



EXPEDITION

Gold award residential

Once a year we plan to run a “Grassroots Challenge Week” that fulfils the requirements for a Gold Award residential.

It will be held at a Northern Ireland outdoor centre and will combine practical conservation work, wildlife tracking and adventurous activities.

For dates, location, costs and other details contact the Grassroots Challenge DofE Project Officer for details.



Registering with the Grassroots Challenge

Download a registration form for your chosen award activity from www.ulsterwildlife.org/grassroots

Alternatively, contact the Grassroots Challenge DofE Project Officer to ask for a form to be emailed or posted out to you.

T: 028 9046 3101
M: 07816 065923
E: grassrootsdofe@ulsterwildlife.org

Every young person completing an Award section through the Grassroots Challenge will get:

- A personalised Grassroots Challenge certificate and limited edition enamel badge.
- Chance to enter the Annual Grassroots Challenge Youth Awards that give recognition to the best projects, activities and individual achievements.
- Opportunity to gain tickets to the Annual Grassroots Challenge Celebration Event.

- 🌐: ulsterwildlife.org/grassroots
- 📌: @Grassrootschallenge
- ✉: @GrassrootsChNI
- 📷: [grassrootschallenge](https://www.instagram.com/grassrootschallenge)

Ulster Wildlife is the operating name of Ulster Wildlife Trust, registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC101848. A company incorporated in Northern Ireland limited by guarantee NI 12711.



Award activities for wildlife and the environment

A step by step guide to help young people complete sections of the Duke of Edinburgh Award through the Grassroots Challenge programme.



VOLUNTEERING SECTION

Award Group Volunteering Projects

Look around to see what can be done in your area to benefit wildlife and the environment. You could make and put up bird boxes, plant trees, create a wildlife garden, clean up a local beach or link in with what other organisations are doing locally. If you aren't sure what you'd like to do, the Grassroots Challenge DofE Project Officer can provide ideas for you to consider.

Register your project with the Grassroots Challenge and your group will get:

- £100 towards the costs of your chosen volunteering project.
- Access to online resources and practical guidance material
- Advice, support and, if desired, a visit or two from the Grassroots Challenge DofE Project Officer.

Volunteer placements

Ulster Wildlife works with a range of organisations across Northern Ireland who can provide wildlife and environmental volunteering opportunities. Contact the Grassroots Challenge DofE Project Officer to find out what individual or group based opportunities are currently available in your area.



SKILLS SECTION

Skills Starter Packs

Ulster Wildlife has created **skills starter packs** to provide you with the equipment, knowledge and information needed to develop a particular wildlife or environment related skill. Packs include the following themes:

- Bird Watching
- Shoreline ecology
- Nest and Habitat boxes
- Wildlife photography and filming
- Minibeasts

You can request a skills pack by completing a Grassroots Challenge registration form. Training sessions linked to these packs also run from time to time. If you don't know anyone who can act as an assessor for your chosen skill, then the Grassroots Challenge team will link you up with someone that can.

Other skills for wildlife and the environment

All sorts of different skills can be used in promoting and protecting wildlife and the environment. It doesn't always have to be an outdoor practical activity; it could be about developing a skill such as drama, journalism, film making, creative writing, drawing and painting etc. If you can show how practicing your chosen skill can benefit wildlife and the environment then you are welcome to register it with the Grassroots Challenge and apply for up to £50 towards any relevant equipment or resources.



EXPEDITION

Wildlife and Environment Expedition Packs

If your Award Group chose to have a wildlife or environmental aim for their expedition, then you can register it with the Grassroots Challenge and Ulster Wildlife will send you a special expedition pack. This contains activity ideas, information and equipment to help you observe and record plants and animals during an expedition.

Submitting records of wildlife will provide Ulster Wildlife, and others, with useful data for conservation. When an Award Group makes a presentation about their expedition, Ulster Wildlife can present personalised Grassroots Challenge certificates to participants.