

Biodiversity tips by month – for social media

February

Biodiversity tip for the month! Tidy up your hedges before nesting season starts. Nesting season is from 1 of March to 31 August. Having your hedge trimming done before then means you won't disturb or destroy any places birds may build their home.



March

Biodiversity tip for the month! Leave the dandelions grow. They are a vital food source for bees and butterflies who emerge early from hibernation. Try to wait until mid-April before you get the lawn mower out!

April

Biodiversity tip for the month! Mid to late spring is a good time to mulch the soil. Mulching soil improves the soil quality and helps to prevent weeds,

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meaning less herbicides are needed (a win for biodiversity!). Garden compost, leaf mould, wood chips or manure can all be used.

May

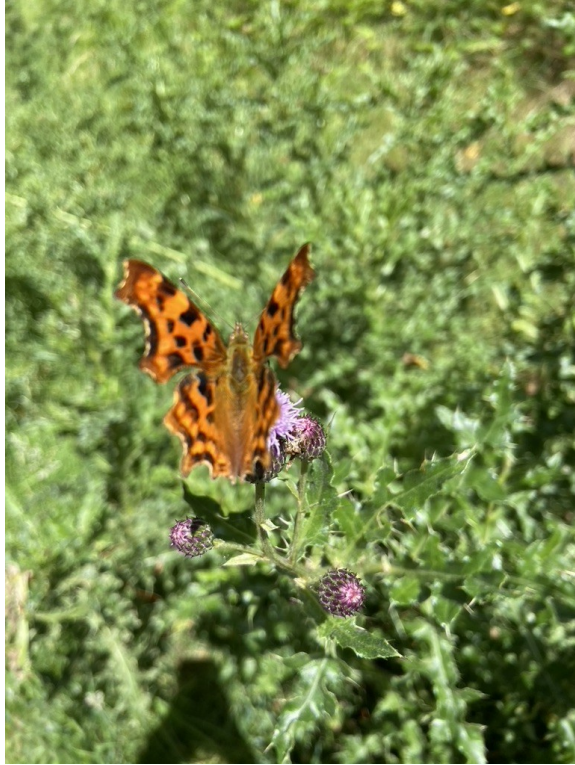
Biodiversity tip for the month! Build a home for solitary bees. They like to nest in wooden structures. You can help them by drilling holes in fences or wooden blocks. You'll find more information on how to do this from the National Biodiversity Data Centre here: <https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Pollinator-Nesting-How-to-Guide-2022-WEB.pdf>



June

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Biodiversity tip for the month! Plant a pollinator friendly plant in your garden. Lavender, Verbena bonariensis (purpletop), Rosemary or the native Blackthorn are all great options. The more pollinator friendly planting in your garden, the more your garden has food and homes for wildlife.



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July

Biodiversity tip for the month! Plant a night scented flowering plant in your garden. These are a great food sources for moths. Moths in turn are a food source for bats. Honeysuckle, Jasmine and Evening primrose are good options.

August

Biodiversity tip for the month! Stop using pesticides in your garden. They are harmful to wildlife. If the slugs are destroying your vegetable beds, a better option is nematodes or pellets that contain ferric phosphate. Even with these friendlier options – try to use them sparingly around the plants that really need them.

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September

Biodiversity tip for the month! Leave seed heads over winter. They provide homes for insects and food for birds and other wildlife when there isn't a lot of other options. Honesty, Allium, Sedum and Rudbeckia seed heads all look great in the winter garden!

October

Biodiversity tip for the month! Plant some crocus bulbs, October is a great time to do this. Crocuses flower in early spring so can be a great way to extend the growing season in your garden and provide a food source for wildlife in a time of short supply.

November

Biodiversity tip for the month! Add a bird feeder to your garden. Birds really benefit from this in the winter months. If you're not sure which type to go for, peanuts and suet balls are enjoyed by most birds. Then sit back and enjoy watching the birds visit!

