

400 people will measure air pollution across Limerick city. Clean Air Together is the biggest project to date to assess the quality of the air we breathe in Limerick city.

What are we Measuring?

We are measuring an air pollutant from traffic called Nitrogen Dioxide or NO₂.

Generally, the more traffic, the higher the level of NO₂. But in real-life, things tend to be more complicated. Air pollution is influenced by other factors such as the weather or the street layout.

This is where your measurement comes into play: you will provide us with a local view of NO₂ in your area. Your data will help scientists from the EPA to better understand air pollution in Limerick city.

Why Measure NO₂?

When we breathe, we absorb particles and gases that are unhealthy for us (called air pollutants). Higher amounts of NO₂ can make health conditions such as asthma and heart disease worse. EPA monitoring and computer modelling show that in some urban areas NO₂ is increasing due to traffic.

What Happens Next?

The measuring tubes will be processed by an approved laboratory. The EPA will then analyse and interpret the results. Early in 2025, you will receive your personal measurement result. You will be able to compare your NO₂ result with the other measurements on the Clean Air Together map of Limerick city.

Who is Organising Clean Air Together?

Clean Air Together (Limerick City) is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) led project, in partnership with the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce and Limerick City & County Council.

With the assistance of the Local Authorities, the EPA manages a national network of ambient air monitoring stations. Real-time air pollution data can be seen on www.airquality.ie

The EPA have developed new air quality mapping and forecasting computer models. You are now able to see what the air quality is near you; with hourly updated maps, and twice-daily updated forecasts for today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow.



Instructions to Measure NO₂



UPON RECEIVING THIS PACK, PUT THE **CAPPED TUBE** IN YOUR **FRIDGE** UNTIL IT IS TIME TO **INSTALL**

INSTALL YOUR TUBE ON **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND***

COLLECT AND POST YOUR TUBE BACK ON **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH***

*If you miss the dates of installation or collection, please complete as soon as possible as any delay will impact on the quality of your result.

Visit www.cleanairtogether.ie
#cleanairtogether
#knowyourno2
@EPAIreland



Installing Your Tube on October 2nd



Surface Cleaner Wipe



Tube Holder



Washer



Tube Sealed by Two Caps

1 Choose a window on the **1st floor (upstairs) facing the road**. Alternatively, you can pick a window on the ground floor facing the road if the risk of the tube being vandalized by passers-by is low.

2 Open the window. Please take all reasonable and suitable measures to ensure your own safety. **From the inside of the building and with your feet flat on the ground**, clean a small area of the outside of the window using the surface cleaner wipe. Let it dry (it will take around a minute).

3 Take the black tube holder and remove the protective film from the adhesive at the back of the bracket. Then, press the bracket on to the area of the window that you just cleaned. Hold the bracket in place for approximately 15 seconds.

4 Login to your participant page on www.cleanairtogether.ie with three identifiers: the email used at registration, the EIRCODE of the measurement location and the tube ID. You can find the tube ID on the sticker stuck to your tube. Enter the date and time of installation of your tube and other relevant details.

5 Take off the white cap from the tube. Push the circular black washer up the tube until it is close to the grey cap as shown on the picture.

6 Holding the tube upright with the grey cap on top, place the tube into the circular part of the tube holder. The washer allows the tube to sit in the tube holder.

7 **Get your Clean Air Together pack and put the white cap in it.** You will need the white cap in four weeks' time to close the tube. Any uncapped tube will not be tested.

8 Be careful if you have to open or close the window over the coming weeks. The set-up requires no further action than checking from time to time that the tube is still in place. You will need to set a reminder to collect your tube and post it back on October 30th.

9 Put these instructions and the pack in a place where you will easily find them when collecting your tube.



What Else Can You Do?

- Promote Clean Air together by sticking the sticker to your window.
- Share your photos with us by tagging **@EPAireland** or by emailing them to **cleanairtogether@epa.ie**; they may be added to future communication material.
- Tell your neighbours, friends and family about what you are doing and why this is important.

Important

- If the tube hanger falls off during the measurement period, please put it back in place using extra sticky tape.
- If your tube is lost, stolen or broken Clean Air Together is unable to replace it.

Collecting your Tube on October 30th

1 Get your Clean Air Together pack. Take the white cap and the prepaid return envelope from it.

2 Safely, **from the inside of the building and with your feet flat on the ground lift the tube off the tube holder.**

3 If the tube is wet from the rain, dry the outside of the tube using a cloth.

4 Slide the washer off the tube by pushing it towards the open end. Then, close the tube tightly using the white cap.

5 Login to your participant page on www.cleanairtogether.ie with three identifiers: the email used at registration, the EIRCODE of the measurement location and the tube ID. You can find the tube ID on the sticker stuck to your tube. Enter the date and time of collection of your tube and other relevant details.

6 Take the tube holder off the window.

7 **Put the capped tube, washer and tube holder flat in the prepaid return envelope and post immediately.** It is important that you send your tube back on **October 30th** to ensure that it can be processed as soon as possible.



Any problems or questions? Email us at cleanairtogether@epa.ie