

Aldi Ireland commits to planting 1 million native Irish woodland trees by 2025



Aldi Ireland pledged to plant 1 million native Irish woodland trees around Ireland over the next four years as part of its long-term commitment towards the environment. Aldi is the first retailer in Ireland to undertake an initiative of this scale, which aligns with Government's target to plant 22 million new trees a year until 2040.

Representatives from Aldi Ireland were joined by Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine Charlie McConalogue to launch the new commitment at Aughrim, Co. Wicklow. Working in conjunction with Green Belt forestry consultancy, Aldi staff and Minister McConalogue pulled on their wellies and, with spades in hand, planted a total of 30,000 oak, birch and ash trees.

Planting the 1 million native trees will remove more than 160,000 tonnes of carbon emissions over a 100-year period. To put this in context, this equates to roughly 640 million kilometres driven by an average passenger vehicle, 68 million litres of petrol consumed, or 20 billion smartphones charged.

The native tree plantations will create a wildlife corridor for native species and enable grassland to revert to more natural vegetation, further enhancing biodiversity in the area.

In January of 2020, Aldi announced plans to plant 100,000 native Irish woodland trees over five years and, to date, over 107,000 trees have been planted, including at Rockfield, Limerick where 16,000 trees were planted. Further plantings took place at sites in Muingaphuca, Co. Kerry, where 15,000 trees were planted, as well as more than 24,600 trees across Co. Mayo, Headford, Co. Galway, where 20,000 trees were planted and the Aughrim, Co. Wicklow site where 30,000 trees were planted.

Commenting on the initiative, Niall O'Connor, Aldi Group Managing Director, said: "We are delighted to support the Government's objective to plant 22 million trees annually each year until 2040. Aldi is committed to minimising the environmental impact of its business. We are targeting to plant 225,000 trees a year for the next four years which forms part of our wider sustainability strategy."