



## News

**Trees and green roofs can help reduce the urban heat island effect**

An urban heat island is an urban area that is significantly warmer than its surrounding rural areas. The temperature difference is typically larger at night than during the day. With the UK government pledging to build 300,000 new homes every year, it is feared that many of the country's towns and cities will experience an increase in temperature brought about by more vehicles and building activity. In a paper published by Environmental Pollution, experts from Surrey's Global Centre for Clean Air Research (GCARE) modelled how a UK town would be affected if its urban landscape included different types of GI. The study focused on simulating temperature increases in the town of Guildford, UK, under different GI cover (trees, grassland and green roofs). The team adopted widely-used computer modelling systems that found that 78 per cent of Guildford was covered by grassland and trees. [.....Read more...](#)

**Date:** November 18, 2020**Source:** Science Daily**Microbes help unlock phosphorus for plant growth**

Phosphorus is a necessary nutrient for plants to grow. But when it's applied to plants as part of a chemical fertilizer, phosphorus can react strongly with minerals in the soil, forming complexes with iron, aluminum and calcium. This locks up the phosphorus, preventing plants from being able to access this crucial nutrient. To overcome this, farmers often apply an excess of chemical fertilizers to agricultural crops, leading to phosphorus buildup in soils. The application of these fertilizers, which contain chemicals other than just phosphorus, also leads to harmful agricultural runoff that can pollute nearby aquatic ecosystems. Now a research team led by the University of Washington and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory has shown that microbes taken from trees growing beside pristine mountain-fed streams in Western Washington could make phosphorus trapped in soils more accessible [.....Read more...](#)

**Date:** November 24, 2020**Source:** UW News - University of Washington**Climate crisis: Campaign for viewers to plant 750,000 trees launched by BBC's Countryfile**

A campaign to plant 750,000 trees across the UK has been launched by BBC's Countryfile programme. The two-year plan will encourage viewers to help plant and grow trees in an effort to help tackle the worsening climate crisis. The BBC said the 750,000 target was selected to match the number of children who will be starting primary school in September. The initiative, called Plant Britain, will be launched on Sunday in a special episode of the programme, and comes after new government figures revealed the UK is falling far behind on its tree-planting targets, and levels needed to help tackle the climate crisis. Presenter Anita Rani said: "Plant Britain is something for everyone to be involved with, to do their bit for their mental health, wellbeing and the environment. [.....Read more...](#)

**Date:** November 24, 2020**Source:** Independent**Mumbaikars take part in a 'Trees of Aarey' walk**

There is a lot that is being done to spread awareness about the nature and beauty of Aarey Forest every weekend. And recently, one such event that was conducted there was a tree walk. It took place on a Sunday morning and brought together the city's greenery lovers. They made their way through the beautiful environs, learnt about the trees and planted several, too. Sanjiv Valsan, who has been part of the environmental efforts in Aarey for long now, shares what the event was about. He says, "This was part of our 'Save Aarey' campaign, where we are working on healing Aarey forest. One of the reasons why we conducted this tree walk was, now that we have largely worked and succeeded towards saving Aarey Forest, we need to show people what they have saved and also enlighten them about the importance and value of it. Through this, people get more familiar with the deciduous part of Aarey, [.....Read more...](#)

**Date:** November 24, 2020**Source:** The Times of India**Britons To Plant Trees To Mark Queen Elizabeth's 70 Years On Throne**

London: Britons will be encouraged to plant trees to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 70th anniversary on the throne as part of a plan to create a greener country in honour of her seven decades of service. The 94-year-old, the longest-reigning monarch in British history, is due to mark her Platinum Jubilee in February 2022. The government is planning a four-day celebration that summer, featuring an extra day's public holiday, with tree planting to be a feature of the milestone, according to an announcement on Sunday. Named "The Queen's Green Canopy," the charity-backed project will encourage communities, schools, councils and landowners to plant native trees to help the environment and make local areas greener. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that the health crisis and pandemic had [.....Read more...](#)

**Date:** November 29, 2020**Source:** Ndtv

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