

Thursday 28th September, Mulranny Park Hotel | 10am - 5pm, lunch included

Becoming a Mayo Dark Skies Volunteer Ambassador is a fantastic way of protecting Mayo's Night skies for future generations. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and help protect and restore our night skies.

Whatever your interests and abilities, there is room for you to play your part in dark sky conservation and you will also find there are huge benefits to you. This is a rewarding role for people who love nature and the outdoors and want to learn about the dark sky project and its potential for communities across Mayo.

Half the Park is After Dark....

Within the heart of county Mayo is Wild Nephin National Park ... and as the sunsets it becomes Mayo Dark Sky Park; a protected place that is free from light pollution and Ireland's only gold Tier International Dark Sky Park.

We are looking for volunteers who would like to protect and restore the night skies over their own towns and villages across the county. By working together we can actively reduce light pollution, creating a better environment for present and future generations. With some measurable improvements, County Mayo could become an International Dark Sky Reserve and this is our long term goal.

What's involved?

Be an ambassador for Mayo Dark Skies, share your love and value for natural night skies, inspiring people and visitors alike and working collectively to make a positive impact on reducing wasted energy, protecting biodiversity and promoting human health and wellbeing. To do this, we have created a training programme for volunteers;

This one day work shop will be delivered by an expert from the International Dark-sky Association, who will be in Mayo especially for this training. You will learn about measuring dark skies, identifying and limiting light pollution (without compromising safety), what dark sky places are and why they are important to our ecosystems along with some resources for stargazing and how to encourage visitors to Mayo to experience dark skies.

The training will also be co-hosted by an expert in communications, who will help attendees explain the dark sky project to other stakeholder groups, using fun activities to tailor practical information for community engagement.

As an ambassador, you will receive updates on dark sky events in Mayo, training and networking opportunities and be part of a growing team of advocates who wish to Carpe Noctem!

What will I need to do?

Participants will be asked to take part in the volunteer programme to monitor the sky quality around the county and to raise awareness of light pollution in local communities. It would mean a commitment of 2-3 evenings over a period of approximately 6 months. We will also ask that you try and share your new knowledge on dark skies and light pollution with your community, neighbours or any relevant channels you may have



