continuous Cover Forestry (forest type 10) is one of 12 forest types in the new Forestry Programme.

Teagasc/DAFM information meetings

Teagasc, along with staff from the Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), is planning a nationwide series of in-person public information meetings on the new Afforestation Scheme. Attendees will hear about

the forest types that are now grant aided, what is involved in making an application and how forestry can integrate with other farm enterprises and schemes. All meetings commence at 7.30pm and details of each are shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Teagasc/DAFM Afforestation Scheme meetings.

County	Venue and Eircode	Date
Cavan	Teagasc Office, Ballyhaise H12 E392	October 10
Clare	Teagasc Office, Station Road, Ennis V95 R889	October 19
Cork East	Teagasc Office, Sandfield, Mallow P51 NF82	October 12
Cork West	Teagasc Office, Codrum, Macroom P12 TX32	October 10
Donegal	Teagasc Office, Carnamuggagh, Letterkenny F92 VE89	October 11
Galway	Teagasc Office, Deerpark, Ballinasloe H53 HX21	October 18
Kerry	Teagasc Office, Cleeney, Killarney V93 W935	October 18
Kilkenny	Teagasc Office, Kells Road, Kilkenny R95 RX30	October 11
Laois	Teagasc Office, Park Villas, Portlaoise R32 CF21	October 12
Limerick	Teagasc Office, Gortboy, Newcastlewest V42 DY03	October 17

County	Venue and Eircode	Date
Longford	Teagasc Office, Town centre, Longford N39 T180	October 17
Mayo	McWilliam Park Hotel, Claremorris F12 D1W3	October 17
Meath	Teagasc Office, Kells Road, Navan C15 NR79	October 12
Roscommon	Teagasc Office, Abbey Street, Roscommon F42 XC63	October 11
Sligo	Teagasc Office, Carrownanty, Ballymote F56 A585	October 17
Tipperary	Teagasc Office, Castlemeadows, Thurles E41 AK40	October 12
Waterford	Park Hotel, Shandon Road, Dungarvan X35 CC97	October 18
Westmeath	Teagasc Office, Bellview, Mullingar N91 PK10	October 10
Wexford	Teagasc Office, Dublin Road, Enniscorthy Y21 ED27	October 12
Wicklow	Teagasc Office, Coolruss, Tinahely Y14 AN20	October 19

Teagasc forest photo competition 2023

Teagasc Forestry has announced this year's photo competition with the theme: Celebrating the New Forestry Programme 2023-2027. This tree-themed competition will focus on the multi-functional nature of forests, from timber production to biodiversity enhancement. The competition provides a great opportunity for budding (non-professional) photographers and photo enthusiasts to get snapping while being in with a chance to win exciting prizes.

The Celebrating the New Forestry Programme 2023-2027 competition focuses on three

consecutive forest themes running from October to December 2023. At the end of each theme period, the winner for that theme will be chosen and is guaranteed a prize of €400 in vouchers, with €100 in vouchers for each of two selected runners up.

Each theme winner will also go forward to a grand final on December 15, when the overall competition winner will be in line for a further €600 in vouchers. This year's competition features three themes: Trees and Biodiversity; Farming and Trees; and, The Forest Harvest (see **Table 2**).

Table 2: Themes and entry periods for photo competition.

Theme	Eligible entry period
Theme 1: Trees and Biodiversity	9.00am, October 5 to 5.00pm, October 26
Theme 2: Farming and Trees	9.00am, October 27 to 5.00pm, November 20
Theme 3: The Forest Harvest	9.00am, November 21 to 5.00pm, December 11

For more information, see:
www.teagasc.ie/forestphotos23.

Teagasc very much looks forward to viewing all photos submitted!



Last year's overall winning photo of the Teagasc Forest Photo Competition, Hidden Waterfall by Ciaran Willmore.

Contact your local Teagasc Forestry advisor

Teagasc Forestry advisors can explain land suitability and discuss what forest type grant categories may interest you.

Donegal (Forestry Communications and Digital Media Coordinator)

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Cavan, Leitrim, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Sligo

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Roscommon, Galway, Mayo

Noel Kennedy, Teagasc, Abbey Street, Roscommon, F42 XC63
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Kildare, Laois, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath

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Carlow, Dublin, Wexford, Wicklow

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Tipperary, Kilkenny, Waterford

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Clare, Limerick, North Kerry

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Cork, South Kerry

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For up to date and detailed information on forestry grant schemes, visit www.teagasc.ie/forestry.