



CELEBRATE WORLD WETLANDS DAY FEBRUARY 2nd 2017

Coastwatch fieldtrip to Sandymount Strand

See and discuss the role of **Dublin Bay wetlands** in flood and erosion risk mitigation.

Meet at Booterstown train station, Dublin

Thursday February 2nd 2017 10 am– 12 noon.

Organised by Coastwatch, Civil and Env. Eng. TCD, Dublin 2.

Contact Karin Dubsy kdubsky@coastwatch.org 086 8111 684 www.coastwatch.org

For interested members of the public, transition year and college students. The group may divide into brisk walkers who will take a 5 km walk to see the widest range of features and those who prefer to stay in the stunning lagoon sandbank area in front of Booterstown bird Marsh.

Please register providing name and contact details in case the event has to be cancelled due to bad weather or is oversubscribed. Please notify us of children's age.

Bring wellies and camera/charged phone. Wear layers of clothes and hat.

Fieldtrip led by environmental scientists and historians with local knowledge and OPW Flood/erosion maps for the area to hand.

Coastwatchers Karin Dubsy, Rory Keating and Roselyn Shaw and Niamh Ni Cholmain, Biodiversity Unit, Dublin City Council.

Content: Experience intertidal and a mosaic of wetland habitats. Flood/erosion risk topics explored and biodiversity to be enjoyed: sand spit formation protecting the rail line from storm waves; dove tailing manmade and natural erosion control; flood relief function of the Taisee Booterstown bird marsh and channels. Where do the geese feed and what happens to a seagrass *Zostera noltii* bed in winter? Search for footprints and animals in/on it; risk for shallow intertidal biota especially sea shells where freak weather causes mass dislodgment and stranding of wildlife. The fieldtrip will focus on the south end of Dublin Bay, part of the Dublin Bay Biosphere and will take 1 to 2 hours depending on weather. **We are honoured to be joined by a member of the Ramsar Convention office in Gland Switzerland Ms Kasia Nikraszewicz who will speak at two subsequent events:**

OTHER WORLD WETLANDS DAY EVENTS YOU MIGHT WISH TO ATTEND:

1-2 pm World Wetland Day Address 'When wetlands protect against floods and erosion' Kasia Nikraszewicz Ramsar Convention Secretariat Switzerland, hosted by The School of Engineering, TCD. (Places are limited and prior registration necessary)

3 pm Dublin City Council Atrium, Wood Quay Wetland Exhibition Launch followed by light refreshments. Register by mailing Niamh Ni Cholmain niamh.nicholmain@dublincity.ie 2223369. Fieldtrip photos can be submitted for the Ramsar photo competition.

<http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/> and to Dublin City Biodiversity for further exhibitions on wetlands

