

# Programme 5

## WASTE LAND



### Unit 5: Waste Management

#### Teaching Point

Waste management in Ireland is in crisis and in need of major change.

Outcomes: Having completed this unit students should be able to

- ✎ Outline the main methods used, at present, to deal with domestic waste.
- ✎ Evaluate the environmental sustainability of current practice.
- ✎ Suggest and analyse the different options for change.

### Aonad 5: Bainistíocht Dramhaíola

#### Pointe Teagaisc

Tá géarchéim in Éirinn i dtaobh bhainistíocht dramhaíola de agus tá athrú mór de dhíth.

Torthaí: Tar éis an aonaid seo a chríochnú ba chóir go mbeadh daltaí ábalta:

- ✎ Na príomhmhódhanna a úsáidtear faoi láthair chun déileáil le dramhaíl baile a aithint.
- ✎ Measúnú a dhéanamh ar inmhharthanacht timpeallachta na gcleachtas reatha.
- ✎ Roghanna difriúla d'athrú a chur chun cinn agus anailís a dhéanamh orthu.

## Activities

### 1. Local Knowledge

Ask the students to find out

- ✎ Where is the nearest landfill?
- ✎ Where is the nearest recycling centre and what items can be recycled?
- ✎ What are the charges for waste disposal per household?
- ✎ What are the charges if you bring material to the landfill yourself?
- ✎ What kinds of materials are accepted at the landfill if brought by an individual?

### 2. Brainstorming

Based on the video presentation ask the class, through questions and answers, to outline the main issues concerning waste management and its sustainability.

Guide the discussion along the issues of:

- ✎ current practice
- ✎ the individual mindset in relation to rubbish/waste
- ✎ the operation and location of a landfill site
- ✎ the environmental hazards of landfill sites

Write all the main points on the chalkboard and get each student to take them down.

### 3. Group work

1. Divide the class into groups and ask each group to focus on alternative strategies. Students should attempt to deal with possible alternatives to landfill. They should come up with their strategy to deal with the waste problem.

If necessary guide students towards the possibilities of:

- ✎ sorting and composting.
- ✎ recycling strategies.
- ✎ other forms of waste disposal.
- ✎ inducements to householders to reduce the amount of waste produced, such as increased charges based on weight or subsidised composting bins.

Students should critically assess the environmental impacts of incineration and dumping at sea.

Each group should report on their findings and strategy. The teacher and other groups should comment on the reality and sustainability of the proposals.

2. Students should examine the waste management strategy of the local authority. Firstly download the strategy from the local authority website. Make copies of the key elements and divide the class into groups.

Ask the groups to:

- ✎ briefly outline current practice and relate this to the strategies outlined in the plan
- ✎ comment on the reality and sustainability of the plan
- ✎ suggest your alternatives based on the video and your own group discussions

#### 4. Fieldwork Investigation

##### **Practice and Attitude in Waste Disposal: A Local Survey.**

Remember the steps!

**Step 1:** Identify key aims or formulate a hypothesis.

**Step 2:** Identify and get the background material required.

**Step 3:** Identify the main methods of gathering your information.

**Step 4:** Identify the main results and draw a conclusion.

**Step 5:** Identify some achievable actions, which may help the situation.

##### **Practice and Attitude in Waste Disposal: A Local Survey.**

###### **Step 1: Identify key aims or formulate a hypothesis**

###### **Aims:**

1. To survey current practice in waste disposal among residents of the community.
2. To examine awareness of the process and its environmental implications.
3. To look at recycling habits.
4. To survey attitudes towards waste management and its alternatives.

###### **Background Information:**

1. View the programme "Waste Land".
2. Study the waste management strategy for the local authority.
3. Find out the locations of the main landfill sites and the domestic waste disposal charges.
4. Locate the main recycling centres and be aware of the facilities they offer.

###### **Gathering:**

1. Examine and extract the key strategies from the local authority waste management strategy.
2. Construct your questionnaire. (See sample questionnaire attached)
3. Each class member should interview at least 10 different households.
4. Each student should draw a sketch map of the region and mark in the locations of the local landfill sites and the recycling or "Bring Sites". Supply a key to each site marked showing what materials can be taken to each site.

###### **Results and conclusions:**

1. Total the number of returned questionnaires and divide them into four groups.
2. Assign a number of students to analyse each group of questionnaires. They should work out the basic statistics for each of the answers. The results which show significant variations should then be related to the variables of age, gender, marital status, car ownership and distance from the site.
3. In drawing conclusions try to answer the aims.

###### **Action:**

1. Make a display of your results and exhibit them in school or in a public building.
2. Send your results to the local authority with your suggestions for change.
3. Write a report for the local newspaper highlighting your findings and recommendations.
4. Invite a local representative to your class to discuss the issue.





Programme 5

# WASTE LAND

**Look at the videotape once. Look, Listen, Concentrate and Enjoy! 26 minutes approximately. How closely did you look?**

Now take a second look. Stop, Start and Rewind the tape to identify clearly what you think Duncan is now telling us about Waste disposal and management in Ireland. The programme is divided roughly between the problems caused by our attitudes and habits in relation to waste and how these problems can be solved.

Now complete the following worksheet questions:

1. What do the opening visual images suggest?

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2. What is the price to be paid?

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3. What do the statistics in a recent report tell us about our litter problems?

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4. When does the waste problem for the consumer begin?

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5. What is the problem with the way food is presented?

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Clár 5

## Talamh Gan Rath

**Féach uair amháin ar an bhfistéip. Féach, Éist, Dírigh d'intinn air agus Bain Sult As! Timpeall 26 nóiméa). Cé chomh grinn is a d'fhéach tú?**

Anois féach in athuair. Stop, Tosaigh agus Cuir Siar an téip chun a aithint go soiléir cad a cheapann tusa atá á rá Duncan linn faoi dhiúscairt agus faoi bhainistiú dramhaíola in Éirinn. Tá an clár seo roinnte go garbh idir na fadhbanna a chothaíonn ár ndearcadh agus ár nósanna i leith na dramhaíola agus conas na fadhbanna sin a réiteach.

Anois freagair ceisteanna na bileoige oibre seo a leanas:

1. Cad a thugann na híomhánna tosaigh le fios?

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2. Conas a bheimid siar leis?

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3. Cad a insíonn na staitisticí i dtuarascáil a heisíodh le deireanas dúinn faoinár bhfadhbanna bruscair?

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4. Cén uair a thosaíonn fadhb na dramhaíola don tomhaltóir?

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5. Cén fhadhb atá leis an mbealach a gcuirtear bia i láthair?

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6. Since the video was produced (2001) how have we changed our plastic bag policy?

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7. Where does all this packaging material end up?

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8. How are these issues handled differently in Germany?

• In relation to bags

• In relation to packaging

9. How much solid waste does each household produce per annum?

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10. What % of this waste is recycled at present?

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11. What % of this waste is sent to landfill?

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6. Ó rinneadh an físeán (2001) conas mar a d'athraíomar ár bpolasaí i leith málaí plaisteacha?

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7. Cén áit a gcríochnaíonn an t-ábhar pacáistithe seo ar fad?

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8. Cén bealach difriúil a ndéileáiltear leis na ceistanna seo sa Ghearmáin?

• Maidir le málaí

• Maidir le pacáistiú

9. Cé mhéad dramhaíola soladaí a tháirgeann gach líon tí sa bhliain?

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10. Cén % den dramhaíl sin a ndéantar athchúrsáil air faoi láthair?

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11. Cén % den dramhaíl a chuirtear í líonadh talún?

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12. List the main environmental problems associated with landfills.

(i)

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(ii)

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(iii)

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(iv)

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13. How much of the waste going to landfill is organic and how could this be disposed of in a different way?

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14. How is composting organised in Denmark?

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15. In Ireland, between 1995 and 1998 how much non-agricultural waste was being produced per annum?

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16. Which industry has had the fastest growth in waste generation?

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17. What happens with building waste in Denmark?

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12. Déan liosta de na príomhfhadhbanna timpeallachta a bhaineann le líonadh talún.

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

(iv)

13. Cé mhéad den dramhaíl a théann i líonadh talún atá orgánach agus conas is féidir sin a dhiúscairt ar bhealach difriúil?

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14. Conas a dhéantar múiríniú sa Danmhairg?

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15. In Éirinn, cé mhéad dramhaíola nach mba dramhaíl talmhaíochta é a bhí á tháirgeadh in aghaidh na bliana idir 1995 agus 1998?

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16. Cén tionscal is scioptha a bhí ag cruthú dramhaíola?

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17. Cad a dhéantar le dramhaíl tógála sa Danmhairg?

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Now let us focus on some of the possible strategies to help improve the situation in Ireland.

1. What is 20/20 vision?

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2. What's happening in the Kinsale Road Landfill in Cork?

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3. How much household waste is recycled in Ireland at present? What is the target?

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4. What is Ireland's recycling infrastructure like? Compare this with the situation in Denmark?

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5. How are Germans focusing on waste in the home? What is the first step? What happens on the street?

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6. What does Re-Use mean? Compare the use of a milk carton with a milk bottle?

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Anois díreoimid ar roinnt straitéisí a chabhróidh leis an scéal a fheabhsú in Éirinn.

1. Cad é amharc 20/20?

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2. Cad a tharlaíonn ag láithreán Líonta Talún Bhóthar Chionn tSáile i gCorcaigh?

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3. Cé mhéad de dhramhaíl tí a ndéantar athchúrsáil air in Éirinn faoi láthair? Cad é an sprioc?

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4. Cén bhail atá ar bhonneagar athchúrsála na hÉireann? Cuir é seo i gcomparáid leis an Danmhairg?

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5. Conas a bhíonn na Gearmánaigh ag díriú ar dhramhaíl sa bhaile? Cad í an chéad chéim? Cad a tharlaíonn ar an tsráid?

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6. Cad atá i gceist le hAth-Úsáid? Déan comparáid idir úsáid chartán bainne agus úsáid bhuidéal bainne?

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7. How is the use of "wheelie bins" changing in Cork?

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8. In Cork what are householders now charged for in relation to waste?

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9. In Dublin, what is being planned in the Dublin Waste Management Plan?

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10. What is the more common name for the process, which converts waste to energy?

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11. How does it work?

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12. What is the energy produced used for?

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13. Do the residents in the Danish case study have a problem with the plant?

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7. Conas mar atá an úsáid a bhaintear as boscaí bruscair le rothaí ag athrú i gCorcaigh?

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8. I gCorcaigh, cad air a n-íocann líonta tí táille anois chomh fada agus a bhaineann le dramhaíl?

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9. I mBaile Átha Cliath, cad atá á phleanáil i bPlean Bainistíochta Dramhaíola Bhaile Átha Cliath?

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10. Cén t-ainm coitianta atá ar an bpróiseas a athraíonn dramhaíl go fuinneamh?

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11. Conas a oibríonn sé?

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12. Conas a úsáidtear an fuinneamh a táirgtear?

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13. An bhfuil fadhb ag na háitritheoirí sa chás-staidéar as an Danmhairg leis an bhfearas?

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14. How many waste to energy plants are there in Denmark?

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15. What is the contradiction in our attitude to waste?

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16. What is happening to waste in the new modern approach to landfills in Dublin?

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17. What is the combination of strategies needed to solve our waste management problem?

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14. Cé mhéad fearas dramhaíl go fuinneamh atá sa Danmhairg?

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15. Cad atá contrártha inár ndearcadh i leith na dramhaíola?

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16. Cad atá ag tarlú do dhramhaíl sa chur chuige nua-aimseartha i leith líonadh talún i mBaile Átha Cliath?

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17. Cad iad na straitéisí a theastaíonn chun ár bhfadhb bainistíochta dramhaíola a réiteach?

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**Our Transition Year class is doing a project on Waste Management in our local area. I am interviewing 10 households in this area. I wonder would you take 5 minutes to answer some questions.**

1. How do you dispose of your household rubbish?

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2. If collected can you tell me where it is taken after collection?

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3. How much is the annual/weekly/monthly service charge for waste disposal?

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4. Do you separate any of your own household waste materials? Y or N. If yes can you list the items you separate

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5. Do you recycle any of your waste? Y or N. If yes could you list them?

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6. Which bring site do you use? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Is this the nearest site? Y or N or Don't Know

8. Can you list the items which can be recycled at this site?

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9. Do you compost organic waste, e.g., raw vegetable and garden waste? Y or N.

10. Do you use the your own shopping bags. Y or N or Sometimes.

11. Are you aware of the Local Authority Waste Management Strategy? Do you know what is planned for the future?

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12. Do you think that waste management is in crisis in this area?

Strongly Agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  No Opinion

13. How would you suggest solving the problem?

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**Can I finish by asking you a few questions about yourself?**

14. Into what age bracket do you fall?

Under 20  20 to 34  35 to 49  50 to 64  over 65

15. Gender? Male  Female

16. What is your marital status? Married  Single  Other

17. Does your household have a car(s)? Y or N. If yes how many in the household? \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your help.*

# SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE

