

RECORDING A CRIME

DO's & DON'Ts

- Do Not put yourself in harm's way - do not approach a suspect
- Do Not disturb the scene, move the items at the scene or mark the site
- Do record the transport and registration - VITAL
- Record the date & time, person, scene and the location
- If possible take photos or videos and email to NPWS: nature.conservation@chg.gov.ie



Produced in association with PAW Ireland, by @highippoart



Poisoning, baiting, illegal trapping, shooting and hunting are horrifyingly commonplace. Let's make wildlife crime a thing of the past

PROTECT IRELAND'S WILDLIFE NOW!

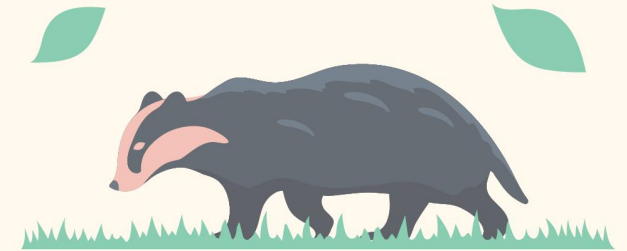


WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- Report ANY suspicious activity
- Distribute these flyers
- Promote www.wildlifecrime.ie
- Report roadkill to www.biodiversityireland.ie
- Contact NPWS for talks on wildlife crime
- Visit www.badgerwatchireland.ie

BADGERS AND THE LAW IN IRELAND

What is badger crime and why does it matter?



WHY FIGHT WILDLIFE CRIME?

We need to protect natural resources, fauna & flora for future generations

Wildlife is trafficked much like drugs, weapons or people – a crime is a crime

We have a duty of care to prevent unnecessary pain & suffering

Wildlife Crime damages Ireland's reputation

Environmental crimes are increasing; putting biodiversity at risk

We have a duty of care to our internationally important species & habitats



BADGER PERSECUTION



Despite their protection, thousands of badgers meet horrific fates every year in Ireland due to barbaric acts of cruelty and illegal activities.

Common crimes involving badgers include:

Badger baiting: where badgers are dug from their setts and taken to fight with dogs. If you see dogs being put down sett entrances, men digging into a sett with spades, and/or using nets at sett entrances - report this immediately.

Sett interference: A badger sett is fully protected under the Wildlife Acts. Any intentional interference is an offence. If you find a damaged or blocked sett DO NOT touch it - preserve the crime scene - report any suspicious activity immediately.

Illegal snaring: It is an offence under the Wildlife Acts to snare a badger, however, a licence may be granted to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to use an 'approved stopped body restraint'(snare) to take badgers for research. If you find a snare that does not incorporate a stop to prevent choking, a swivel to facilitate twisting or a self-locking snare (a wire loop which tightens as the animal struggles) report this, or any suspicious activity, immediately. If an animal is in the snare DO NOT attempt to release it as the animal may suffer further injuries.

Illegal shooting: report suspicious activities

Poisoning: DO NOT touch the animal if you suspect poisoning - report this immediately

BADGER LEGISLATION

Wildlife crime is any act that contravenes current legislation governing the protection of wild fauna and flora

Badgers are protected by law in the Republic of Ireland under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018. They are also protected under the Bern Convention (Appendix III)



WHAT IS BADGER CRIME?

Unless authorised by a licence granted by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht it is unlawful to:

Hunt or kill a badger or attempt to do so

Wilfully interfere with or destroy a badger sett. A 'sett' is its breeding and resting place

Possess a badger, whether alive or dead other than one lawfully taken e.g. to care for if injured

Sell, keep, or engage in taxidermy in respect of a badger other than by a licensed wildlife dealer

These offences are punishable by fines and / or imprisonment under the Wildlife Acts and / or the Animal Health and Welfare Act



REPORTING A CRIME

If you SUSPECT a badger crime is taking, or has taken place – REPORT IT!

National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS)
NPWS will be able to determine if your suspicions warrant further enquiry
Tel: (01) 888 3242 | LoCall: 1890 383 000
www.npws.ie CONTACT PAGE

Email: nature.conservation@chg.gov.ie



If an incident is happening now or anyone is in immediate danger
ALSO call An Garda Síochána on 999 or 112

Non-emergency situation contact the local Garda Station or Garda HQ Tel: (01) 666 0000
www.garda.ie

Email: gpro@iol.ie (No attachments)
Garda Confidential Line: 1800 666 111



You can also use the PAW Ireland Wildlife Crime Reporting App, free to download from Google play store

If a LIVE animal is at the scene, also call a vet and/or wildlife rehabilitator
Contact details: www.irishwildlifematters.ie

Detailed Reporting & Crime info:
www.wildlifecrime.ie

