



OUTDOOR EVENT PLANNING



A seminar for outdoor challenge event organisers
Lough Neagh Discovery Centre
2nd October 2012

AIM OF SEMINAR

Over the past 5 years or so there has been a marked increase in the number of challenge, charity and fundraising events that are using the natural environment - especially upland areas. While some events have a minimal impact on such places, there is growing concern about problems with erosion, damage, litter, disturbance of wildlife and impact on farming practices.

The seminar is therefore being run to provide information, help and advice on the staging of sustainable events in the natural environment - especially in those places that are designated by Government as being of significant importance for wildlife and/or other natural features. The seminar will also provide guidance and support for those who have a responsibility to manage such areas.

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Charitable bodies using the environment for their events
- Activity providers who can provide expertise on safety at such events
- Local authority countryside access officers and biodiversity officers
- Land owners, managers and statutory authorities
- National Governing Body officers and club representatives

DISPLAY INFORMATION

A number of activity providers have signed up to operate under the good practice guidelines that have been developed for Northern Ireland and they will be providing stands and information on their organisation and/or events.

The seminar also therefore aims to provide opportunities for networking between providers, charity organisations, end users and the environmental bodies.

REGISTRATION

The seminar is Free to attend however you must register in advance (including any dietary requirements) with Aidan Creamer - Sport NI aidancreamer@sportni.net 028 9038 3215



Programme

- 9.00am Opportunity for participants to set out displays, pop ups etc
- 9.30am Arrival, tea, coffee and registration
- 10.00am Welcome and introduction to the seminar
- Why develop the website
 - Why hold this seminar
 - What do the organisers hope to achieve.
- 10.15am Special places in Northern Ireland
A quick guide to Natura 2000 and ASSI legislation
Bob Davidson (NIEA)
- 10.45am What happens in other places?
Lake District National Park - "Nurture Lakeland Project" Ruth Kirk
- 11.15am Coffee / tea
- 11.30am Impact of events in the Mourne - Matthew Bushby / David Thompson
- 12.00pm Case study 1 - A charity perspective
Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland - Paul Corrigan
- 12.20pm Case study 2 – A private operator's perspective
Always Aim High Events, Snowdonia – Tim Lloyd
- 12.40pm Question time
- 1.00pm Lunch and networking
- 2.00pm Workshops (each lasting 45 minutes):
1. Using the ESE forms and the process that MHT are following
 2. Common practical issues faced for events in the outdoors in relation to sustainability.
- 3.30pm Coffee and Feedback on the process
- 4.00pm Concluding remarks and close

Speakers

BOB DAVIDSON

Bob has a keen interest in wild places, birds and flowers and especially enjoys exploring new places on foot or by canoe. He holds an MSc in Environmental Management and heads up a small section in NIEA, Natural Heritage that deals with planning applications where Natura 2000 or Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs) could be impacted.

RUTH KIRK

Having joined Nurture Lakeland in 2009 to lead on a “Love Your Lakes” campaign in the Bassenthwaite area, Ruth is now working with businesses and project beneficiaries to increase fundraising through visitor payback for Access & Landscape projects. With a BSc (Hons) degree in Outdoor & Environmental Education, Ruth also delivers the SORCE project (Sustainable Outdoor Recreational Challenge Events)

PAUL CORRIGAN

Paul is the fundraising manager for Chest Heart and Stroke in Scotland and his role involves raising vital funds for the work of the charity through outdoor events. He is also the chair of the Cairngorm Local Access Forum which advises the National Park Authority on matters relating to access.

TIM LLOYD

Tim competed internationally for GB in skiing and coached the women's ski team at the Albertville Olympic Games. He now runs “Always Aim High Events” that specialises in providing ultimate adventure sport experiences to provide the most memorable events in stunning natural locations. “Built by nature...designed by us...your adventure! “

MATTHEW BUSHBY

Matthew was involved in the development of the current ESE process and works for the Mourne Heritage Trust. MHT has a non-statutory remit to sustain and enhance the environment, rural regeneration, cultural heritage and visitor opportunities of the area. Matthew's responsibilities include management of environmental and recreation projects and services, and he chairs the Mourne Outdoor Recreation Forum.

DAVID THOMPSON

David is the National Trust property manager for the Mournes and is passionate about the Co Down landscape and wildlife. He is also an active outdoor enthusiast who uses sport and recreation as a vehicle to enjoy the wildlife and scenery of the Mournes, Strangford and occasionally places further afield.

The Seminar has been funded by Sport Northern Ireland, and is a joint venture with the NI Environment Agency, Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland, the Mourne Heritage Trust and the National Trust.