



News

What To Know About The Role of Ecology In Protecting The Planet

Ecology gives us some understanding of how our planet works because it examines the relationship between plants and animals (including humans) and their environments. Because of this, it can predict the effects of pollution and climate change and show us how to protect habitats and their biodiversity. We have an interdependent relationship with these complex ecosystems, and if we continue to fuel our lives the way we currently do, they are likely to collapse. Human overconsumption, overpopulation, and deforestation mean that the planet is currently facing unprecedented biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change. As the dominant organisms in the ecological system, human beings have a responsibility to make small changes in our lifestyles and create a better world for future generations.[Read more...](#)

Date: September 17, 2019**Source:** Blue and Green Tomorrow**Green Spaces**

William Blake was onto something in his "Laughing Song" poem. We need green spaces. Not only are they pleasant to look at, but these spaces are also healing. Almost anyone who has spent substantial time in a forest, up a mountain, or along a river recognizes that this is healing. Nature provides both physical and psychological benefits. Studies have shown improved healing in hospitals with green spaces outside windows rather than brick walls and decreased anxiety and increased workplace satisfaction in offices with plants and/or views of nature. How does this healing through exposure to nature occur? A variety of possible mechanisms have been proposed, from improved air quality to increased physical activity and enhanced social integration. Ming Kuo, PhD,³ has studied how green spaces affect humans and has postulated that there may be at least one common pathway toward wellness acting[Read more...](#)

Date: September 19, 2019**Source:** Psychiatric Times**Chinese initiative Ant Forest wins UN Champions of the Earth award**

Ant Forest, a green initiative, has received a 2019 Champions of the Earth award, the UN's highest environmental honour, for turning the green good deeds of half a billion people into real trees planted in some of China's most arid regions. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recognized Ant Forest in the 'Inspiration and Action' category. Launched by Ant Financial Services Group, an Alibaba affiliate, Ant Forest promotes greener lifestyles by inspiring users to reduce carbon emissions in their daily lives and better protect the environment. Ant Forest users are encouraged to record their low-carbon footprint through daily actions like taking public transport or paying utility bills online. For each action, they receive 'green energy' points and when they accumulate a certain number of points, an actual tree is planted. Users can view images of their trees in real-time[Read more...](#)

Date: September 19, 2019**Source:** UN Environment**Sirsi college students build bottle garden, score green points**

Plastic bottles, a growing pollution threat for the environment, are being put to good use by the students of Horticulture College in Sirsi. They are growing organic vegetables which are supplied to the college hostels. The college came up with the idea of making use of discarded plastic bottles, old tyres, oil cans, paint boxes and other waste to grow vegetables. More than 28 types of vegetables and greens are cultivated on the campus, sufficient for the meals cooked for 250 hostellers. Over the past six months, college students have involved themselves in experimenting with a new technology which involves low investment, less water and no soil, to cultivate organic vegetables for healthy meals. The students spend less than an hour a day on this garden and also experiment with new vegetables, besides making use of waste and plastic bottles.[Read more...](#)

Date: September 22, 2019**Source:** The New Indian Express**Protect the Western Ghats to tackle floods**

Floods are now an annual nightmare in many parts of southern and western India. Valleys in the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala that weren't considered flood-prone until recently are at risk. During floods and landslides in August 2019, two villages were completely destroyed killing several people, while a year earlier Kerala saw its worst floods in a century. These floods appear to be getting more severe. Climate change is causing stronger and more erratic rainfall with recurrent floods in low-lying areas while population growth is putting more people in risky areas. And another problem comes from deforestation in the mountain range where much of the water first fell: the Western Ghats. The Western Ghats run for 1,600km in parallel with India's west coast, from Gujarat right down to Tamil Nadu at the tip of the subcontinent. It is – or was – a picturesque landscape of serene valleys,[Read more...](#)

Date: September 23, 2019**Source:** Deccan Chronicle

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