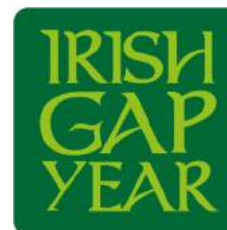


Simple and affordable ways to green-up  
your home, business or organization

Ryan Allen  
*Founding Director*  
[www.Irishgapyear.com](http://www.Irishgapyear.com)

GREEN EDUCATION  
 IRELAND



## Switch to a Clean Energy Provider

There are several options in Ireland, the best I've is Community Power. They are Irish owned, Irish produced 100% clean (fossil fuel free) energy.

- Micro-generated in Ireland and sold back into the Irish grid. Average domestic annual bill 1,680.00
- Supporting the Irish economy and small producer
- Independent of foreign coal used to fire electricity plants.
- Greatly reduced you CO2 footprint instantly.
- Additional cost is nominal
- [www.communitypower.ie](http://www.communitypower.ie)
- <https://youtu.be/0XVONFxHNnc>



## Composting

Collecting your food and paper waste is an easy way to dramatically reduce your footprint while improving your gardens soil at home.

If you don't want the hassle of composting Donegal Waste collects compost As part of their standard bin collection and will drop you a brown composting bin.

If you own a business consider purchasing compostable takeaway items instead of plastics. They are far more eco friendly. They will cost more, but you will greatly reduce your CO2 footprint

### How it Helps

- Composting reduces the very harmful greenhouse gas methane by 'insetting'/locking it into the ground.
- It improves soil quality
- Reduces the need for harmful chemical fertilizers



## Rewild a portion of your garden

Give nature a chance to recover and thrive. This can be done in planters or in your garden by planting Irish wildflowers.

The manicured lawn goes back to Victorian times when it was a statement of wealth and position, but look how much more vibrant a wildflower garden is!

If you don't want to devote your entire garden, consider leaving a 'verge' on your lawn for wild flowers and grasses to grow and watch the pollinators and birds return to your garden.

### Where it saves:

- Pollinators (bees and insects) thrive in wild flower gardens and areas where native plants are allowed to grow. They suffer / die in the 'green dessert' of manicured grass lawns.
- Save you time and money on cutting grass
- Cut grass releases methane gas (a 'climate killer') as the grass decomposes and creates barren spaces for pollinators who are already under threat).





## Sponsor a Beach Clean Up with Clean Coasts

Sponsoring a beach clean-up is an easy and affordable way to get your business out there and bring the community together for a good cause.

Where it Saves:

- Raises community awareness of the issue of marine debris and litter on our beaches.
- No cost to your business / group
- Good for the local environment / ecosystem
- Great promotion for your business or community group.





## Consider Planting Trees to Inset Your Footprint

1 native Irish tree removes .167kg of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere every year. 6 trees remove 1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> every year.

Ireland had the third highest emissions of greenhouse gases per capita in the EU in 2015 at **13.2 tonnes** of carbon dioxide equivalent per capita. Ireland's emissions were 50% higher than the EU average of 8.8 tonnes.

We can reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> foot print with the previously discussed methods, but planting trees on your property is a great way to inset your foot print long-term.

We would each require *78 trees to completely mitigate our annual average CO<sub>2</sub> foot print*. Once planted these trees would continue to remove the 13 tonnes / year for their entire lifespan.

Where is Saves

- Trees are great CO<sub>2</sub> insetters and can add value to your property.
- If you are a landowners there are people who will pay you to plant native trees on your land, under the condition that they are not harvested.
- Trees are inexpensive. We may not be able to all plant 70+ trees, but every tree helps to remove CO<sub>2</sub> and provide valuable habitat for pollinators and birds.



## A Brief Case Study: IGY's Carbon Budget Autumn '21

21 Students flights from Northeast: 30.2 tonnes CO2

21 Student flights from West Coast: 48.3 tonnes

**Total flights CO2: 78.5 Tonnes**

### Other program CO2:

Mini Bus Travel: 5.0 metric tonnes

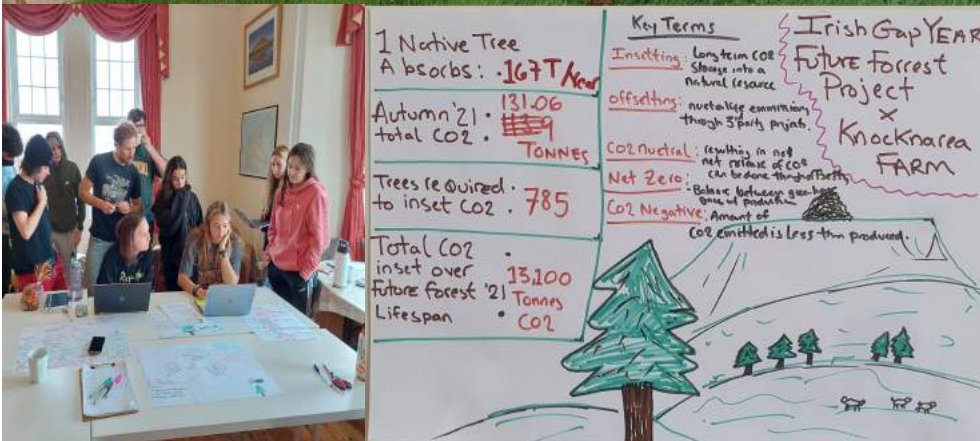
Home Heating Oil: 7.2 Metric Tonnes

Secondary Items: 1.6 metric tonnes (6.60 annual)

(This figure includes food, office items, hotel/hostels etc.)

**Total approximate CO2 associated with fall 21': 92.3 Tonnes**

**92.3 \* 1.15 (overspend) = 105.3 Tonnes**



### Trees Required to In-set:

631 Trees will remove this CO2 annually from the atmosphere *once mature*.

Commitment to plant 700 trees: Cost 2,000.00 Euro.

For CO2 Negative: Invest in Solar Cooking Project in Chad through Gold Standard. Total cost to offset all CO2 for autumn '21 programs is €781.00

1 Native Irish tree absorbs .167 tonne / year when mature (15 years to mature)

700 trees absorb 700 \* .167 = 116.9 Tonnes per year.