



Galway
Atlantaquaria®

**A GREAT BIG
BOOK OF
SPRINGTAILS
ON GRATTAN
BEACH, SALTHILL**

SPRINGTAILS ON GRATTAN BEACH, Salthill

One of the most interesting events on Grattan Beach, Salthill, has to be the discovery of the many thousands of Springtail sp. that have been present since December 2025 until April 2026. While the numbers may have dwindled, we have to **Explore The Shore!** to figure out what is going on?

While correct identification is tricky we can say that this species belongs to the order Collembola (springtails).

These organisms are:

- Small, wingless arthropods
- Typically 1–6 mm in length
- Equipped with a forked appendage (furcula) that enables jumping
- Hydrophobic (water-repellent)
- They feed on fungi, decaying plant material, and drift seaweed, making them important decomposers in coastal ecosystems.

In this collection we just wanted to showcase the many Springtails, spotted gathering in the hollows on the uppershore of Grattan Beach, Salthill....you could call it.....

**'A GREAT big Book of
Springtails'**



They are really hard
to record as individuals.











































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