

11.45am.

Mayor of Limerick, Cllr Jim Long will officially open the Limerick City Council Home Composting Demonstration site which will have examples of composting bins, leaf mould and wormeries - all ideal ways to convert food scraps and garden waste into a nutrient-rich compost for gardens and potted plants.

Master Composter volunteers will be presented by the mayor with their graduation certificates and will be on hand to give demonstrations and advice to anyone with an interest in food waste prevention and composting until 1.15pm.

The message the composters will be imparting is that now is the time to take action, save money, prevent food waste and start composting.

"Almost one third of all food purchased by households ends up in the bin but to help prevent this, Limerick City Council organised the training of Master Composter volunteers, as well as the development of a composting demonstration site, in conjunction with the Environment Protection Agency's (EPA) Stop Food Waste initiative," says the council Environment Awareness Officer, Sinead McDonnell.

The compost demonstration site in O'Brien Park has been supported by both the council and the Stop Food Waste Initiative of the EPA.



## Nameplates to show the street where you live

HOW many Limerick people know that the nameplates erected on street walls are handmade and are currently priced at approximately €138 each.

And there would hardly be many who would know that all of the original signs erected when the Irish State was established, were made by Cork's Tom Ring.

Today's nameplates are manufactured by Lavring, in Charleville.

City council engineer, Rory McDermott, estimates there are between 2,000 and 3,000 street

island".

Mr McDermott said that all of the city's old signs, "which are highly prized," are in the safe keeping of Limerick Civic Trust.

"At the moment we have between 25 and 30 dating from the 1990s sent for respraying - we will get about another 35 years out of them".

Voicing his preference for the erection of street nameplates high on house walls, rather than the

townlands, trees, flowers, rivers etc., and some may even have been selected for their supposed attractiveness in marketing the development.

"City Council has now adopted a policy that all developers be written to in respect of any new planning applications, pointing out that the naming of the developments will require to be approved by the Corporation and that proposed



nameplates in Limerick and that officially, they are not erected in housing estates until the estates have been taken in charge.

"We are currently awaiting delivery of 50 new nameplates which we hope to receive in early October," he says.

"Nameplates for the city centre locations are coloured blue, with the city crest, green and white for suburbia and plum colour for King's

method used on housing estates where they are carried on road schedule poles, Mr McDermott said that, "Official street names have to be agreed by the city council," he said.

In the book, Limerick City Street Names by the late Gerry Joyce, it was stated that in the past, housing estates and their roads were named by the developers.

"Most of the names do not have any historical significance, but reflect the names of adjacent old houses,

naming schemes should be submitted with planning applications so that the matter can receive early attention and approval.

"In this respect, we has set up a subcommittee of An Griopa Stiurtha which has undertaken the task of preparing a list of suitable names and place names for use by developers so as to provide a ready choice of names that would reflect the cultural importance of place names in our heritage for a number of areas of the city".

## Community group aims for one new business per year

A CITY community group, running a volunteer entrepreneurship programme, hopes to open one new business in Limerick every year.

Southill Development Co-Op runs five enterprises with 35 employees. Its aim is to provide jobs for local people who may have fallen through the cracks of the recession.

"After we allow for working capital requirements of the enterprises, any financial profit is recycled into an Innovation fund to support new opportunities to establish micro enterprises, adding considerable to the economic regeneration. We aim to open at a minimum one new business per year," explained a spokesperson for the group.

The organisation also provides bookkeeping, payroll, photocopying, binding services to a growing number of small and medium businesses, both within Southill Campus and to sole traders and other community organisations".

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