



The Environmental Information System at Eco-Auditing Laboratory, National Botanical Research Institute is focussed on "Plants & Pollution". This is the E-mail Publication that Feature News, Information and Events Related to Plants & Pollution.

The Focus of ENVIS has been on Providing Environmental Information to Decision Makers, Policy Planners, Scientists and Engineers, Research Workers, etc. all over the World.

Eco-Auditing Group is Involved in R & D on Eco-Monitoring, Environmental Impact Assessment, Eco-Friendly Models that are Technologically and Economically Feasible for Phytoremediation of Polluted Lands and Polluted Waters etc.

News

A wrong turn saves lives and trees in Malawi

Even the best planned journeys can follow an unexpected course. A wrong turn spelled the start of an adventure that brought Malawi a simple cookstove capable of saving lives. And trees. It all began twelve years ago, when an English couple, Liz and Geoff Furber, were travelling through northern Malawi. While trying to find the lodge where they were planning to stay, the couple took the wrong road and ended up in a village called Mwaya. And, as it turned out, at one of life's surprise crossroads. Quickly falling in love with the place they had stumbled upon, they decided to make a contribution to the area through environment and education projects. RIPPLE Africa was born. One of the issues facing Malawi is deforestation. With more than 95 percent of the country's households reliant on wood for cooking, the national tree stock is under constant threat. Cooking on open fires also causes indoor air pollution, which the World Health Organization (WHO) says was responsible for 7.7 percent of global mortality in 2012. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 02 October, 2015

Source: <http://www.dw.com>

Upton Warren residents suffer noise pollution from M5 tree felling

Carol Vaughn's property backs onto the motorway. She said: "Had they have done their homework before they started, all this wouldn't really have been necessary. They just went ahead, didn't know that Upton Warren was a conversation area. It was wonderful before. There was the bund and then there were these 30 foot high trees, and there were small bushes. It all came down to the fence on my side, and now there's nothing, absolutely nothing. How can you go outside and see cars and lorries when you use to see trees? "It's horrendous now, it's unbelievable. It's like living in a toll house in the middle of the motorway. The people at the barn conversions looking down the motorway on the south they are lower so they're getting a lot of noise which comes down the bank to their bedroom level. "Nobody came to the village, nobody came to see me. [Readmore...](#)

Date: 02 October, 2015

Source: <http://www.worcesternews.co.uk>

For a greener, cleaner world, give trees a try

From time to time, I have given some thought to the idea of trees as pollution suckers – their ability to sap pollution from the air and store it. I have also thought about what would be better at absorbing carbon dioxide (CO₂) – a tree or plant (shrub). In that department, I believe trees win hands down, but, that would, of course, depend on the tree and shrub. Added to all of this, I've written about a type of tree, Megaflora, that I understand is a pretty good sponge when it comes to helping de-pollute air and more. Now, as far as pollution-reducing devices go, trees might not rank among those at the top – that is, the best performers. But, they can and do help. In the book: *Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time*, author and city planner Jeff Speck devotes a whole section to trees. Speck points out a number of ways trees planted along neighborhood streets and/or on residential property and which provide shade can lessen the reliance on home cooling systems, for example, compared to areas devoid of shade trees, which can reduce energy costs and that, in turn, can lower demand on the electric grid and, therefore, can result in energy-created emissions being produced being less. [Read more..](#)

Date: 09 October, 2015

Source: <http://alankandel.scienceblog.com>

The absence of trees could increase your risk of cardiovascular disease

Not only can trees provide us with oxygen to breathe and help combat the effects of global warming at the same time, their presence has also been linked to our risk of heart disease, a new study has found. A team of scientists has been analyzing the health effects of a lack of foliage, specifically in the city of Detroit, where the emerald ash borer (EAB) beetle has been ripping through trees and causing havoc to the local ecosystem. Based on data pulled from the Women's Health Initiative survey, those in EAB-ravaged areas were 25 percent more likely to suffer from certain kinds of cardiovascular disease. What makes the data so valuable to researchers is that the EAB beetle has no respect for neighbourhood boundaries or the ages of local residents: because the damage has been so indiscriminate, there's a greater chance that the trees are the root cause of the discrepancies in health [Read more...](#)

Date: 09 October, 2015

Source: <http://www.sciencealert.com>

Could contaminated land actually be good for trees?

The very act of tolerating some forms of soil pollution may give trees an advantage in the natural world, says University of Montreal plant biologists. Their findings were published this week in *BMC Plant Biology*. High chemical tolerant plants can be used to rehabilitate land contaminated with heavy metals or petroleum by-products - some 30,000 such sites exist in Canada and 342,000 sites in Europe - through a process termed phytoremediation. The research team compared the molecular response of willow trees growing in contaminated or non-contaminated soil and found that several plant genes were expressed differently between both treatments. "The most fascinating result, however, comes from the fact that genetic information (RNA) from other organisms, such as fungi, bacteria and insects were also found to be expressed differentially in plant tissues. [Read more...](#)

Date: 14 October, 2015

Source: <http://www.eurekaalert.org>

I ate how many trees for breakfast?

What if the next time you went to the grocery store and picked up a box of cereal the ingredient list read "10 trees, 30 cups of water, 8 wild bees, Vitamin A, Vitamin B, and Iron." In other words, what if the ingredient list included the environmental "ingredients" that went into making the item? Would this change your purchase? Would you choose your second favorite cereal if it required only five trees to produce? Unfortunately, we don't usually have the option to choose based on environmental impacts. We make everyday decisions about what to buy, to eat and to wear with almost no knowledge of the role that nature played in producing our choices. So what, exactly, do I mean by saying that the ingredient list on your morning cereal could also contain three wild bees and a small patch of forest? [Read more...](#)

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Source: <http://www.treehugger.com>

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