



# The Times of Nature

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

www.ndns.in

Issue # 11

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May, 2018

## June Nature Expo

Enroll for JUNE NATURE EXPO.

10 Sessions of connecting with nature.

5 Specially curated workshops.

5 Nature Walks.

All different venues.

Suitable for all ages.



## Fraudulent Tree Felling

Long story short, this tree was recorded in our tree census, it was later cemented by the resident, then we got the cement removed. The building was demolished for an upgrade, so the staff of the building told us the tree is touching their new wall so they want it removed. Few days later, the entire tree is missing and the MCD claims that they had the permission for "dangerous tree" since it was leaning on the light post toward the road. So one says it was leaning in one direction the other says it was leaning the other direction and now that space is being used for parking. A beautiful healthy tree which stood straight through the severe storms is now gone because of this absurdity.



## Contributor of the Month

Special Thanks to Mr. Uday Nath for their generous contribution of Rs 5000/- towards the environmental conservation work by New Delhi Nature Society.



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**Jasjeev.Gandhiok**  
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**New Delhi:** The tree under which you seek respite from the 40 degree Celsius sun may actually be surviving against all odds, or maybe not. This was demonstrated by the storm in the capital on Sunday, with the strong winds knocking down at least 255 trees across the city.

What leaves them susceptible to the vagaries of nature? The answer appears simple: look anywhere in the city and you will find their roots likely choked by concrete, their trunks riddled with nails and strangled by wires. Advertisement boards continue to be hammered into trees and concrete poured around them to facilitate car parking in complete violation of Delhi high court's 2009 order that all trees should be left 6x6 feet of 'breathing space' around them.

at the ground level.

On Sunday, as many as 32 trees were uprooted in the storm in Lutyens' Delhi alone. Elsewhere, Mayur Vihar, Patparganj, Laxmi Nagar, Karol Bagh, Okhla, CR Park, Greater Kailash, Dwarka and Daryaganj were majorly affected.

A few days ago, when TOI visited New Friends Colony, Pamposh Enclave, Greater Kailash-I and Shivalik Colony in south Delhi, tree activists spoke of this dismal situation. They claimed to be fighting a losing battle, with their repeated complaints to the forest department, municipal corporations or the horticulture department eliciting little response.

"We can remove nails from trees, as we did in south Delhi's New Friends Colony last year, but for larger things such as high tension wires, street lights or concretisation around tree trunks, we can only alert the authorities," sa-

id Verhaen Khanna, founder,  
New Delhi Nature Society.

The National Green Tribunal recently reiterated that no concrete should be used in a one-metre radius around tree trunks. It also directed: "Ensure that all the signboards, names, advertisements, any kind of boards or signage, electric wires and high tension cables or otherwise are removed from the trees forthwith." But, as green activist and advocate Aditya N Prasad, the petitioner in the NGT case, pointed out, very little has been done in this direction.

The number of trees that topple over in storms should alert the civic agencies to the dangers of cement-restricted tree trunks. "Concretisation of the space around trees not only restricts water from percolating into the soil, but also constricts the root growth. This then causes the tree to tilt and fall down during heavy

Padmavati Dwivedi, who conducted Delhi's first tree census in Sarvodaya Enclave six years ago, was assured that the NGT petition and efforts of nature lovers has made some difference. However, she still has her worries. "Some space is now being left for the trees, but not as specified by NGT. Besides, trees in so many localities are yet to be de-choked," Dwivedi said.

The 2012 Sarvodaya Enclave Census had found 394 trees suffering from lopping (tilting to one side), while 75 had been choked by tree guards or nails. In addition, 293 trees, or 41% of the colony's trees, were found completely strangled, and only 172 had two feet of space around them. A similar census at Gulmohar Park established that 700 of the 1,100 trees there did not have enough soil around them to be able to breathe.

## 255 trees uprooted in over 2 hrs, here's why they are at risk in city

## THE CHOKE'S ON THE TREES



# Dainik Jagran

When was the last time  
you or your children  
climbed a tree?

Our Tree Climbing workshops were featured in Dainik Jagran newspaper.

Thanks to this article,  
more people joined our  
workshops from many  
corners of New Delhi.

यमा का इन छुट्टया म पहल नाना क घर जाकर ना केवल समय गुजारे थे बल्कि प्रकृत संग मीठे रिश्ते भी प्रगाढ़ होते थे। आम के पेड़ों पर चढ़कर फल तोड़ना। गांव की गलियों में वो धमा चौकड़ी, भला उन शहरत और टिठोली को कोई भूल सकता है क्या...

## चलो करें दोस्ती

आपको भी बचपन बाद हो जाएगा जब पार्क में पेड़ पर चढ़कर फल तोड़ते थे और माली डंडा लेकर पीछे भागता था... इसी बचपन को जीने का अपने बच्चों को भी अवसर दीजिए। जा हाँ, टी कास्टाडिम्पन इसी सोच के साथ आयोजित किया जा रहा है। नई दिल्ली नेचर सोसायटी द्वारा समर कैम्प के तहत प्रत्येक सप्ताह रविवार का आयोजित किया जाता है। जिसमें ना केवल दिल्ली बल्कि नोएडा, गजिबाद, गुरुग्राम, फरीदाबाद के बच्चे अपने अभिभावकों संग हिस्सा लेते हैं। आयोजकों की मानें तो पहले लोदी गार्डन में यह आयोजन होता था। फिलहाल नेहरू पार्क में बच्चों को पेड़ पर चढ़ना सिखाया जाता है। 120 बच्चों का समूह होता है। बच्चों के लिए ऐसे पेड़ों का चयन किया जाता है जिसकी शाखाएँ ज्यादा निम्नली होती हैं। बच्चों को विशेषतः की निगरानी में पेड़ों पर चढ़ने का प्रशिक्षण दिया जाता है।



आयोजक कहते हैं कि पेड़ पर चढ़ना ही नहीं बल्कि हम पेड़ों पर चढ़े बच्चों को कहानी, कविता सुनाते हैं। उन्हें बताते हैं कि यह पेड़ चमगादड़, गौरैया, तोता समेत कई अन्य पक्षियों का ठिकाना है। एक पेड़काटे से कई पशु-पक्षी बेघर हो जाते हैं। इस तरह उनमें वह भाव जगाया जाता है कि वो ना केवल पीढ़ेपरण करे बल्कि पेड़ों की हिफाजत भी करें।

**कब से कब तक** 27 मई से शुरू, प्रत्येक  
रविवार को टी व्हाइफिंग का आयोजन  
**मस्ती की पाठशाला**  
गर्मियों की छुट्टियों में कई बार  
आयोजित किया जा चुका है



## Tree Climbing

Families from all over Delhi NCR spent an exciting Sunday morning connecting with nature.

Many children climbed a tree for the first time in their entire lives.

They also learned to recognize trees and flowers.





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### Storm Survivors



Due to the severe storms in the capital, many creatures who live on trees, lost their homes.

A lot of them were too young to survive. Some of the survivors were rescued by good people and handed to experienced NGO's for rehab and release.

### Fractured Kite Rescue



This Kite was found injured on the road at Barapullah Bridge.

Before it was run over by speeding cars, NDNS team rescued the bird and then got the treatment from Wildlife Rescue.

We hope to see it fly very soon.

### Abandoned Dog Rescue



The day after the big storm, this friendly home dog was seen lost on the main road in NFC. Later he was rescued by our team and we tried to find the owners or a foster home.

Finally by day end we found the owners and he was re-united with his family.

### Woman beaten for feeding Dogs



These are the RWA members who beat a woman that feeds dogs.

Thankfully they were arrested after the video went viral and made many animal lovers outraged.

### Avian Pox Kite



A nice lady in Maharani Bagh called New Delhi Nature Society to rescue a Kite that could not fly.

After rescuing, we found the entire face had avian pox, even over the eyes, so we rushed this baby to Wildlife Rescue for medical treatment.

Special thanks to The Pollination Project for enabling us to make rescues.

### Protect Spider Webs

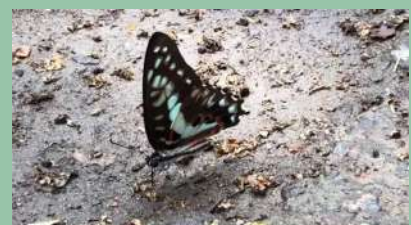
Spider webs naturally catch mosquitoes and are very efficient.

Think twice before removing or damaging a spider web the next time.



### Common Jay Butterfly

A Common jay captured while doing susu at our office.



[Watch video](#)



### Bad Venue for Smart City Expo 2018



The founder of NDNS, Mr. Verhaen Khanna, refused to panel at Smart Cities Expo '18 held in Pragati Maidan, because 1713 healthy beautiful trees with wildlife were illegally felled there after the Honorable NGT Judge told them specifically "Do Not Cut Any Trees".

The panel was speaking about environment pollution by plastic waste, at a venue which has destroyed the local environment.

Literally thousands of children study in schools at walking distance from here, in the worlds most polluted city.

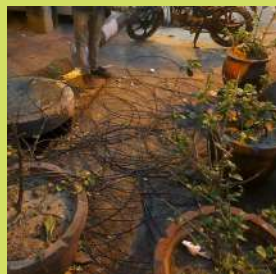
Its not a very smart idea to remove so many healthy air purifying trees so close to offices and homes, leave aside hosting a smart city event there.

#boycottpragatimaidan #airpollution

### Amaltas in Full Bloom



### Nextra Damaging Trees



### Cemented Trees Fall in Storms



[Watch video](#)

A big healthy magnificent tree fell during the severe storm this month.

Crushing 2 luxury cars in the process.

Several nests were destroyed leaving animals homeless.

The primary cause for the tree falling was not the storm but the lack of soil space around the tree.

The residents there had cemented the tree on all sides so the tree finally paid the toll.

### The Barna Tree

Hundreds of people pray to this sacred tree daily and ask for blessings. It has a divine aura.



[Watch video](#)

Nextra Internet was caught tying cables on trees, after being told before about the court order that says, any company that has wires on trees may be penalised for Rs 10,000/-.

After calling the police they began removing the wires, but since the police didn't show up for an hour, they ran away laughing at the poor response of calling 100.

The police control room also magically managed to loose all records of the calls made for this case.



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### Removing Wires Constricting Trees



[Watch video](#)

After constant efforts by the NFCRWA and NDNS, the MCD team finally began removing wires and banners from trees.

If the MCD follow the court order in other areas as well, they can prevent many trees branches from falling in the next storm.

### De-Concretizing Trees



[Watch video](#)

Save trees near your home by removing cement and increasing soil space.

The PWD was cementing trees in violation of the Honorable National Green Tribunal order dated 23rd April 2013.

Luckily the police were able to intervene and they asked the PWD to remove the cement from trees in compliance with the court order.

### Bird watching

To the right there are 2 videos.

The first was filmed during a tree climbing session at Nehru Park, where children saw birds bathing for the first time.

The 2nd was filmed at NDNS HQ, where many Indian Silverbills enjoy a meal together.



[Watch video](#)



[Watch video](#)

### **Things to do, if a tree is being cut :**

- Click pictures
- Tell them to stop immediately
- Ask them to show the Forest Department permission letter
- No permission, then Call 100 and wait till help arrives.
- Write a letter to the APCCF and CC to the DCF of your area.
- If they have permission, take the supervisors details who must be present there and contact the Forest Department .

### Tree Census

Start a Tree Census in your area to save trees.  
Contact NDNS to get started.



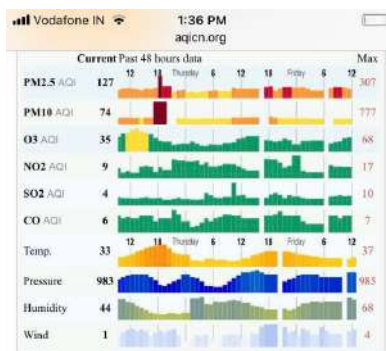
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### Air Pollution is Lesser in Green Areas



Left: Air pollution data from aqicn.org at Lajpat Nagar .

Below: Air pollution data in NFC by Airveda monitor.

NFC has lesser pollution because of more greenery.



### NDNS helped to extinguish a big fire

The Fire Service took an hour to reach because the nearest fire station to Chattarpur is in Nehru place. 15km away.



[Watch video](#)



### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

What are you going to do this year on World Environment Day ?

- Plant a Tree
- Don't use disposable plastics
- Spend Time in Nature
- Save water and electricity
- Recycle your waste
- Do something for the animals
- Water a tree outside your home
- Clean the environment
- Use cycle or public transport
- Climb a tree



### Booklet of Native Trees

If you are trying to identify trees around your home or planning to plant some new trees, this is the best place to start.

This booklet covers 100 native trees of Delhi. Trees which are adapted to the environment, require minimum maintenance and sustain the wildlife. (Rs 50/-)



### Buy Forever Plants

Buy forever plants from NDNS. These plants can outlive you and all your future generations if it is well taken care of. (Rs 100/-)

When you buy from NDNS, you are supporting our environmental conservation work.



### A sip of Nature

Enjoy beverages in your very own NDNS. (Rs 300/-)



### COOL BAGS for Cool People



#### New Cool Bag Designs

Fits in your pocket easily.

Carry your laptop or groceries.

Buy 5 cloth bags for just Rs 200/-

Plastic bags are out of fashion.

Order now : 9711115666



### Volunteer / Intern at NDNS

- Protect the environment
- Join the growing NDNS team
- Email your CV to [newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com](mailto:newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com)



### DONATE to NDNS

Bank Details :

Account: New Delhi Nature Society

Account number: 918020010738403

IFSC: UTIB0001326

Bank Address: Axis Bank, Shop no 6,  
Ground Floor and Basement,  
Community Center, New Delhi 110025



- 9711115666

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### De-Choke Trees

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 23rd April 2013 has directed all Public Authorities to ensure that all the sign boards, names, advertisements, any kind of boards or signage's, electric wires and high tension cables or otherwise are removed from the trees.

They shall also ensure that the concrete surrounding the trees within one meter of the trees are removed and all the trees are looked after well and due precaution is taken in future so that no concrete or construction or repairing work is done at least within one meter radius of the trunk of trees.

### Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994

[Click here for the NGT Order](#)

[Click here for the Public Notice](#)

**Website to Contact the Forest Department :**

[http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/DOIT\\_Forest/forest/home/rti/directory+of+officer+and+employees](http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/DOIT_Forest/forest/home/rti/directory+of+officer+and+employees)


[CLICK HERE FOR THE COURT ORDER ON PLASTIC BAN](#)



Maybe your company has some CSR funds.

Maybe you want to support [New Delhi Nature Society](#).

Maybe your investment can save trees , animals and make the world a better place.

Sign Up 

Click the Sign Up button and fill up your details to receive regular updates about NDNS activities.

You can also ask your like minded friends to sign up this form.

### Roadwatch App



### SOS NUMBERS FOR TREES AND ANIMALS



NDNS - 9711115666

Fauna Police - 9212111116

Give Me Trees Trust - 8800326033

Wildlife Rescue - 9810129698, 9810639698

People For Animals - 011 23719293 / 9294.

For Cows -

Love for cow Trust - 9818434399

Doctor for cow - 9650048826

Dhyan Foundation - 9999099423

Kamdheni Mangal Parivaar

(Free 24x7 Cow Ambulance with doctor on board) -

7503777888, 9911002200

[Please Read the helpful documents on the Animal Welfare Board of India website:](#)  
<https://awbi.org/>

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