

DON'T MOW, let it
grow

When we think of a summer's day, we often think of meadows of fine grasses with beautiful flowers, butterflies flitting by and bees buzzing. Sadly this image is not as common as it once was and many of our grasslands that supported wildflowers have disappeared.

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

There are volunteer roles to suit all interest and skills, if you have an interest in species identification and surveying become one of our site surveyors, if your passion is environmental education why not volunteer at our events, you may be an excellent face painter, or wildlife photographer, there is a volunteering opportunity for everyone!

Log on to our website to find out more.

What are the benefits of this project?

- Looks natural
- Healthier for you and your community
- Potentially saves money
- Helps support the planet which supports us



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In partnership with TransportNI and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

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A better approach to managing public grasslands



Find out more

We drive past our verges and visit our council parks, often on a daily basis, but their value for biodiversity can go unnoticed. On a closer look they can be really interesting places, teeming with plants and insects. Log on to our website where you can find out lots more about the project, upload pictures of what you spot on the verges and your council parks and even get involved in the project. To find out more visit dontmowletitgrow.com

Time For A Change

Don't Mow, Let It Grow, is a pilot project which aims to change the management of some of our road verge and council park grasslands across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. It will look at different ways of managing these sites to show how making small changes can provide big benefits to biodiversity. By allowing the grasses and wildflowers to grow on these sites, the project will provide feeding and nesting sites for important pollinators such as bees and butterflies. In most instances, these sites will be cut once a year, giving flowers the chance to bloom and set seed.

Project Mission: Don't Mow Let It Grow aims to change the view that public grasslands should look like perfectly manicured lawns, and encourage everyone to embrace more natural grassland management, which will benefit our ecosystem.

Don't Mow!

By allowing the grass to grow, plants that have always been there finally have a chance to grow and flower.

We've already discovered lots of our native wildflowers in our verges, including some beautiful orchids. This will provide new habitat and a burst of colour on verges that would otherwise be cut very short and so have very little life in them. This is not about letting verges and your council parks grow wild to potentially save money, but positive management for nature. While some of these verges will look very impressive, it will take others some time to catch up, but each year they will look better and better, as the finer grasses and wildflowers become more dominant. This also means there will be greater food sources of nectar and pollen for our pollinating insects.



Garvagh

The project was originally trialled in Garvagh with great success as demonstrated in the image above. Most images used in this leaflet are photos from the initial trials around the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area and reflect the change you can expect to see in your area.

