

## Renewal Time Again

Already we are at year's end again and it is time to renew Agreements for 2019. Offers will be posted at the end of November for return on or before Friday, January 18th, 2019. Looking forward to the New Year & the new season.



## November Jobs To Do

- Safe guard your stored crop by removing signs of decay to prevent rot setting in and possibly spreading.
- Raise containers to aid water drainage and to keep off frozen surface.
- Protect plants by use of mulch, fleece & cloches.

### Winter Composting

Keep your compost active over winter by keeping it insulated and added to with "green & brown" materials.

The green being kitchen leftovers and the brown being fallen dry leaves for example.

Keep your compost pile well aerated, largely moisture free & balanced well, (more brown than green).



### Christmas Gift Ideas

- 🌿 Tools
- 🌿 Gloves
- 🌿 Planters
- 🌿 Bird Bath
- 🌿 Classes



Christmas Recycling  
 Ballymount  
 Civic Amenity

- 🔔 Christmas Eve closing at 3:00pm
- 🔔 Closed all day on 25th & 26th December
- 🔔 Open normal hours 27th – 30th December
- 🔔 New Year's Eve closing at 3:00pm
- 🔔 Closed all day on 1st January
- 🔔 2nd January open again as normal

### Allotment Wildlife

Foxes, rabbits, deer and even peacocks have visited some of our four allotment sites at Corkagh, Friarstown, Mill Lane & Tymon.

You could be forgiven for thinking that the Mill Lane site with it's sheltered perimeter and quite surroundings is in the heart of the country and not infact minutes from an overhead M50 and the course of the River Liffey. A peacock made an appearance there recently.



Wildlife is attracted to allotment sites, foxes in particular can be attracted to bonemeal added to your soil, they will dig and dig, they are helpful as they will kill vermin too. Have you come accross any wild visitors while on site? The Dublin mountains have deer roaming around and one was seen at Friarstown previously. Of course a sheep or two were known to have put in an appearance also.



Remember to always keep dogs under control & on a lead within your own allotment and not let them become the "wildlife".

### Soil

Do you have acidic or alkaline soil? Blueberries and potatoes for example like acidic soil whereas broccolli and cabbages grow best in alkaline soil.



You can purchase a soil pH test for a modest cost. It is best to match your crops to the soil for optimal results. Of course, you can affect the pH by use of additives.



Have you had vegetables or fruit which did better having tested your soil's pH? Let us know.

### South Dublin Allotment Association

Why not join the South Dublin Allotment Association? You will be able to connect with fellow allotment holders about issues that concern you and keep in touch when get to gethers are taking place.

You can contact Pat at [southdublinallotments@gmail.com](mailto:southdublinallotments@gmail.com)

### Social Inclusion

November 19th. To 25th. is Social Inclusion Week.

For those who may be greenfingered but not working an allotment perhaps they may be interested in this Community Garden.



**GROW YOUR OWN**  
Community Garden  
**OWN**

Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24

**If you are interested in growing vegetables, fruit and learning new gardening skills please Join in.**

This is a great garden with a small community of local gardeners. We meet every Wednesday from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm

For more information on this project please contact Donna O'Reilly, Social Inclusion Unit, South Dublin County Council  
Tel: 01 414 9270/086 185 0656

### Shepherds Pie

Why not put all those lovely vegetables into a nice, welcoming, warm Shepperds Pie. You could replace the minced beef or lamb with lentils, or stretch the recipie by using 50/50 meat and lentils. Even further stretch it by adding breadcrumbs to the mix. Dice a carrot and boil, stir into the meat having browned it off, onion to taste and a generous helping of gravy. Line into a serving dish and top with creamy soft mash and a little cheddar/mozzarella topping. Delicious, now enjoy!

Happy Christmas to all!



See you in 2019

Q. What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

A. Pumpkin pi of course!

We'll be back in January 2019, send us your news at [allotments@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:allotments@sdublincoco.ie)  
Check us out at <https://sdcc.ie/en/>