



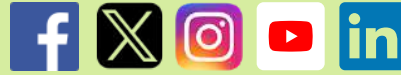
The Times of Nature

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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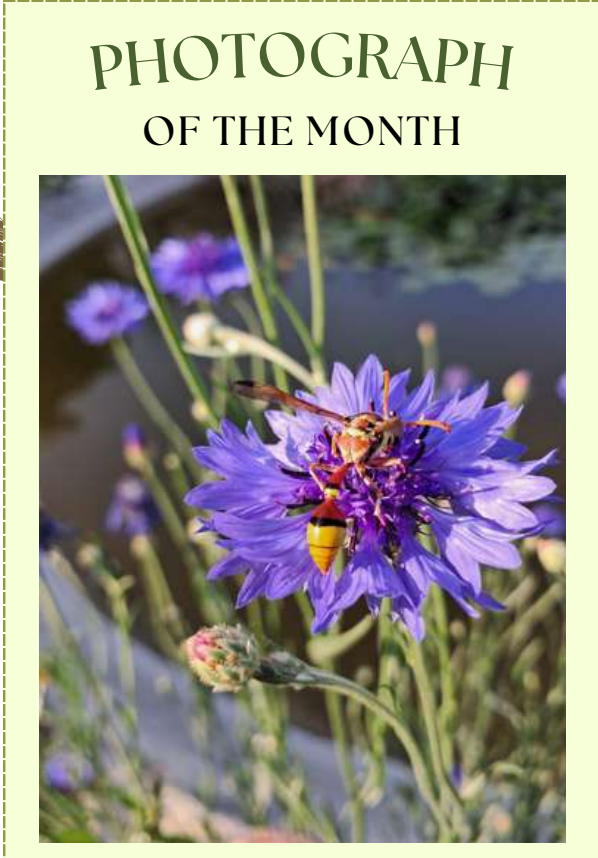
Issue #105

Page 1



March 2026

Dont be an April Fool



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Please consider a small contribution

How do you feel about our work for nature conservation?

[SEND FEEDBACK](#)

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mita zimlana

Pandora's Box is open in Delhi



We just exposed the dark truth behind the deer from A.N. Jha Deer Park, Hauz Khas.

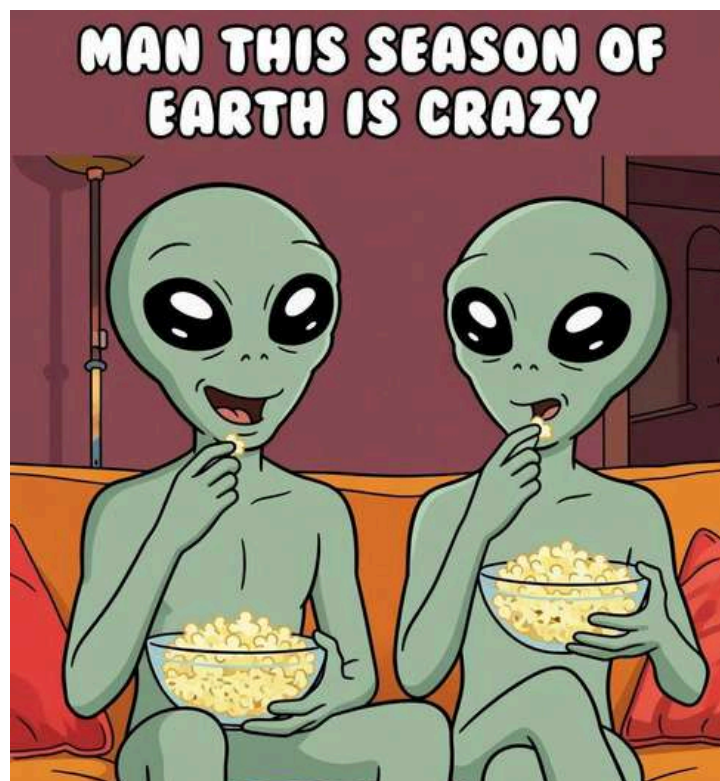
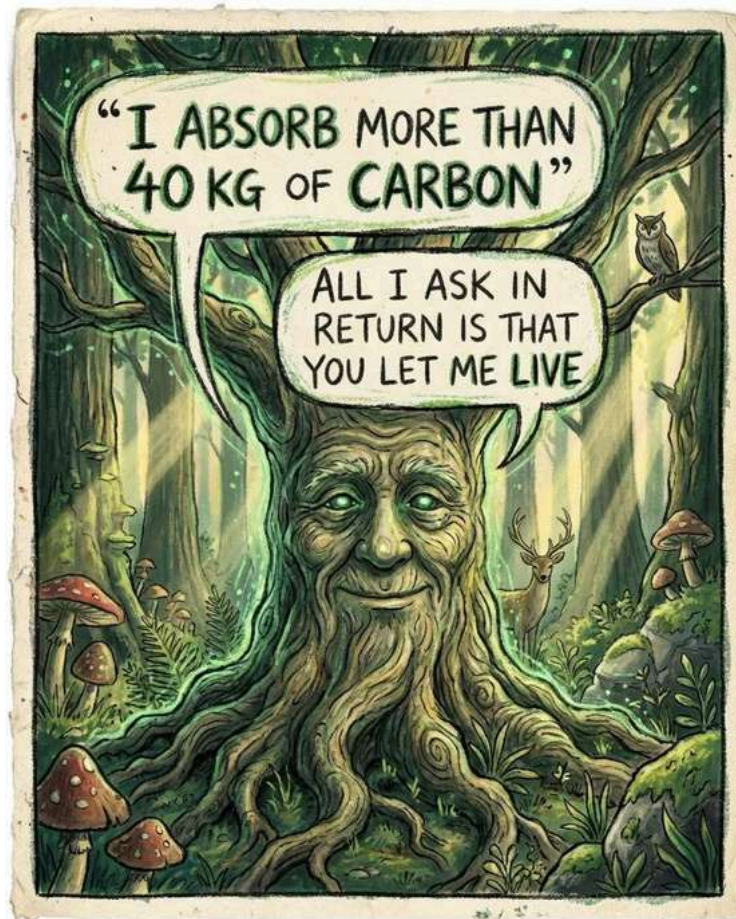
Authorities want to ship them to Rajasthan tiger reserves... to use them as live bait.

What we found will break your heart.

[CLICK HERE](#)



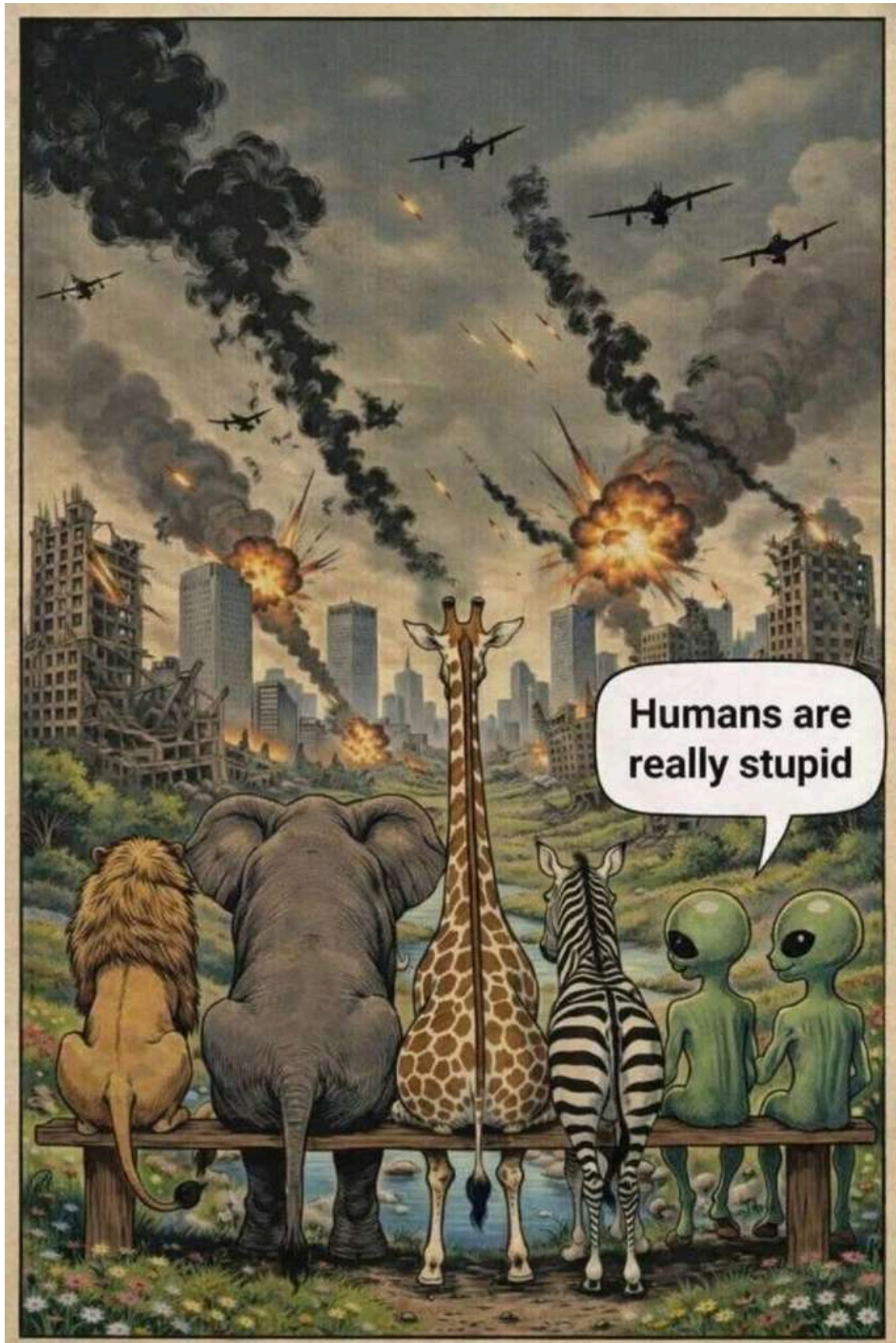
Mememes Of The Month



Mememes Of The Month



Mememes Of The Month



Podcast with Bhoomi Eco Club of Kirori Mal College



We're excited to share that NDNS featured in a meaningful collaboration with Bhoomi – The Eco Club of Kirori mal College, under their inspiring Project Maati initiative. In this conversation, our founder, Verhaen Khanna, dives into the pressing issues of soil health, sustainability, and the role each of us plays in protecting our environment. This episode is a reflection of our commitment to amplifying important conversations that drive awareness and real change.

DIY Projects



Mini Solar Dehydrator

Make a wooden box (cupboard shape).

Fix small supports inside for trays.

Create mesh trays (wood frame + net).

Cover sides with mesh for airflow.

Add a mesh door with hinges.

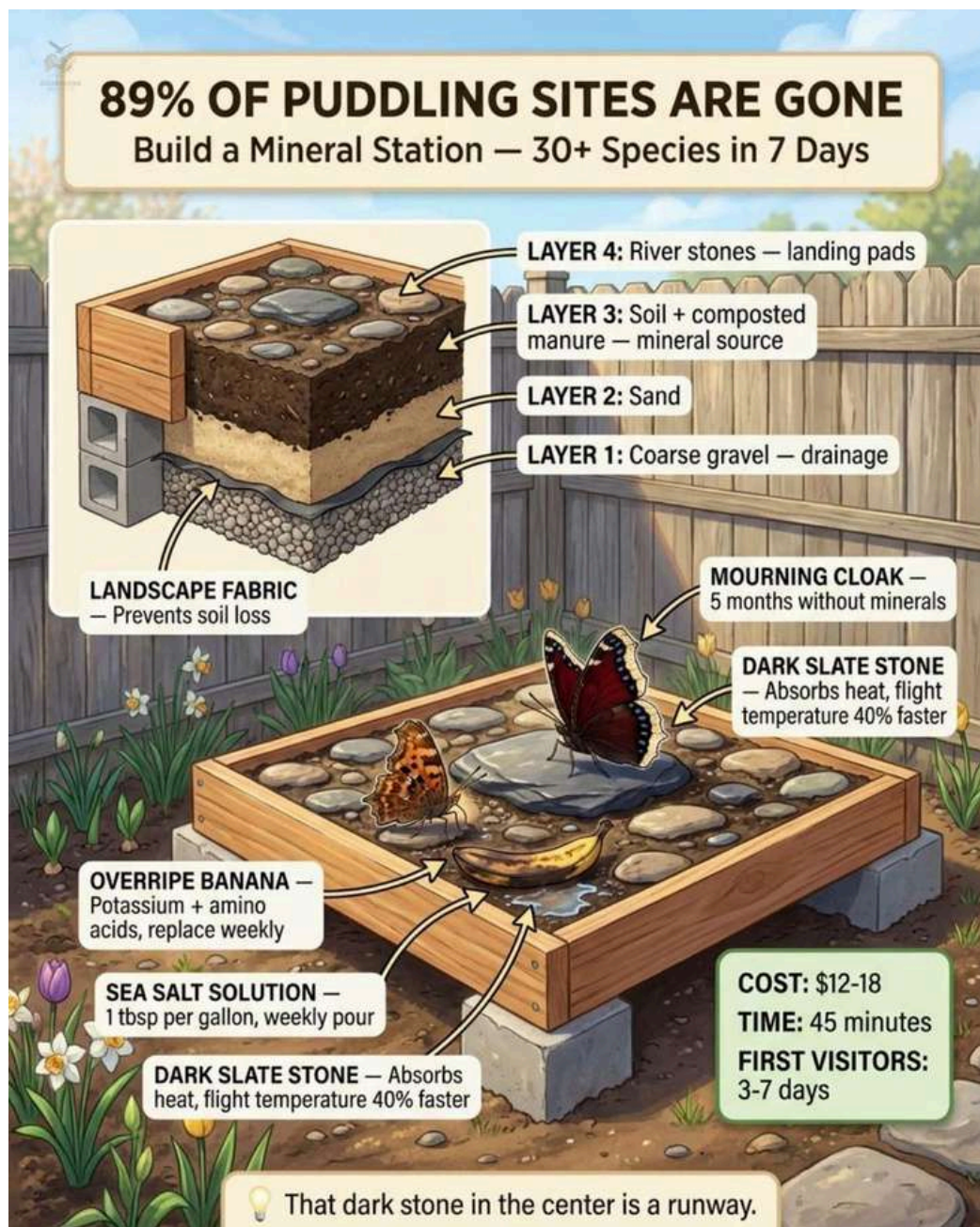
Put a clear sheet on top (for sunlight).

(Optional) Paint inside black.

Use:

Slice food → place on trays → keep in sunlight → dry for 1–2 days

DIY Projects



Butterfly Mineral Station

Make a shallow wooden tray/box.

Layer it: gravel → sand → soil/manure.

Add stones on top (for landing).

Keep it moist (add water or salt solution).

Add overripe fruit (like banana).

Place in sun—butterflies will start visiting in a few days.



Here are some hot nature gossip tweets from our @NDN_HQ page in March.

Dive into these juicy stories by clicking the links and get ready to be wowed!

Follow our Twitter page for your daily dose of nature and conservation buzz!

Delhi Ridge faces fresh ecological damage.

[Click to View](#)

Delhi: Drone study finds PM2.5 levels surges vertically in atmosphere.

[Click to View](#)

A map with no international boundaries, just native wildlife by Cartographer A.Thomas.

[Click to View](#)

Leopards reportedly still caged in Vadgaon Sawtal despite transfer claims.

[Click to View](#)

Leopards being banished to Vantara to allow mining activities?

[Click to View](#)

Longest non-stop flight recorded by scientists.

[Click to View](#)

Maharashtra Govt. to plant 300 crore new trees but if tree felling is not legally stopped, is it even going to be fruitful?

[Click to View](#)

Buying a company just to shut it down? This is actually a smarter move than you think.

[Click to View](#)

8 out of 18 water samples fail in a test conducted by Hindustan Times in Delhi.

[Click to View](#)

Road Expansion Cuts Through Damdama Protected Catchment

[Click to View](#)

Massive fire in scrape yard in Gurugram.

[Click to View](#)

Leopards captured & confined for months in iron cages in scorching heat resulted in death of 2.

[Click to View](#)

Fire/ Garbage burning in Gurugram.

[Click to View](#)



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Maharashtra govt. sending 50 leopards to Vantara.

[Click to View](#)

Are we the last generation to witness fireflies?

[Click to View](#)

Dogs getting less than two eggs a day at Chandigarh SPCA Facility.

[Click to View](#)

Concerning visuals of Yamuna River, Okhala Barrage Downstream recorded.

[Click to View](#)

Mighty Himalayas from space.

[Click to View](#)

How trees prevent flooding in cities.

[Click to View](#)

M C Mehta's views on present Delhi pollution problem.

[Click to View](#)

Tim Sweeney purchased 50,000 acres of forest land & the reason will surprise you.

[Click to View](#)

Why dragonflies are useful? Watch this amazing video to know more about it.

[Click to View](#)

Delhi is witnessing an increase in number of occasional visitor bird Oriental Pied Hornbill.

[Click to View](#)

Ways to kill a tree.

[Click to View](#)

Stunning video of Chestnut-headed bee eaters creating natural 'Orchestra'.

[Click to View](#)

Over 1lakh Mangroves planted by BMC 3months ago in Bhayandar Reserve Forest are dying.

[Click to View](#)



Here are some hot nature gossip tweets from our @NDN_HQ page in March.

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55% of Delhi's groundwater is 'unfit' to drink, said in a report by CAG.

[Click to View](#)

Delhi is still holding the title of World's Most Polluted Capital.

[Click to View](#)

Disturbing data regarding the death of environment journalists might shock you.

[Click to View](#)

Cloud Seeding : A recipe for disaster featuring UAE.

[Click to View](#)

Flood in desert, result of messing with nature?

[Click to View](#)

A small reminder!

[Click to View](#)

A proposed coastal road worth Rs.18,000 crores is going to cost 45,000 Mangroves & ecologically it is expensive.

[Click to View](#)

Important Articles

Here are March's key nature stories, shaping the beginning of the new year—

Explore the links to discover breakthroughs, challenges, and urgent environmental updates.

[Panel flags 'lack of cooperation' on deemed forest protection](#)

[Centre moves to set up body to fast-track environmental nods](#)

[Forest Survey of India stops its AI-based fortnightly alerts to states on deforestation](#)

[Supreme Court closes environmentalist MC Mehta's PIL on Delhi pollution after 40 yrs](#)

[Hope vigilance to protect environment continues: SC closes plea on Delhi pollution after 40yrs](#)

[SC panel recommends retaining 38 deer at Hauz Khas deer park.](#)

[Where time surrenders to shade of trees and greenery of parks](#)

[Centre backs panel to define Aravalli range](#)

[Delhi's Iconic Deer Park May Lose All Its Deer: Why Hundreds Could Be Moved Out'](#)

[Petition alleging violation by animal rescue center dismissed.](#)

[Can cut 46k mangroves for Mumbai project: SC.](#)

[Delhi University's 'Carbon Garden' offers a new weapon against toxic air.](#)

[LG reviews plan to revamp 5 key Delhi corridors.](#)

[Delhi tree authority seeks more funds for project.](#)

[SC questions need for 'single-window' Ridge board, flags conflict of interest, overlap issues.](#)

[Keeping 400 deer in a Hauz Khas park built for 38 grave cruelty: SC.](#)

Media Coverage

'Nature walks explore Delhi's living heritage'

In the green pockets, tucked behind traffic snarls and busy markets, Delhi feels less like a metropolis, more breathable and alive. Verhaen Khanna, founder, New Delhi Nature Society, shares that most people experience Delhi through its commercial pulse, the malls, multiplexes, bowling alleys, and weekend brunches at cafes. "There is another Delhi that waits quietly in its green pockets - the ridge forests, the riverine wetlands, the hidden groves and rocky outcrops that have been part of this landscape for centuries. These are not just green zones, they are the city's living heritage, and they offer a completely different kind of a date with Delhi," he says.

On nature walks, you learn the stories hidden in the bark of a centuries-old banyan, recognise the call of a purple sunbird, watch a plain tiger butterfly drift between wildflowers, and feel the surprising coolness of a forest floor even in the middle of May. "These are not structured lectures; they are shared discoveries. At a time when Delhi's green cover is under constant pressure, the most effective conservation tool we have is genuine connection. So, we guide these walks, not just to show trees and birds, but to help people fall in love with the living city they already live in. These nature walks are the most refreshing dates you can have with this city, one that needs no reservation, no ticket, and no screen, only your senses and a willingness to look up," Khanna adds.

At a time when Delhi's green cover is under constant pressure, the most effective conservation tool we have is genuine connection

Every green pocket has its own character, one feels like a miniature Himalayan slope, another like a dense sal forest, another opens onto the river with kingfishers skimming the water. They are all different moods of the same city.
- Verhaen Khanna, founder, New Delhi Nature Society

Delhi on Foot

Winner art tells the city's story

Art already often sets beauty to music. Beautiful old buildings from the past - most of all have been but never bothered to know.

Nature walks explore Delhi's living heritage

Delhi through the museums

Media Coverage

Shivika Manchanda

Did you notice the red silk cotton flowers scattered across Lutyens' Delhi, and pause to look up at the striking crimson canopy of *semal* trees? If you find yourself slowing down to take in these fleeting moments of nature amid the city's rush, it might be time to try tree gazing. Take an unhurried walk this weekend – solo, with a buddy or in a group – through Delhi's springscape.

'We don't just pass by trees - we stop, observe, and notice their textures'

The trees are Delhi's living heritage. Verhaen Khanna, founder of New Delhi Nature Society and an environment activist mapping Delhi's green zones suggests stepping out to observe the floral landscape of the city. He says, "The spring is the most exciting season for tree gazing in Delhi. When we're on a tree walk, we don't just pass by - we stop, observe, and really engage with each tree. The best way to understand a tree is to stand under it. I encourage people to interact with the tree, touch the bark, notice textures, and even look at the ground. Often the fallen flowers lead you to a tree in bloom. In spring, many trees announce themselves this way, with their flowers, fragrance and colour drawing you in before you even look up. It's about slowing down and letting the tree reveal itself, its form, its story, and its place in the city."

The city seems painted red with *semal* trees in bloom. Look up from your phone and you'll begin to notice differences in leaf shapes, flowers, bark, and canopy – that's when the city's trees start to reveal themselves

– Verhaen Khanna, founder of New Delhi Nature Society, which hosts nature walks, tree climbing experiences



"Sunder Nursery is Delhi's first arboretum, with an eclectic mix of native and exotic trees – from *kusum* and *tecoma* to wild almond, *semal* and *chamrod*," says Kavita Prakash, dendrophile and founder of The Sausage Tree Nature Walks



44 **DELHI TIMES: THE TREES OF INDIA** **MY CITY MY WEEKEND**

SPRING, IN FULL BLOOM

Rediscover Delhi with tree-gazing walks

Shivika Manchanda

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– Verhaen Khanna, founder of New Delhi Nature Society, which hosts nature walks, tree climbing experiences

The idea is to connect with nature in deeper, personal ways

On a tree walk, you're not just observing nature; you're connecting with it. The idea is to connect with nature in deeper, personal ways. Through conversations, tree gazing, and the joy of discovery, you can experience the beauty of the city's flora in a new way.

Delhi's lesser-known tree hotspots

While many people know about the Qutub Minar and the Red Fort, there are many hidden gems in Delhi's green spaces. From the quiet corners of the city to the lush gardens of the government, there are many places where you can find beautiful trees and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Just like you, trees have their own lives

Trees are not just passive observers; they have their own lives. They grow, they change, and they die. Understanding the life cycle of a tree can help you appreciate its beauty and the role it plays in the ecosystem.

The tree walk at Sunder Nursery made me realise how close we are to nature, even in Delhi - from trees and birds to insects, and animals like snakes we often see as problems. In spring, you truly see how trees support the entire ecosystem through flowering, which attracted a tree walk with author Kavita Prakash.

Walk slowly, observe, smell, and even taste, but only if you're sure about what it is. Today, tools like Google Lens or AI can often help identify tree species, but the real joy lies in engaging your senses.

Chaitan Thakur via @chaitan_thakur on X

Buy these frames to support NDNS



Buy these frames to support NDNS



New coffee mugs collection



Tree Care

HOW TO SAVE FALLEN TREES

When a tree falls down for any reason like storm, pruning, construction, etc. instead of removing them, efforts should be made to restore the tree back to its original location.



HOW TO SAVE A FALLEN TREE

Standard Operating Procedure



Scan this QR code for more details
OR
Click the link below
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vN5wKNEFmznpCSRZzQrIwhIjPAFOQ3vics7mpw3triedsk>

Tree Care in the Colony

Do you have trees in your society?

No → Plant Trees

Yes → Are the trees cemented?

Are the trees cemented?

Yes → Remove the cement around the trees

No → Are there any wires/nails/boards on the tree?

Are there any wires/nails/boards on the tree?

Yes → Remove them

No → Pour Water around the trees and spread leaf compost around the trees

Tree Line- The tree line is the row of trees planted along roads, and boundary walls. It helps keep the colony green, cool, and full of life.

What is a gap in the tree line?- A gap means a tree has fallen, dried, or been illegally removed and hasn't been replaced.

What Can You Do?- Residents can plant a native tree in the empty spot, especially during monsoon. With basic care like watering and composting, the tree line can be restored and kept healthy.

Illegal Activities and Penalties



Driving nails into trees causes internal wounds, making them vulnerable to disease, decay, and even death.
Penalty is Rs 10,000/-.




Wrapping or hanging wires around trees constricts growth, damages the bark, and can lead to electric hazards or slow tree death.
Penalty is Rs 10,000/-.



Fixing boards onto trees is illegal. Trees are not advertising spaces. Defacing public property is a crime.
Penalty is Rs 10,000/-.



Digging Within 1 Metre of Trees damages roots, causes stress, and can destabilize the tree. It's illegal and harmful.
FIR will be filed against the person/department involved.



Cementing Around Tree Base (Within 1 Metre) blocks water and air from reaching roots. It suffocates trees, prevents them from growing wider and weakens them structurally.
Forest department will charge the penalty based on the damage caused.

[Open Pdf](#)

Help Trees & Animals



The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi in O.A. No. 62 of 2018 Aditya, N. Prasad & Ors. v Union of India & Ors. vide its Order dated 23.04.2018 directed:

"In the meanwhile, we direct all the public authorities, more particularly Municipal Corporation of Delhi, DDA, DTC, DMRC, NHAI and all Government respondents in this petition including the Director General of CPWD, the Chief Engineer, FWD, to ensure that:

- All the sign boards, names, advertisements, any kind of boards or signages, electric wires and high tension cables or otherwise are removed from the trees forthwith.
- They shall also ensure that the concrete surrounding the trees within one metre of the trees are removed forthwith and all the trees are looked after well and due precaution is taken in future so that no concrete or construction or repaving work is done at least within one metre radius of the trunk of trees. The Vice-Chairperson, the Commissioner, the Chief Engineer, the Director General and all other senior most officers of the Departments/authorities concerned shall be personally responsible for carrying out this order.
- The Departments/authorities concerned shall take all and every prohibitive measures to prevent the defacing of the trees in any manner whatsoever, save only its trimming in accordance with law.
- All the respondents whose boards are fixed on the trees shall be prosecuted by the respective authorities under in accordance with the relevant law."



Nails on trees



Wires on trees



Signboards on trees



Cementing within 1 meter of trees



Digging within 1 meter of trees

Green Helpline : 011-23378513

TREE CARE

1. Remove cement around the tree, soil space around the tree should not be less than 1 meter on all sides.
2. Remove nails, wires and signboards from trees.
3. In case of holes in the tree caused by nails, you can put wet soil in the injured parts of the tree.
4. Ensure no digging or construction is done within 1 meter of trees.
5. Give water to trees daily.
6. In the forest, trees shed their leaves on the soil floor, those leaves mix with the soil and turn into nutrition for the tree roots to absorb. But around the city streets, all the fallen leaves are swept away, so the trees are not receiving that important nutrition from the fallen leaves. This is why it is extremely important to put leaf compost around trees, to make the trees strong and healthy.
7. If you see a tree cut, or with nails, wires, signboards on it or if the tree is cemented within 1 meter, then please call the Green Helpline and report the issue with the exact location, then they will send you the complaint number by SMS for you to follow up.

HOW TO SAVE FALLEN TREES



HOW TO CONDUCT A TREE CENSUS :

1. Number on the Tree :
2. Common name of the tree :
3. Location of the tree :
4. Girth (in cms) :
5. Approximate height (in ft) :
6. Health of the tree :
(D- Dry, H- Healthy, I- Infected, L- Lopped, NI- Nails, Ch- Tree guard choking)
7. Width of open soil around the tree :
(A- Upto 1 ft, B- 1 to 2 ft, C- 2 ftft, D- 4ft, E- Over 9ft)
8. Ground condition, outside the open soil :
(S- loose soil, C- cemented, M- metalad, T- tiled)
9. Remark:

Download the form :



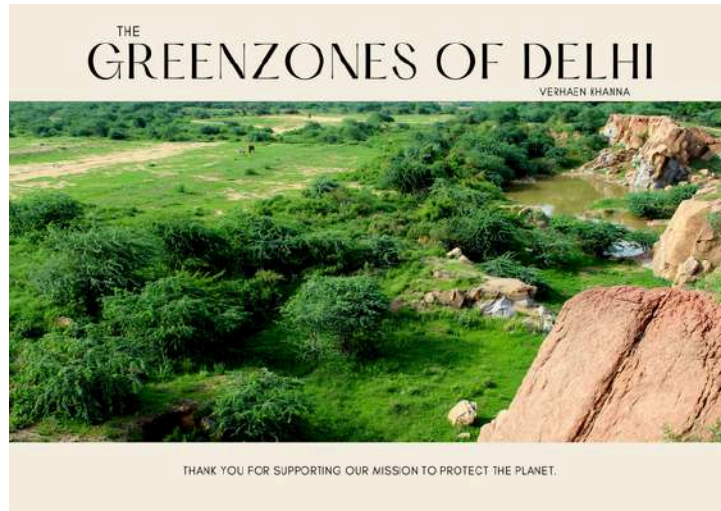
We're offering free reflective collars for street animals and tree care brochures to spread awareness and safety.

You can collect them from the NDNS headquarters, so simply contact us at newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com.

Let's work together to protect our animals and nurture our trees.

[Email us](mailto:newdelhinaturesociety@gmail.com)

NDNS Coffee Table Book



This beautifully illustrated book showcases the lush greenery and vibrant ecosystems found in the heart of India's capital. Each page offers a glimpse into the diverse flora and fauna that thrive in Delhi's green zones, from bustling parks to serene gardens. By purchasing this coffee table book, you not only bring a piece of nature's beauty into your home, but also support the efforts of NDNS (New Delhi Nature Society) in their mission to protect and conserve these precious natural habitats. Your contribution helps promote environmental awareness and ensures that future generations can enjoy the city's green treasures.

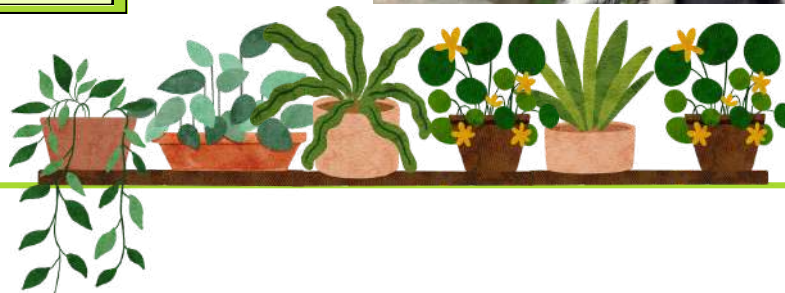
[Buy Now](#)

Adoption Alert!

These cuties have been rescued and are now looking for a happy home. If you can provide them a home please fill up the form.



[Adoption Form](#)



NDNS Products



Funds raised from the shop are used for nature conservation.

Volunteer, Intern Or Membership At NDNS

Join NDNS in our mission to conserve nature and make a positive impact on our planet! We are looking for dedicated individuals to volunteer or intern with us. Whether you're passionate about saving trees, spreading awareness through social media, editing impactful videos, organizing workshops, contribute your skills in your free time as a volunteer or commit to a two-month internship, there are many ways to get involved. Click the button if you're interested in joining us. Together, we can make a difference!



Membership Benefits:

1. Exclusive Invites to Members-Only events.
2. For every other event, members get a 15% discount (nature walk, workshops, etc.)
3. Members can avail of a 15% discount on NDNS merch.
4. Members are granted access to the NDNS library.

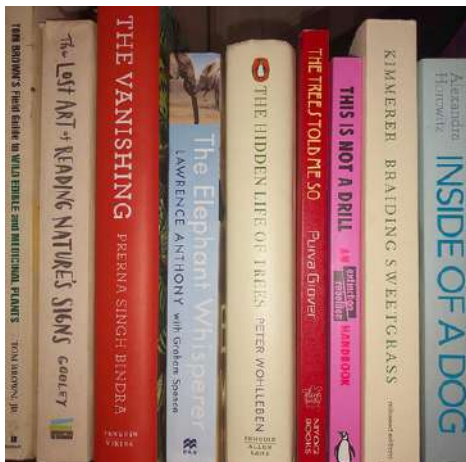
[**Internship Form**](#)

[**Membership Form**](#)

[**Volunteer Form**](#)

Cost for a 1-year membership is Rs 5000/- After submitting the form, we will verify your details and then send you a link for the online payment.

Donate a book to the NDNS library



We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the amazing individuals who have donated nature-related books towards the #newdelhinaturesociety library. Your generosity will help us in building a comprehensive library that will be a valuable resource for nature enthusiasts and students alike. If you, too, would like to contribute to our library, we welcome book donations and encourage you to get in touch with us for more information. You can visit our website at www.ndns.in to learn more about our organization and our various initiatives.

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.

NAILS, WIRES (10,000 RS. FINE)

NGT ORDER FOR DE-CHOKING TREES

DELHI PRESERVATION OF TREES ACT



SOS NUMBERS (TREES AND ANIMALS)

- NDNS - 9711115666
- Wildlife Rescue - 9810129698, 9810639698
- People For Animals - 011 23719293 / 9294
- For Cows - Dhyani Foundation - 9999099423

A TREE IS BEING CUT?

- Click pictures
- Tell them to stop immediately
- Ask them to show the Forest Department permission
- No permission, then call 100 and wait till help arrives
- Report the matter on the Green Helpline 011-23378513
- Write a letter to the Forest Department
- If they do have permission, then take the supervisor's details who must be present there and contact the Forest Department

FOREST DEPT. EMAILS

SIGN UP!

To receive regular updates from NDNS.

CLICK HERE!

Access to previous Newsletters



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Best of all, the funds raised will go directly towards nature conservation projects, helping to protect trees, wildlife, and green spaces.

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Reserve your space today and make an impact!

