



News

The thin green line: grow your own barrier against pollution

The thin green line should be the new front line when it comes to defeating air pollution, scientists have said. The judicious use of hedges can provide a significant barrier to particulate pollution, according to recent research. Plant biologists say, however, that when it comes to improving air quality not all hedges are equal — and the humble privet may not be the best. The Royal Horticultural Society has conducted an investigation into the pollution-limiting abilities of hedges after finding that increasing numbers of people are looking to plant them to dampen the effects of busy roads.....[Read more...](#)

Date: May 17, 2019

Source: The Times

MoU Signed for Rudraksh Trees Plantation in Ganga Basin

A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), INTACH (The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) and HCL Foundation for plantation of 10,000 Rudraksh trees in catchment area of river Ganga Basin in Uttarakhand. NMCG has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with INTACH and HCL Foundation to take up a project of 'Plantation of 10000 Rudraksh Trees in Uttarakhand'. This is part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative under 'Namami Gange' Programme. To create a greener ecosystem in Ganga Basin. For this the project aims at planting Rudraksh trees in Uttarakhand in association with local community and other stakeholders within state.....[Read more...](#)

Date: May 17, 2019

Source: GK Today

To beat dust pollution, Delhi begins greening its roads

The public works department (PWD) has been beautifying the city roads and open spaces in an effort to cut down on dust pollution in the national capital. Around two months ago, the PWD began with the roads around ISBT Kashmere Gate Ring Road, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg among others by planting of variety of saplings on the central and side verges. The department is also beautifying other open spaces such as small parks or patches of lands alongside the roads managed by it. The PWD manages 1,260 km roads in the city. It is planting ornamental and seasonal flowering plants, creepers, shrubs and grass alongside roads to give them a beautiful look, an official familiar with the project said. The project is a part of the Delhi government's Green Budget initiative, announced by deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in March last year. Under the plan, the government aims to spruce up 500-km of PWD roads in a bid to curb dust pollution in the national capital. Only those roads which are wider than 100 feet will be taken up for beautification.....[Read more...](#)

Date: May 27, 2019

Source: Hindustan Times

Trees Tested as Pollutant Traps

Breathing in traffic fumes is accepted as unhealthy, but whether landscaping with vegetation can protect people is a matter of debate. Modeling studies generally suggest that trees do not have a substantial beneficial impact on pollution levels, and may even worsen a situation by trapping pollutants in certain areas. Now, a study finds that certain tree species are surprisingly efficient in scrubbing toxic particles from the air. Wind tunnel experiments demonstrate that leaves trap considerable numbers of particles with a diameter less than 100 nanometers. The group put nine tree species through their paces, with three clear winners in the top tier, the study, published May 16 in Environmental Science & Technology, finds. Birch, the best-performing tree, removed 79 percent of these ultrafine particles from the air, while yew and elder each captured around 70 percent. Such trees could be planted at pollution hotspots to quickly improve air quality, the scientists suggest.....[Read more...](#)

Date: May 28, 2019

Source: The Scientist

'Hawa Aane De': song launched by Environment Ministry

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) has launched a song titled 'Hawa Aane De' to spread awareness about Air pollution. Every year on 5 June World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated globally. The MoEFCC celebrates WED focussing on the annual theme declared by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and organizes several events accordingly. For the year 2019 theme for WED is 'Air Pollution'. Thus Keeping with annual tradition the main function will be being held at Vigyan Bhawan on 5th June, 2019 and it will be presided over by the Environment Minister. The WED will also be celebrated across the country in State Capitals and UT's. Release of several books, launch of a film competition on environment and three thematic sessions on- Air Pollution, Waste Management and Forests: the Green Lungs of cities.....[Read more...](#)

Date: May 30, 2019

Source: GK Today

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