

# *Habitats Mapping*



## *Gowran*

Maps of habitats are being prepared, prior to the preparation of Local Area Plans, around several settlements in County Kilkenny this year. Through making maps of habitats it will be possible to learn about the characteristic diversity of wild plants and animals. This information will inform Local Area Plans, identify green infrastructure and raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity in the county.

Habitats are homes for wild plants and animals. On farms habitats may include dry and wet grasslands, arable land, hedgerows and buildings. In towns different types of habitats may be found in gardens and along rivers and streams. Green infrastructure means a network of green areas which provide social, economic and environmental benefits.

The preparation of these maps is an objective of the Kilkenny Biodiversity Plan. The research has been jointly commissioned by the Forward Planning Section and Heritage Office of Kilkenny County Council. The project is being managed for the County Council by ecologists Mieke Muyliaert & Associates, together with Mary Tubridy & Associates.

If you have information about habitats and wildlife or would like to find out more about the study contact Mieke Muyliaert ph:052-6127930 / 086-8272036 or Claire Kelly, Forward Planning Section, Kilkenny County Council ph: 056-7794018.