

Traditional Woodland Management Skills Course Overview

Purpose

- To prevent the loss of traditional woodland management skills in the Ring of Gullion area.
- To enable the landscape to be managed in a biodiversity friendly way.

Cost

£50 per person for the whole course; however if you have volunteered over 75 hours for the Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership the course is free. If you have volunteered over 35 hours for the RoGLP the cost is £25.

Please note: Places are extremely limited and it is preferred that attendees will be able to attend all or the majority of the training sessions.

What will participants need to bring/wear?

Suitable outdoor clothing, waterproofs, sturdy footwear and a notebook and pen are recommended. On the full day courses, you will also need a packed lunch.

Overview

The course will give you a comprehensive insight into all aspects of creating a woodland or hedgerow, from seed through to how to manage a developed hedge or woodland, as well as, uses for the products from your hedge and woodland.

Time Table

Date	Time	Topic	Location
Sunday 26/11/17	13.00 - 16.30	Winter tree identification	Slieve Gullion Forest Park
Saturday 02/12/17	10.00 - 13.00	Growing native trees from seed	Tí Chulainn, Mullaghbane
Saturday 06/01/18	10.00 - 16.00	Invasive species control & coppicing	Jonesborough Forest
Saturday 20/01/18	10.00 - 16.00	Tree and hedge planting	Mullaghbane (TBC)
Weekend 03/02/18 - 04/02/18	10.00 - 16.00	Hedgelaying	Glassdrummond Wood
Weekend 17/02/18 - 18/02/18	10.00 - 16.00	Living willow structures	Various - Slieve Gullion Forest Park, Mullaghbane, Forkhill
Weekend 03/03/18 - 04/03/18	10.00 - 16.00	Coppice products	Jonesborough Forest (TBC)

Course Content

Winter tree identification – Learning how to identify trees using twigs and bark, followed by practical application.

Growing native trees from seed – Learning how to process a variety of native tree seeds to prepare them for immediate planting or scarification (over-wintering), how to look after young trees in a nursery setting and lining out of trees into beds according to size.

Invasive species control and coppicing – How to deal with our common invasive species and look at traditional coppicing techniques for native and non-native species. There will be some theory but mostly practical work including safe use of tools and practical felling of small trees using hand tools.

Tree and hedge planting – Practical session on how to plant a hedge and the planting of different sizes of trees, which will include the staking, mulching, use of guards and aftercare of trees.

Hedgelaying – An introductory overview which will give you a good basic grounding in hedgelaying techniques, which could be built on with further training. The weekend will consist of a short theory session, then practical skill development.

Living willow structures – Learning how to establish a living willow structure and maintain already established structures.

Coppice Products – Using previously coppiced material to produce a range of products including spoons, greenwood turned items, hurdle fencing and simple baskets; with a number of finished items to take home.

