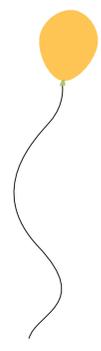


RUN YOUR OWN

STREET FEAST



A simple guide to organising a great get-together



COMMUNITY

CREATIVE

CELEBRATE

EAT

POT LUCK

FOODY

COLOURFUL

TALK

MEET

NEIGHBOURHOOD

FAMILY

LOCAL

SHARE

CHATTY

HAPPY

HOME GROWN

LAUGH

FRIENDLY

MUSIC

STORIES

SHINDIG

SMILE

SUNSHINE

UMBRELLAS

WHAT IS STREET FEAST?

Street Feast is the national day of street parties & community celebrations.

Street Feast isn't any old shindig. It's a not-for-profit, all-for-fun, do-it-yourself celebration.

It all started in 2010, when neighbourhoods across Ireland came together to organise their very own feasts and street parties to celebrate community.

Since then, over 400,000 people have joined the fun. You can get in on it too by hosting a feast in your neighbourhood. It can be anywhere really - out on the street, in a local park or in your front garden.

There are lots of good reasons to have a Street Feast. Most of all it's a great excuse to eat good food, meet new people who live near you and have a bit of craic.

Come on! Why not get involved?



WHY STREET FEAST?

Celebrating community

More life on the streets, more friends closer to home, and a celebration of the community around us. There's never been a better time to shine a light on the communities, networks and organisations that are holding everything together.

Strengthening community

While some of us are lucky enough to be a part of a strong community, there are many of us who find ourselves increasingly isolated. By strengthening our communities, we'll all be better able to cope with whatever changes the future may bring. Street Feast gives us an excuse to get out there, share food and conversation, and help build stronger neighbourhoods.



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COMMUNITY IS WHERE IT'S AT

There are obviously many good reasons to run a Street Feast; here are a few of our favourites:

Put simply, Street Feast is a chance to;

- ★ Be part of a national annual feast day of community celebration.
- ★ Brush off the doom and gloom of the recession.
- ★ Help support community initiatives around the country.
- ★ Celebrate how multi-cultural and diverse Ireland's neighbourhoods have become.

Street Feast will also help us to;

- ★ Meet and (re)connect with neighbours.
- ★ Share a simple, creative, self-organised lunch.
- ★ Proclaim our love for locally grown food.
- ★ Feel safer around our communities in the future.



Support your community groups

Local charities and community groups are tackling some of the most challenging issues we face today.

If you know of a special cause on your door-step that needs some support, you could use your Street Feast to raise funds or spread awareness.

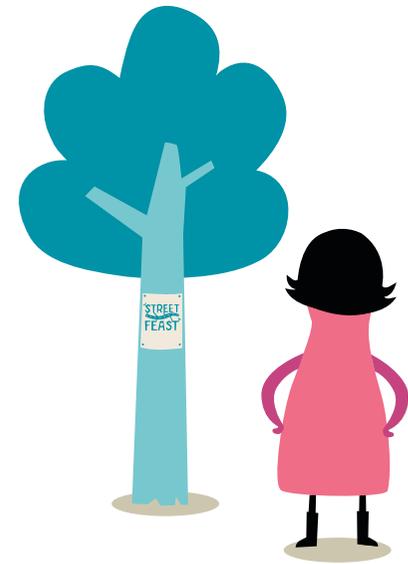
HOW DO I GET STUCK IN?

Start by asking yourself; who in your neighbourhood would love the idea of a Street Feast?

Whether it's tasty treats, rhythmic beats, or even pleated (tablecloth) sheets, everyone can contribute something. And once you've got one other person on board, you've got the makings of a Feast. It's only a matter of time before the momentum begins to grow.

Ways to get your neighbours onboard

- ★ Use the posters and flyers in your Street Feast party pack or decorate your own invitations – much more creative and fun!
- ★ Get social networking with blogs, Facebook and Twitter.
- ★ Partner up with local clubs and community groups. It might help to mention to them that hundreds of communities will be hosting a Street Feast at the same time.
- ★ Write out some chalk invites on doorsteps.
- ★ Walk your dog! Dogwalking is a great way to meet your neighbour, a potential Street Feast musician or budding chef.
- ★ Drop round with some scones. Bring this DIY guide and your ideas for a Feast.
- ★ Identify that neighbour who knows everyone and make a beeline for them!
- ★ Turn those posters and flyers into paper planes - they'll reach the furthest of doorways.
- ★ Catch every passer-by for a chat while washing your car out on the road.
- ★ Tell the postman. He knocks on everyone's door!



Don't forget to make use of the Street Feast posters and invitations in your party pack!

STREET
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A FEAST OF IDEAS FOR YOUR STREET

Why should you get involved?

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-a story. We're hoping that Street Feast
-like only those good pub stories can, sh-
-d changed into an almighty exaggeration.
-here it's at!

also spreading the word online, and sending out
-t leaflets like these to thousands upon thousands (we
-shock at the number) of community organisations and
-committees across Ireland.

FOOD

People & food

Who can't boil an egg? Bake a potato? What about plating up some cheese? Just about everyone can get stuck into preparing the feast. Of course there'll be some celebrity chef wannabes in your area but everyone can add something tasty to the pot-luck.

Delegation is the trick

What was it that made you happy back in the old days? Childhood memories of delicious dishes? Nostalgic feasts? Family specialties? What about Grandma's old recipes? There's bound to be one that everyone remembers. Think about passing on those old secrets – "How do *you* roast your potatoes?"

homemade Lemonade

The secret to homemade lemonade?
Sugar syrup!

What you'll need:
1 cup sugar
1 cup water
1 cup lemon juice

Stir up the sugar syrup by melting the sugar in the water over a low heat. Once the particles have disappeared, add the freshly squeezed lemon juice, another 3 to 4 cups of water and stick it all in the fridge for a good 40 minutes to cool down.

s'mores (give me some more!)

One great thing to come out of America.

What you'll need:
1 packet of biscuits
1 bag of marshmallows
1 big bar of chocolate

Pop a marshmallow on top of the biscuit and a square of choc on top. Complete the sandwich with another biscuit.

Wrap in tinfoil and pop on the bbq (or bake in the oven) for about 4 minutes. Unwrap and enjoy the gooey yumminess.

barbecue marinade

Time is of the essence with barbecuing - that's the trick!

Try making delicious spiced marinated pork. Soak pork chops in a marinade of soy sauce, apple-vinegar, tomato puree, Tabasco, lemon juice, sesame oil, chili, ginger and coriander.

Serve up with a juicy salad and potatoes.

team Pizza

Everyone brings a topping!
It's also the perfect time to find some locally grown salad leaves for the side.

veggie barbecue

Chuck all those veggies on the grill!

Create beautiful colour coded skewers of veggies – don't forget your aubergines...

Slice it all up and drop it on. There's nothing better than a dripping, charred pepper.

Drinks!

Big buckets of colour:
Juices, smoothies, sangria & punch!

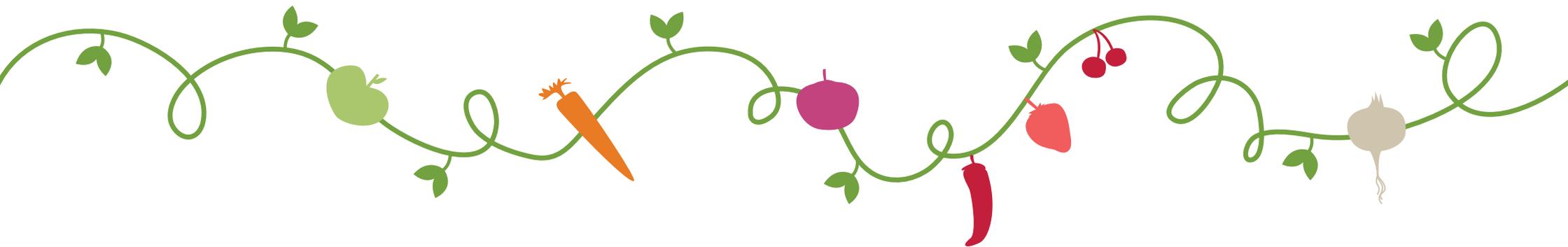


healthy fun food

Nothing like some healthy competition

Apple pies, cakes, jams, giant vegetables, scones. There are so many dishes that are perfect for a community foodie competition!

Who might win your local Street Feast Apple Pie competition?



SOURCING FOOD

Sniff out that locally grown produce

Growing food is easy and it's amazing how quickly your salad greens will appear if you plant them now. If you need help getting started, there's lots of great information online. Does anyone near you grow their own food? Perhaps they'd like to bring some along.

Lots of tips at www.giyireland.com

Buy local

Because Street Feast is a celebration of your local street, why not try and support your local farmers and suppliers as much as possible? Ask around – it might be a couple of extra coppers, but at least that money's staying around your area, supporting local families.

Buy seasonal

Best produce to cook up at this time of year? Pretty much everything except root veg. Seasonal food is great because it's better quality, it's fresher so it's healthier and has less distance to travel which means fewer carbon emissions and less impact on the environment. Happier food all round!

Check out www.bestinseason.ie



Clearing up

- ★ Plan ahead.
- ★ Have the wheelie bins at the ready.
- ★ Clearly label 3 or 4 recycling bins.
- ★ Get ready for a clean-up frenzy just before everyone goes home to make it quicker and easier!

DECORATION

This is the one day in the year when we have complete control over our streets!

The day when we can cover the carpark in colour. The moment we'll fill the cul-de-sac with tables and chairs. Lose that perfection and capture creativity. Don't forget about those da Vinci's hiding behind the curtains. Everything and anything goes; the more colour the better!

If you've registered your feast on www.streetfeast.ie we'll post you out a free party pack. This party pack contains this guide, posters, bunting, balloons, party hats and invites (basically all of the things you need to invite people to your Feast and get them in the Street Feast spirit!)

Recipe for bunting

Get lost in your nearest cupboard.

Old tents, umbrellas, 70s tablecloths, kid's cartoon bedsheets, dad's hawaiian shirts, dodgy curtains – all are welcome!

- ★ Find some garden twine or extra-long string.
- ★ Cut the fabric into long, thin diamond shapes.
- ★ Fold in half between the shortest points.
- ★ Wrap around the string and glue sides together.
- ★ Find a responsible daredevil who'll tie the string between neighbour's windows or willing trees.

Transform that street!



Film your feast

A video of your Street Feast will really capture the atmosphere and help encourage neighbours to get involved next time round.

It's easy to instantly upload it to facebook, instagram and snapchat. You could even try livestreaming your feast online via facebook, instagram or on stories using the hashtag **#streetfeast**

Getting Arty

Some creative ideas for your feast

- ★ Community murals & groovy urban stencils
- ★ Street chalk paintings
- ★ Long colourful paper chains
- ★ Potato Prints
- ★ Adventurous sculptures
- ★ Tablecloth-join-the-dots
- ★ Placemat decoration



Who's face have you always wanted to paint?
Now's your chance!



Capturing the Memories

Don't forget to take photos! They're great for the memories.

Posting them to social media is the way to go. It's much easier to make your friends jealous! Our hashtag this year is **#streetfeast**

Use your Facebook page, Twitter feed, Instagram & Snapchat accounts to share them out (making sure to tag Street Feast!) Please email us a photo to show us your feast to hello@streetfeast.ie

MUSIC AND GAMES

Musical mash-ups

Everyone's musical! We're sure that there are more musicians per square km of turf in Ireland than any other country. Think about all the closet ones out there and fish 'em out! Then you can get a group together. After all, who wouldn't want to be part of the tincan-kitchenpot-dustbin-lid collective?

Musicians

We know you're dying to test out the fresh air-waves for your newest musical creations. Please note, we do advise at least five minutes practice before inflicting your tunes on your neighbours. You do want to be invited to next year's feast, don't you?

Instruments

From the handy spoons to the pickupable guitar, from the all-can-do triangle to the ever-so-welcome trumpet. If you're playing the bendy saw be careful!

Games

Only limited by your imagination

Keep them simple: tug-of-war, hopscotch, noughts & crosses, snakes and ladders, draughts and kerbies. All you need is some chalk, a ball or some rope and some willing competitors!

With any luck, the games will be improvised into spectacles that will be remembered for years – Twister-street-style, breakdance-off, crab-football, musical-car-parking-spaces, kerbs ... the possibilities are endless!





BUT WHAT ABOUT?

Closing my street (does it have to be a street?)

You don't have to close your street at all. You don't even have to hold it on a street. Street Feasts can be held anywhere. But if you do like the sound of moving the cars out of the way for the day and setting up bang in the middle of your street then there are ways to make it happen. Visit your local Garda station - they may be willing to help you out with a 'temporary street closure' for a few hours. Alternatively you'll need permission from your council to officially close a public road for the day. Your local council's website will usually have a form to fill in and they may ask you to pay fees for closing the street. We are trying to persuade councils not to charge. It's best to apply well in advance but don't worry, it's easier than it sounds!

Rain

Rain never stopped us before! But we've got a mighty memory for forgetting the sunny days and remembering the washouts. Odds are on for a cracking summer this year, but there is no harm in being prepared for possible rain. And we can be. After all, we've been dealing with the stuff for long enough now!

Borrow a light tarpaulin and string it over the street as a practice run for possible downpours. Have a few marquees or gazebos lined up, just in case. Agree on somewhere beforehand that everyone will relocate to if the heavens open. Ask the local scouts group whether you can use their den; Scouting Ireland are very supportive of Street Feast. If you're the kind that'll be up worrying about it on the night before you could consider planning the whole thing at the community centre or somewhere else indoors. There are no rules about where feasting should happen.

Insurance

Some councils may require you to take out Public Liability Insurance, usually as part of your road closure application. If you are planning an event in public space it is worth considering taking out cover. The good news is that most community organisations and residents' associations already have insurance. It's usually just a matter of seeing if they can get involved, and asking them to help with the insurance cover. Annual Public Liability Insurance for neighbourhoods can cost as little as €120, and you can get a discount for your Street Feast insurance so check our website for details. Councils sometimes request that you indemnify them - you can ask your insurance company about this. If you need any help with insurance, do get in touch: hello@streetfeast.ie



OH, AND...

Food health and safety

When preparing food, common sense applies!

The biggest barbecue pitfall is uncooked meat. A handy hint – cook the meat in the oven and then finish it off on the barbecue to ensure you still capture those yummy flavours.

Do as you normally do at home. Wash hands and dishes with hot water. Keep everything clean. Don't forget to keep your raw meat separate from your cooked meat. That includes using separate chopping boards, knives and plates. It's all common sense, but if you want reassurance, visit www.safefood.eu

And finally, a chef's hat and naked lady apron aren't essential health and safety tools – but they may make you a better chef!*

**please note we cannot guarantee any improvement.*

Gardai

It's always a good idea to communicate with your local community Garda about any public event in your local area. This is especially the case if your Feast will be out on the street. They'll help to make sure that everything goes to plan.

Remember: We've got some great tips and ideas on our blog and FAQ's page.

At the end of the day ...

All good things come to an end. Here are some suggestions of what you could do to help the day have a soft landing.

- ★ Designate somebody to organise an after-party that moves to a suitable place, perhaps off the street around 6pm. Maybe it's best to keep the alcohol until then?
- ★ Make sure to get as many willing people as possible to clean up, preferably before they all slink off! Try leaving the area cleaner and in a better condition than when you started.



STREET
FEAST

10 STEPS TO ORGANISE A STREET FEAST

Your Street Feast checklist:

- 1 Start early; try not to leave it to the very last minute to arrange your Street Feast.
- 2 Register your Feast at www.streetfeast.ie to get your free pack. You can get great tips and advice on the website, Facebook, Instagram & Twitter.
- 3 Photocopy some fliers from our free DIY pack, print them from the downloadable guide on our website or make your own.
- 4 Knock on your neighbours doors and tell them about Street Feast. Bring a flier.
- 5 Get your small group of neighbours together (3 is a good start) and make a list of things you've got. Try to borrow to fill the gaps.
- 6 Ask people what they're good at and what they're happy to contribute
- 7 Find a location: your street, carpark, garden, community hall. Anywhere will do. Make sure it's easy to access and will be welcoming to all.
- 8 Need some free food for your event? Put some seeds in the ground as soon as you can.
- 9 Ask local supermarkets, shops and farmers for free places to move your cars to for the day. Perhaps they'll have a few supplies they can help you out with.
- 10 Get the word out! Contact your local radio and newspaper and tell them what you are up to. We have a local media pack on our website.

And don't forget to tell us your story! Call us, write to us, tag us on **Facebook, Twitter & Instagram** (#streetfeast) and tell us where and why you are doing your Feast.

www.streetfeast.ie

Remember: Street Feasts can be big or small - don't stress about the numbers!



WHAT CAN COME OUT OF YOUR STREET FEAST

There are loads of initiatives out there that a community gathering can inspire.

Why not take the opportunity to see whether your neighbours would be interested in starting one or two? Here are a few suggestions:

- ★ **Community website** or newsletter
- ★ **Local action group** – When neighbours come together, they often realise that they care about many of the same issues. Now's the time to get active.
- ★ **Community garden or allotment** – How much more local can you get? These are great projects to meet new people, grow your own food, and create a new space for everyone to enjoy. create a healthy place to be in your neighbourhood.
- ★ **Community buyers group** – Isn't food a great way to get everyone together? A local buyer's group can help to keep your grocery prices to a minimum by buying in bulk with your neighbours.
- ★ **Community supported agriculture scheme** – Local people group together to support a local farm. They're called CSA's and there's a few starting up around Ireland.
- ★ **GIY (grow it yourself) group** – There's a huge and expanding network of grassroots groups. Check out inspiring ideas and great growing tips at www.giyireland.com
- ★ A new **ChangeX** solution for your area - The perfect platform to help you start or get involved in great projects in your community. www.changex.org
- ★ **Men's Sheds** - There are already almost 300 community based sheds around Ireland, enabling men to work on DIY and creative projects. Their motto is "Men don't talk face to face. They talk shoulder to shoulder" www.menssheds.ie



HAVE A HAPPY FEAST!



Written by the Street Feast team.
Illustrations by Heather from Hello Atto.
Photos by Paula Geraghty, Allen Kiely,
Clare Mulvany & Sam Bishop.

STREET
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Bunting!

(Best printed on A3 paper)



Cut!



STREET
FEAST

STREET
FEAST

STREET
FEAST

Fold!

