

Environ 2017 Workshop
Field Trip to Clara Bog Nature Reserve & Visitors Centre
Monday April 10th 2017 14.00 —17.00



Clara Bog is the finest remaining example of a raised bog in Ireland today. Raised bogs once covered 310,000 hectares in Ireland but today just 7% remains intact. This forms over 50% of the remaining area of uncut raised bog in North West Europe making it one of the best remaining examples of a relatively intact raised bog in Western Europe. It contains fine examples of hummocks, hollows, lawns, pools and flushes; all classic components of a raised bog. There is a diverse range of animal and plant life in this unique bog ecosystem including sphagnum mosses, sundews, bog cotton, dragonflies, butterflies, frogs and birds such as curlew and snipe.

Clara Bog Nature Reserve is 464 hectares of raised bog with evident lag and soak systems. The nature reserve is home to many protected wildlife species. The site is protected under a number of national and international designations including National Nature Reserve, a Special Area of Conservation, Ramsar Wetland Site, Natura 2000 site, and Natural Heritage Area. Clara Bog Nature Reserve and Visitor Centre are managed by National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

Environ 2017 Field Trip is organised by AIT and National Parks and Wildlife Service. There will be an introductory talk at the Clara Bog Visitor Centre which is located on the R436 in Clara, Co. Offaly, where the interpretive facilities for the Clara Bog Nature Reserve can be viewed, followed by a guided tour on Clara Bog by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. All participant on this field trip are recommended to wear sturdy footwear and appropriate clothing.

