



## News

**National Plants at Work Week**

National Plants at Work Week, an eFig initiative, which aims to promote the benefits of plants runs from 10th to 14th July and is fast approaching . At GP Plantscape we would like to encourage you to become involved in any way you can. After all which business doesn't want to maximise productivity and reduce time taken off sick? Not to mention reducing any pollution in the air. It is a well-known fact that we spend more time indoors than outdoors (roughly 90% indoors) and that air pollution indoors can be 10 times more polluted than outdoor air (Environment Protection Agency – EPA). So how can plant...[Read more...](#)

**Date:** 23 June 2017**Source:** <http://www.gpplantscape.com/>**Bacteria-coated nanofiber electrodes clean pollutants in wastewater**

Cornell University materials scientists and bioelectrochemical engineers may have created an innovative, cost-competitive electrode material for cleaning pollutants in wastewater. The researchers created electro-spun carbon nanofiber electrodes and coated them with a conductive polymer, called PEDOT, to compete with carbon cloth electrodes available on the market. When the PEDOT coating is applied, an electrically active layer of bacteria -- *Geobacter sulfurreducens* -- naturally grows to create electricity and transfer electrons to the novel electrode. The conducting nanofibers create a favorable surface for this bacteria, which digests pollutants from the wastewater and produces electricity, according to the research. "Electrodes are expensive to make now, and this material could bring the price of electrodes way down, making it easier to clean up polluted water," said co-lead author Juan Guzman, a doctoral candidate in the field of biological and environmental engineering. Under a microscope.....[Read more...](#)

**Date:** 28 June 2017**Source:** <https://www.sciencedaily.com/>**Study of US seniors strengthens link between air pollution and premature death**

A new study of 60 million Americans -- about 97% of people age 65 and older in the United States -- shows that long-term exposure to airborne fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and ozone increases the risk of premature death, even when that exposure is at levels below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) currently established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health researchers found that men, blacks, and low-income populations had higher risk estimates from PM2.5 exposure compared with the national average, with blacks having mortality risks three times higher than the national average. The results showed that if the level of PM2.5 could be lowered by just 1 microgram per cubic meter (ug/m<sup>3</sup>) nationwide, about 12,000 lives could be saved every year. Similarly, if the level of ozone could be lowered by just 1 part per billion (ppb) nationwide, about 1,900 lives would be saved each year. The study will be published in the June 29, 2017 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. "This is a study of unprecedented statistical power because of the massive size of the study population.....[Read more...](#)

**Date:** 28 June 2017**Source:** <https://www.sciencedaily.com/>

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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.

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