

DONEGAL VOLUNTEER CORPS

Volunteers frequently asked questions

Led by Donegal County Volunteer Centre, **the Donegal Volunteer Corps** is volunteer led movement of citizens of the county who make themselves available to volunteer at various events and/or emergencies in the county.

The volunteer corps will be contacted and mobilised to respond to extreme weather events as well as being available for large community activities such as St. Patricks' Day parade, concerts, sporting events etc...

1. Why set up the volunteer corps?

The notion of a county-wide volunteer corps is based on a pilot programme established by South County Dublin Volunteer Centre. However, the idea became more focused during the recent bad weather and emergency events in Donegal, when many volunteers expressed an interest in "doing something" to help out in their community but were unable to find a formal way of being involved. Also, with 2011 being the European Year of Volunteering, we are hoping to create project in County Donegal that will have a lasting effect after the year.

2. Who has responsibility for the Corps?

The Donegal Volunteer Corps is a pilot project, (proposed to be) run jointly by Donegal Volunteer Centre and Donegal County Council.

3. How can I get involved?

You can apply on line at our website at <http://www.DonegalVolunteerCorps.com> or contact Donegal Volunteer Centre, for an application form.

4. Are there any age restrictions in applying?

In order to be involved in the Corps, you must be 16 years or older on the day you apply. There is no upper age limit.

5. What work will I be expected to do?

The Corps is being set up to respond to various extreme weather events, other emergencies, as well as responding to calls for large groups of people to volunteer at community events such as concerts, environmental events, sporting events and community events. Roles may include community clean-ups, tree-planting, stewarding, crowd control, snow clearing plus much more. It is expected that much of the work will be outdoor and include some physical activity so volunteers will be expected to bear this in mind when volunteering to be part of the corps.

6. What time commitment must I make?

There is no ongoing weekly/monthly commitment to the corps. Members will be contacted at least 2 weeks before an event to see if they are interested in participating in a particular event, with the exception of bad weather or emergency events, when the call out would be from the local authority responding services.

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