



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

Tree-saving campaign focuses eyes on the white-letter hairstreak

We tend to picture butterflies feeding on flowers, but five British species spend most of their lives in the tops of trees. These insects are often overlooked during their unobtrusive lives. But the white-letter hairstreak finds itself in the spotlight this month as local people fight to save a fine mature elm in Sheffield. A modest brown butterfly with trim little tails and a white "w" on the underside of its wings, the white-letter hairstreak lays its eggs on elm. Its caterpillars eat the flower buds and leaves and its adults spend much of their lives sunning themselves or sipping aphid honeydew in the treetops. Unsurprisingly, its abundance has plummeted by 96% since elms succumbed to Dutch elm disease in the 1970s. The butterfly has clung on in areas where disease stricken elms regenerate in hedgerows and also relies on wych elm and disease-resistant elm cultivars. The 120-year-old elm in Nether Edge, Sheffield, is a rare example of a Huntingdon elm which has escaped the disease (urban elms in Brighton have survived too). [Read more...](#)

Date: 04 August 2016

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com>

Vertical gardens clean city air

Ozone levels in Mexico City have risen well above the maximum threshold recommended by the World Health Organization, forcing the city to declare a number of pollution emergencies throughout 2016. The city has already tightened vehicle restrictions and now it's trying something new: the development of vertical gardens called ViaVerde. A group of Mexican entrepreneurs, led by architect Fernando Ortiz Monasterio, are converting the columns of the second floor of the Periférico, an elevated viaduct on the beltway, into a green space to help purify the air. Monasterio explains how they intend to make Mexico City cleaner, greener and healthier. It's a project that is based on the recovery of green areas in Mexico City. In order to contextualize the city's current circumstances you need to consider the following: the World Health Organization recommends a minimum of nine square meters of green area per inhabitant, and in Mexico City we only have 3.7 square meters of green area per inhabitant; that is, we need about 5.3 square meters more, which, multiplied by the inhabitants in the capital of Mexico means we lack more than 30 million square meters of green areas to prevent respiratory diseases and maintain a minimum quality of life. From this situation arises ViaVerde, a project that proposes to transform the columns — numbering over 1,000 — on the second floor of the Periférico, into more than 60 thousand square meters of vertical gardens. [Read more...](#)

Date: 04 August 2016

Source: <http://www.metro.us>

City arborists need reinforcements

It's easy to imagine that Austin's trees are a natural feature of the city, but the abundant greenery lining the streets is actually protected and maintained by a tiny army of arborists. And, with new buildings being built every day, these tree experts are struggling to keep up. "We work extra hours because we're passionate about the work we do," said Michael Embesi, the city's Urban Forest Division manager. "But there are only so many hours in a day." At its meeting on Aug. 3, the Environmental Commission unanimously recommended that City Council add four new arborist positions to the 2017 budget. The commission's recommendation says that the urban (or community) forest is "sacred" to Austinites and that it's "in danger of being reduced and compromised as a result of the rapid growth of development." Commissioner Mary Ann Neely strongly supported the recommendation, saying, "(The urban forest) is a subject I truly love. ... I'm just a fanatic." Commissioners expressed concern that the city's arborists have been working unpaid overtime for many years, spending nights and weekends to keep up with the hundreds of calls they receive daily. [Read more..](#)

Date: 08 August 2016

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

Women Surrounded By Greenery May Live Longer

BOSTON (CBS) – According to Harvard researchers, women who live in homes surrounded by greenery may have longer lives than women who don't. They looked at data on more than 100,000 women enrolled in the Nurses' Health Study and found that those who live in green areas with gardens, trees, and shrubbery had a 12% lower mortality rate and lower rates of dying from cancer and breathing problems. One theory is that vegetation can combat the health effects of pollution and excessive heat but may also reduce stress levels. [Read more...](#)

Date: 11 August 2016

Source: <http://boston.cbslocal.com>

'Green railway corridor' to be set up alongside tracks: deal signed

The Railways Ministry will establish 'green railway corridor' on both sides of railway tracks. The 40-Km corridor will be completed in 1 and half years at an estimated cost of Rs 820 million in the first phase. Pakistan Railways, with the help of City District Government and Parks & Horticulture Authority (PHA), will convert all the railway lands along the track, into greenery, to make the city beautiful. An agreement "Rail Green Corridor" was signed by Director General Punjab Horticulture Authority Mian Shakeel Ahmed and Divisional Superintendent (DS) Railways Lahore Waqar Ahmed Shahid here on Monday at Railways Headquarter. Federal Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique, and PML-N Lahore President Pervez Malik, Malik Riaz, MNA, CEO Railways Javed Anwar, Vice Chairman PHA Iftikhar Ahmed and other officials, were also present on the occasion. Addressing the signing ceremony, Federal Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique said that all the railway lands along the track would be transformed into green belts, libraries, garden cafe, jogging tracks and other recreational places by planting variety of plants and ornamental flowers. [Read more...](#)

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

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