SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: ROCKWELL COLLEGE LAKE

SITE CODE: 000970

Rockwell College is situated approximately 6km south of Cashel in Co. Tipperary. Within the grounds of the college, a sizable ornamental lake with several islands forms a nice amenity area. Constructed in the 18th century, this lake has a calcareous substrate and holds a rich assemblage of pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp.), stoneworts (Charophyte spp.) and other aquatic plants.

Although it is man-made, this lake has been designated as a Natural Heritage Area because it supports a healthy population of the Opposite-leaved Pondweed (*Groenlandia densa*) which is a legally protected species under the 1999 Flora Protection Order. This plant has declined dramatically in recent times because of destruction and damage to its aquatic habitat, particularly from water pollution. Due to its vulnerability, it is important to conserve its remaining locations.

13.11.2009