



Tune into the Aug. Issue of Eco-sense, where we provide inspirational green solutions!
- Editor



Green Feature

Echoing the sustainability theme "Better Today, Safer Tomorrow," the World attaches great importance to making urban lives safer and peaceful.

Germany -2022

Germany has announced that it will be totally NUCLEAR FREE by 2022.

After the Japanese Tsunami on March 11th 2011, which devastated much of Northern Japan, killing 27,000 people or more and causing melt-down at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, Germany took immediate action. It disbanded seven of its old nuclear power facilities, as they were thought to be extremely unsafe. Germany's plan was to build some new, safer nuclear power facilities to replace the old defunct ones. This decision was made at governmental level. However, the authorities have reconsidered, and reversed this decision: Only three months after this decision was made, they have made a radical decision: TO GET RID OF ALL NUCLEAR GENERATED POWER. This will set a precedent for all other countries to follow. The Germans have set the ball rolling, and other countries will soon follow their fantastic example. The Germans have got it right: There is no time to think about what should be done. If we are to preserve our planet, then we need to begin making changes for the better, right here and now.

It will take some time to get these nuclear power plants totally banned, as alternatives in power generating will have to be devised and implemented. Germany has 17 nuclear power reactors in total, which supply around 30% of the country's power. Wind power from the North Sea is one option to replace this 30% nuclear power quota. In the near future, it is hoped that other nuclear powers in the world shall follow the footsteps of Germany and pledge to become Nuclear Free.



got water?
Do your part, be water smart!



Editor- Mohsin Gul

Green Inspiration

When nearing the age of 60 - a time of retirement for most people - Safina Z. Siddiqi was just gearing up to lead the women in Karachi in a campaign to improve their environment and living conditions.

Her living-room wall, plastered with "before" and "after" pictures, portrays the fruits of the women's efforts. Before, the streets were pitted with potholes, open sewers spilled over contaminating drinking water and uncollected garbage accumulated into stinking heaps on the road sides.

Since 1989, when Siddiqi founded the Karachi Administration Women's Welfare Society (KAWWS), the sites have changed. The women, the majority of whom are housewives with no university education like Siddiqi, pressured civil servants to help them build and repair roads in neglected areas, fix sewers and install street lights.

The women themselves established a garbage collection system, planted tree saplings, negotiated a caretaking system to ensure their survival, and established eight parks - one that replaced a sewage pond. In 1992, KAWWS made quality drinking water a national issue when it filed public interest litigation before the country's Supreme Court as a human rights case. Siddiqi and her neighbours' efforts have attracted more members and international recognition.

World Environment Day- 2011

Forests: Nature At Your Service | 05 Jun

WED 2011 was celebrated worldwide on 5th June, with the theme of 'FORESTS: NATURE AT YOUR SERVICE' Throughout the globe, including Pakistan, various seminars, walks, awareness talks were held during the day. People celebrated the importance of forests as providers of natural services to them

IF U MISSED WED 2011, U CAN STILL PLEDGE TO HELP FORESTS ☺

WWF-Pakistan's Eco Internship Programme 2011

For the past four decades, WWF-Pakistan has been committed to providing quality environmental education to raise awareness about Pakistan's natural resources and environmental challenges.

Considering the lack of opportunities for students to get actively involved in environmental conservation, WWF-Pakistan decided to introduce the Eco Internship Programme in schools across Pakistan. The Programme is a 6 session long workshop giving students an insight into the eco dynamics and eco challenges of the region. The sessions include Environment Expert presentations, group work, hands on activities, documentaries, interactive discussions, creative challenges and enriching exposure visits.



"Although individual decisions may seem small in the face of global threats and trends, when billions of people join forces in common purpose, we can make a tremendous difference."
----UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon

Green thoughts

How long does it take a plastic grocery bag to degrade?

How Long Does it Take a Plastic Grocery Bag to Degrade? Researchers fear that such ubiquitous bags may never fully decompose; instead they gradually just turn into smaller and smaller pieces of plastic. The most common type of plastic shopping bag is made of polyethylene, a petroleum-derived polymer that microorganisms don't recognize as food and as such cannot technically "biodegrade."

Even though polyethylene can't biodegrade, it does break down when subject to ultraviolet radiation from the sun, a process known as photo degradation. When exposed to sunshine, polyethylene's polymer chains become brittle and crack, eventually turning what was a plastic bag into microscopic synthetic granules. Scientists aren't sure whether these granules ever decompose fully, and fear that their buildup in marine and terrestrial environments—and in the stomachs of wildlife—portend a bleak future compromised by plastic particles infiltrating every step in the food chain. A plastic bag might be gone in anywhere from 10 to 100 years (estimates vary) if exposed to the sun, but its environmental legacy may last forever. The best solution to plastic bag waste is to stop using disposable plastic bags altogether. You could bring your own reusable bag or backpacks with you to the store. If you have to choose between paper and plastic, opt for paper. Paper bags can biodegrade in a matter of weeks, and can also go into compost or yard waste piles or the recycling bin. Of course, plastic bags can be recycled also, but as just explained the process is inefficient. According to the nonprofit World Watch Institute, Americans only recycle 0.6 percent of the 100 billion plastic bags they take home from stores every year; the rest end up in landfills or as litter.

Do something Drastic... Cut down the Plastic

EarthTalk ®

One of the biggest questions is, why is it important to know about your ecological footprint and what exactly does it mean? A simple definition of ecological footprint is, the amount or the part of nature used by a person to satisfy his needs. It is a measure of the demands and the consumption of natural resources by people. It is a yardstick which gives an idea, whether a man is living within the means of what is available in nature for him or to what extent he exceeds this limit. More precisely, measuring your ecological footprint is the determination of the land area and water resource used, for providing the daily needs of a person, energy production, absorption of the waste and greenhouse gas emissions. This area is measured in global hectares (gha) and according to estimates, earth can sustain the use of about 1.9 gha per person.

In the Next Issue, we shall guide you on ways to reduce your ecological footprint, till then 'HAPPY THINKING'.....

KEY ICONS

-  Green Feature
-  Green Inspiration
-  Green Thoughts
-  Green Footprints

Think green!



recycle · reduce · reuse



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS • 2011

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It is our misfortune that for most of us that clear-eyed vision, that true instinct for what is beautiful and awe-inspiring, is dimmed and even lost.
~ Rachel Carlson

Can you tell us why Panda is the symbol of WWF??

If u know, write to us at our email address, and be a part of an exciting competition where you can win exciting prizes



Send us your valuable feedback:

Visit us @ www.ecosense.weebly.com

If you want to share any information with the editor about the next theme or share environmental articles, write to us at

ecosense@wwfpak.org

Very Soon, You will be able to join Team Eco-sense. For further details, read the next issue of Eco-sense. **[Together we can make a difference]- Editor**

Bet u didn't know that!!

- Indonesia contains the most known mammal species, but also the most mammal species under threat.
- One tree can make 15,000 sheets of A4 paper.
- A modern glass bottle would take 4000 years or more to decompose -- and even longer if it's in the landfill.
- The amount of wood and paper we throw away is enough to heat 50 million homes for 20 years
- One gallon of motor oil can contaminate up to 2 million gallons of water. so dispose of properly!
- In China, at least half of all urban vehicle trips are made on two wheels. One out of 74,000 people in China own a car.