



News

UofL research: Living near trees may prevent vascular damage from pollution

Researchers at the University of Louisville have shown that living near an abundance of green vegetation can offset the negative effects of air pollution on blood vessel health. The research, led by Aruni Bhatnagar, professor of medicine and director of the UofL Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute, was published ahead of print in the American Journal of Physiology-Heart and Circulatory Physiology. Previous studies have shown that proximity to green space — trees and other vegetation — can lower blood pressure levels and the risk of heart disease. A number of environmental factors may come into play, including increased opportunity for outdoor exercise, reduced mental stress and socioeconomic status. However, the relationship between vascular (blood vessel) health, green space and air pollution has not been fully explored.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 22, 2021**Source:** UL News**Scientists warn not all tree planting is good!**

As we grow up, we learn that trees are good for the environment due to their ability to act as a physical filter trapping dust and absorbing air pollutants, including carbon dioxide from the air. But what if the longest living species on Earth are not as good as they seem? Scientists from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew) and Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) warn that planting wrong trees in the wrong place can be even more harmful to the environment. According to their report, several tree-planting initiatives launched by authorities and companies to compensate for their carbon footprint do not actually increase carbon capture and can have long-term negative impacts on biodiversity, landscapes and livelihoods.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 26, 2021**Source:** Energy Live News**Climate change is altering the genetic programming of plants**

Plants and other organisms can physiologically adapt to changing environmental conditions, but this ability has its limitations. In a new study from the University of Würzburg, researchers have investigated why plants often malfunction when exposed to extreme conditions. The leaves of a dandelion are much smaller in sunny locations where less leaf area is needed to adequately support photosynthesis. This is an example of a plant's genetic programming. However, under persistent heat stress, dandelions may deviate from their normal programming. As a result, they can develop a wide range of unnatural leaf shapes in a response that is referred to as a "hidden reaction norm." "Organisms withstand normal ranges of environmental fluctuations by producing a set of phenotypes

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 28, 2021**Source:** Earth**50 million trees by 2030 for green cover towards clean coal initiative: Eco Survey**

Plans are afoot for plantation of 50 million trees on 20,000 hectare of land by 2030 as part of clean coal initiatives, the Economic Survey for 2020-21 said on Friday. Under the initiative about 54,500 hectare land has been brought under green cover by planting 132 million trees, the Survey for 2020-21 laid in Parliament said. For creating a carbon sink "about 54,500 ha land has been brought under green cover by planting 132 million trees - estimated carbon sink of 2.7 lakh tonnes of CO₂ equivalent/year. Plan to cover 20000 ha of additional area by plantation of around 50 million trees by 2030," the Survey said. The survey further noted that two Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Projects with considerable potential for carbon footprint reduction are in the pipeline.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** January 29, 2021**Source:** The Economic Times**NGT Junks Punjab Govt Plea to Recover Penalty from Defaulting Farmers for Burning Crop Residue**

The National Green Tribunal has refused to entertain a plea by Punjab government seeking directions to recover pending environmental compensation for burning crop residue from defaulting farmers as arrears of the land revenue. A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said it is for the state to devise strategies for enforcement of environmental laws and recovery of compensation from those who violate the same on 'Polluter Pays' principle. Even though the application has been filed as above, during the hearing, learned counsel for the State says that he has no instructions in the matter. "Moreover, it is for the state to devise its strategies for enforcement of environmental laws and recovery of compensation from those who violate the same on 'Polluter Pays' principle, as per law for which prayer before the tribunal is not called for," the bench said.

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