



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

### Gurgaon's greenery needs to be preserved: Dipannita Sharma

A self-confessed travel buff, model and actor Dipannita Sharma, who visited Gurgaon after two years, is all gaga about it. Speaking to us, she says, "It's been two years since my last visit. And the city was transformed completely. I was in the city to visit my family. My husband's grandfather has a home in Gurgaon. And whenever we come to the city, we stay there. Gurgaon's like a holiday home. We also went to Cyber Hub, which is a must go-to place. There are so many options in terms of things to do, eat and shop." The city trended recently for having faced one of the worst jams ever. Ask her if she too was stuck in the same traffic and she says, "I heard about the jam. Thank God, I wasn't in it. The pollution levels are really high here. That needs to be addressed. Otherwise, I feel it is so green and beautiful. The greenery needs to be preserved." [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 16 August 2016

**Source:** <http://www.hindustantimes.com>

### Desert Gardener: Gardens growing atop public transit vehicles

City buses have been stereotyped as huffing, puffing air polluters which chug along city streets night and day. Marc Granen, chief executive officer of Phyto Kinetic in Girona, Spain, is working to change that picture. He envisions public transportation vehicles as islands of greenery providing extra oxygen to cities and utilizing carbon dioxide to help clean city air. Crazy idea you say? Probably, but Granen, a landscaper, decided to give it a try anyway. He developed a system to grow rooftop gardens on top of public transportation vehicles. His first rooftop garden was installed on a city bus in Estartit, Spain. To create this moveable garden, Granen and his associates installed a stainless steel frame around the perimeter of the bus's roof. A waterproof coating, AquaPro, was sprayed inside the frame, and light-weight hydroponic foam was installed instead of soil. Plants, including sedum and a variety of grasses, were planted in the foam and held in place with micro-perforated stainless steel bands. Spanish green wall and roof designer, Alex Puig, collaborated with Granen on the project and provided plants for the garden. For over a year now, Phyto Kinetic's rooftop garden bus has transported tourists back and forth from a camping facility. "There are so many benefits to this concept," Granen said. "Rooftop gardens on public transportation vehicles will increase green areas in cities where space is limited, reduce the heat island effect, increase oxygen production, decrease carbon dioxide and give cities a more ecological-friendly look. They're also fun to see." [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 21 August 2016

**Source:** <http://www.yumasun.com>

### 5 Plants That Can Help Purify Indoor Air, According to Science

Want to clear the air in your home or workplace? Get some greens, says research presented today at the American Chemical Society's annual meeting. But not just any greens: The new study looked at five common house plants and found that when it comes to removing harmful chemicals from the air, some are better than others. Indoor air pollution is a common and important threat to human health, according to researchers from the State University of New York Oswego, and can even lead to symptoms of "sick-building syndrome," such as headache and fatigue. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which are emitted as gasses from cigarette smoke, paints, furniture, copiers and printers, cleaning supplies, and dry-cleaned clothes, are often to blame. "Buildings, whether new or old, can have high levels of VOCs in them, sometimes so high that you can smell them," says Vadoud Niri, PhD, an assistant professor of chemistry who led the new study. Inhaling large amounts of VOCs can cause short- and long-term health problems, he adds, including dizziness, asthma, and allergies. [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 25 August 2016

**Source:** <https://www.yahoo.com>

### Plants Clear Indoors of Pollutants, Study Finds

WASHINGTON — Polluted air is a public health problem, not only outdoors, but indoors as well. Experts say it can be even worse inside because of the variety of household chemicals that emit fumes and irritating particulates. Researchers, however, have found that plants, as part of their carbon exchange cycle, can take up these pollutants, clearing the air in homes. It makes sense in a way since we could not live without plants. They absorb the carbon dioxide that we exhale, and release the oxygen we need to breathe. And we depend on plants to produce an enormous amount of oxygen, according to Vadoud Niri from the State University of New York at Oswego. "Each of us breathes over 3,000 gallons of air every day. And also, we can't go without air over three minutes. So it means that air quality is extremely important and we need clean air to breathe every day." [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 27 August 2016

**Source:** <http://www.voanews.com>

### City Unveils Murals to Spur Investment, Curiosity

A vacant building on Peoria's South Side got a splash of color that the city hopes will spur more economic investment in the area. The City unveiled two vinyl murals Mon., as part of the Community Development Center's first contest for an ongoing public art initiative. The first installations are two vinyl murals, draped along the sides of a large warehouse at 3560 SW Adams St. "This kind of shows the potential behind this vacant building. We're planning on upkeeping the maintenance, and now, I just had somebody ask me, 'hey I love that building, I'd be interested in buying it,'" Neighborhood Enhancement Coordinator Terence Acquah said. The two mounted murals were designed by local artists, who each won \$500 for being selected. The vinyl allows for the city and building owners to periodically rotate artwork. One of the pieces, titled "Greener Pastures," depicts a split scene -- one half illustrates pollution and the other shows greenery, wind turbines and solar panels. The artist, Shweta Srivastava, says she's passionate about sustainability and improving the health of the local water supply. [Read more...](#)

**Date:** 29 August 2016

**Source:** <http://peoriapublicradio.org>

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