

GREEN SCOUTS MOVEMENT OF FIJI



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SUVA, FIJI



Dr. (Mrs.) Ajantha Perera,

Principal Researcher and Founding member, Green Scouts Movement of Fiji-2015

**I dedicate all my work to the Almighty God, who loved me
and gave Himself for me, through Lord Jesus Christ,
Amen**

Revelation 3:8

**⁸I know what you do; I know that you have a little power;
you have followed my teaching and have been faithful to me.
I have opened a door in front of you, which no one can close.**

Content:

Why is the Environment Day so special?	P03 -P21
The purpose of establishing a Green Scouts Movement:	
	P22 - P32
Extra Reading material:	P33 - P35
Special Green Awards:	P36- P37
Conclusion:	P38

ISBN: 978-982-98137-2-5

Bio-data of the Author: Dr. (Mrs.) Ajantha Perera



Assistant Professor-Environmental Sciences, Fiji National University
Chairperson- International Conference on Oceans and Rivers (ICOR)-2014
Principle Researcher and Founding Member- Green Scouts Movement of Fiji Islands-2015

Education

PhD. and MSc. University of Munich- Germany
BSc. University of Sheffield- England
Environmental Impact Assessment- University of Tennessee- USA

International Awards:

International Woman of Courage of Sri Lanka for United States of America in (2011)
Award for Human Potential Development (2007)
Ashoka Fellowship-USA (2005)
ZONTA Award for Professional Women (2005)
Human Potential Development Award (2003)
Best Environmental Activity by an individual between 1988- 1998

Research work at present:

- **Fiji Towards zero waste**
- **Establishment of Environmental Clubs in Fiji Islands-Green Scouts Movement**
- **Eco- regeneration of Saweni beach- Fiji Islands**

In Appreciation of the Committee for Green Scouts Movement

Thank you for your time, guidance, and for your encouragement, MAY GOD BLESS YOU,

Mr. Albert Wise- Divisional Education Officer- Western Division

Mrs. Ruth Atu- District officer- Lautoka/Yasawas

Mr. Joseva Gavidi- Senior Education officer- District Office- Lautoka/Yasawas

Mr. Shalendra Singh- Education Officer- District office- Lautoka /Yasawas

Mr. Pateresio N. Tunidau – Education Officer – District Office-Lautoka/Yasawas

Mr. Jainand Kumar – District Commissioner- Fiji Scouts Association Lautoka

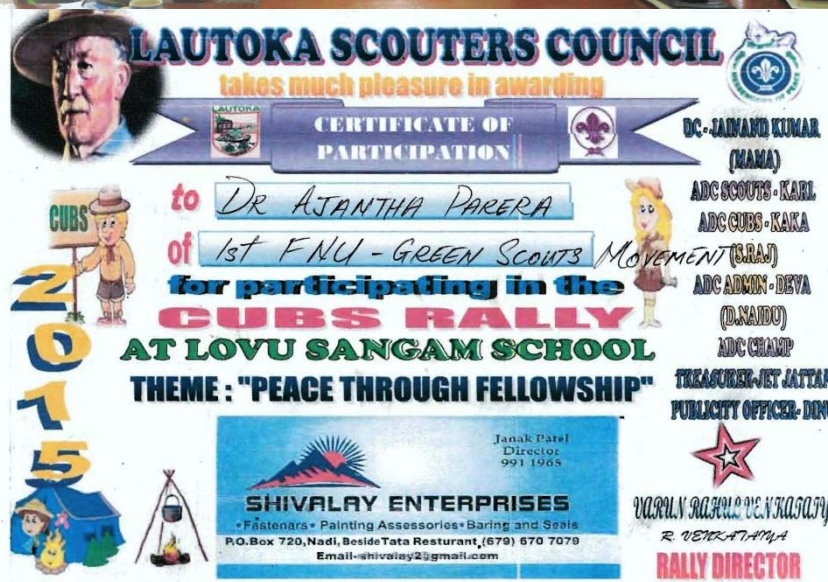
Mr. Mahendra Prasad- Fiji Scouts Association- National Trainer

Mr. Kailash Pillay- Assistant District Commissioner- Fiji Scouts Association, Lautoka

Mr. Davendra Naidu- Assistant District Commissioner- Fiji Scouts Association- Lautoka

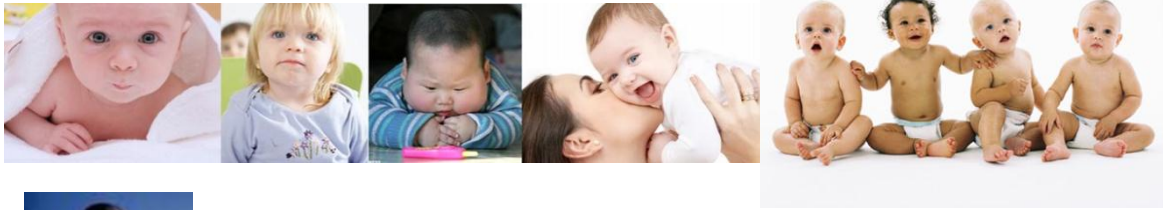
Mr. Ritesh D.A. Prasad- Assistant District Commissioner- Fiji Scouts Association- Lautoka

Also Appreciate the United States Embassy for Fiji for their support for the Establishment of Environmental Clubs in Fiji Islands. This is the beginning of our journey to the world,



Green Scouts Movement-inaugurated on the World Environmental Day- 5.6.2016

**Why is the Environment Day so special?
Environmental day is all about celebrating Life**



Life of all human beings begins as a baby

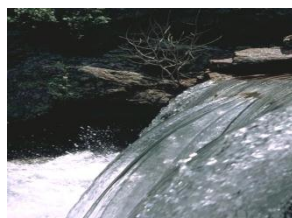
**A pregnancy brings hope and joy to the family. It's a sign
of a new member or members joining the family**

**At birth the child leaves the warm comfort of his mother's womb, as he or she
is born they require clean air, clean water and food for survival. Every child
born to this world begins life with a cry as they take the first gulp of air**

What's in store for the new born child?



CLEAN AIR



CLEAN WATER



HEALTHY FOOD

OR BUT it can also be ???



QUARRY DUST



DIRTY WATER



GARBAGE ON THE BEACH

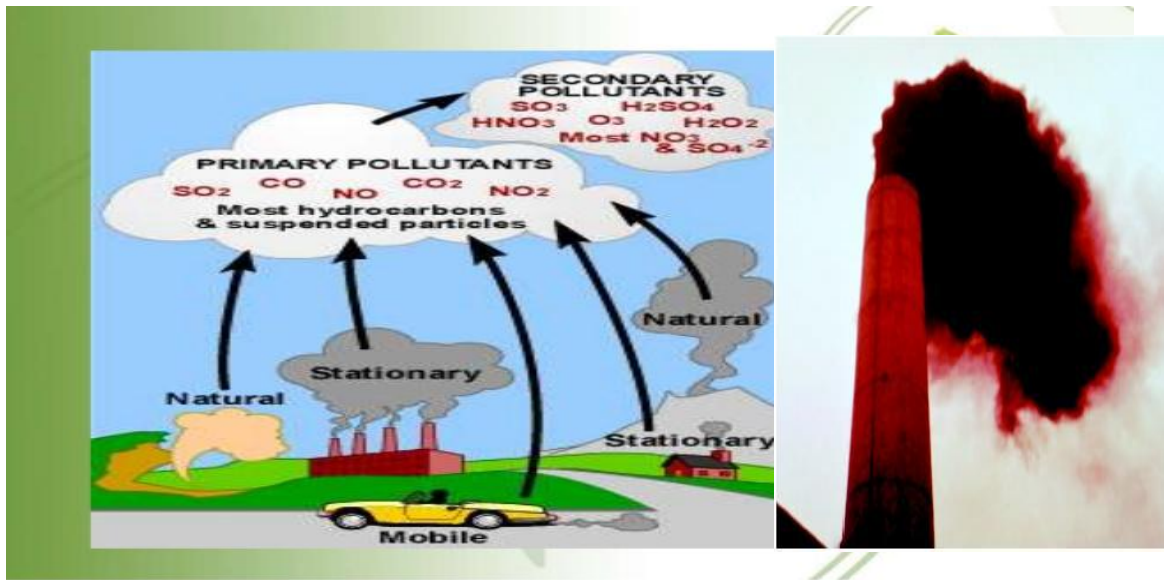
Once born every human being strives to stay healthy, eat nutritious food, and drink clean water, breath clean air.



Unless well looked after the body can be giving away to sickness and disease due to pollution.



LET US SEE THE SITUATION OF THE WORLD



Air Pollution Data by Country:

Urban population weighted average Particulate Matter (PM)10 concentrations (micro grams per cubic meter) in residential areas of cities larger than 100,000

Source: The World Bank, Development Economics Research Group Estimates

iso3	country	2000 urban population*	1999 PM10 concentration
AFG	Afghanistan	3431458	47
ALB	Albania	263274	32
DZA	Algeria	7114636	76
AND	Andorra	26013	33
AGO	Angola	2591704	125
ATG	Antigua and Barbuda	24116	16
ARG	Argentina	27087840	71
ARM	Armenia	1677855	85
AUS	Australia	13514738	18
AUT	Austria	3008152	33
AZE	Azerbaijan	1873157	99
BHS	Bahamas, The	214141	43
BHR	Bahrain	170511	70
BGD	Bangladesh	10585200	147
BRB	Barbados	9927	41
BLR	Belarus	4717777	8
BEL	Belgium	3502427	28
BLZ	Belize	59893	23

BEN	Benin	1325821	47
BTN	Bhutan	44046	41
BOL	Bolivia	3591859	106
BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1354730	30
BRA	Brazil	76136838	33
BRN	Brunei	95666	38
BGR	Bulgaria	2914315	75
BFA	Burkina Faso	1441978	108
BDI	Burundi	391723	36
KHM	Cambodia	919174	69
CMR	Cameroon	3716240	85
CAN	Canada	24088276	22
CYM	Cayman Islands	20955	33
CAF	Central African Republic	747415	49
TCD	Chad	1430623	161
CHL	Chile	8556344	65
CHN	China	421633654	87
COL	Colombia	17070667	24
COM	Comoros	42931	51
ZAR	Congo, Dem. Rep.	10255126	51
COG	Congo, Rep.	1797197	90
CRI	Costa Rica	1746470	38
CIV	Cote d'Ivoire	4138265	64
HRV	Croatia	1429089	37
CUB	Cuba	4382854	25
CYP	Cyprus	374103	55
CZE	Czech Republic	2498300	27
DNK	Denmark	1997893	23
DMA	Dominica	16751	28
DOM	Dominican Republic	3344189	39
ECU	Ecuador	5686778	28
EGY	Egypt, Arab Rep.	21101690	152
SLV	El Salvador	1685386	43
ERI	Eritrea	535185	80
EST	Estonia	504982	20
ETH	Ethiopia	4581946	88
FRO	Faeroe Islands	16737	20
FJI	Fiji	196000	34
FIN	Finland	2149744	21
FRA	France	24661755	15



GAB	Gabon	544078	21
GMB	Gambia, The	229000	93
GEO	Georgia	1901202	98
DEU	Germany	26555040	22
GHA	Ghana	3571665	33
GRC	Greece	5031318	47
GRD	Grenada	35000	25
GTM	Guatemala	2474035	59
GIN	Guinea	1764000	69
GNB	Guinea-Bissau	274000	86
GUY	Guyana	275000	34
HTI	Haiti	2249217	50
HND	Honduras	1911271	49
HKG	Hong Kong, China	6743204	38
HUN	Hungary	3156840	25
ISL	Iceland	164253	21
IND	India	183885990	89
IDN	Indonesia	40406551	102
IRN	Iran, Islamic Rep.	26786855	71
IRQ	Iraq	14833284	178
IRL	Ireland	1179748	23
ISR	Israel	4841046	52
ITA	Italy	15272937	33
JAM	Jamaica	674778	54
JPN	Japan	80122974	33
JOR	Jordan	2381435	77
KAZ	Kazakhstan	6349011	27
KEN	Kenya	4600094	44
PRK	Korea, Dem. Rep.	6621062	93
KOR	Korea, Rep.	33956145	43
KWT	Kuwait	1638081	134
KGZ	Kyrgyz Republic	790099	41
LAO	Lao PDR	1024613	47
LVA	Latvia	995062	22
LBN	Lebanon	2488900	45
LSO	Lesotho	373000	54
LBR	Liberia	479000	41
LIE	Liechtenstein	6972	42
LTU	Lithuania	1475546	29
LUX	Luxembourg	83286	18



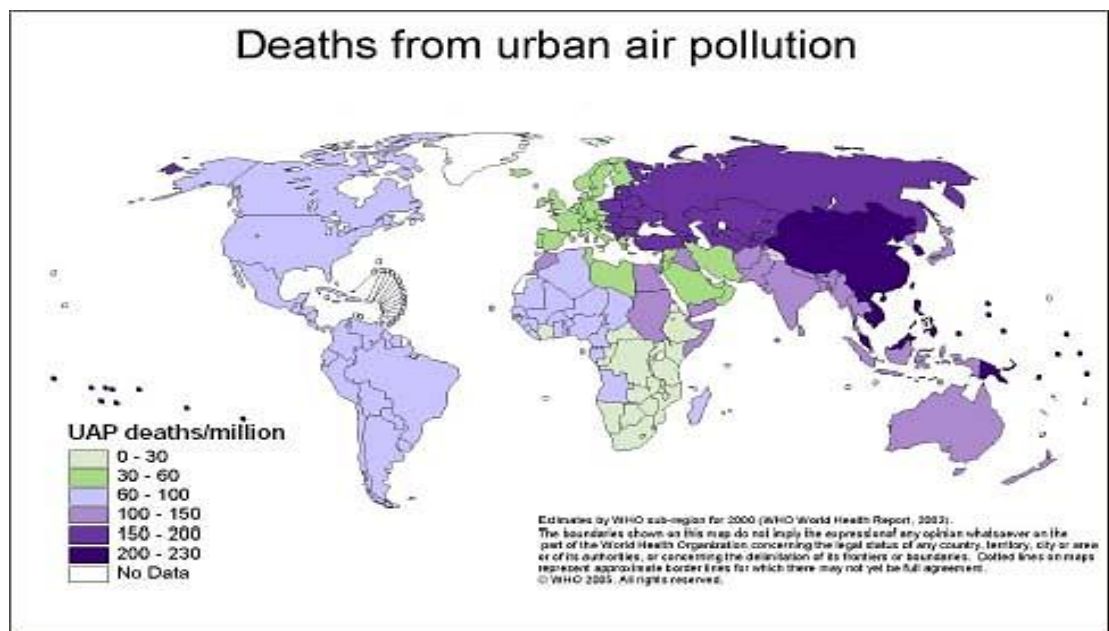
MAC	Macao, China	462000	102
MKD	Macedonia, FYR	540480	33
MDG	Madagascar	2297969	47
MWI	Malawi	995117	46
MYS	Malaysia	5872531	24
MDV	Maldives	71593	49
MLI	Mali	1215170	194
MRT	Mauritania	881000	113
MEX	Mexico	55341364	53
MDA	Moldova	1136672	35
MNG	Mongolia	716208	71
MAR	Morocco	10210431	29
MOZ	Mozambique	4045035	46
MM			
R	Myanmar	6051290	89
NAM	Namibia	201706	53
NPL	Nepal	839068	50
NLD	Netherlands	7985829	37
ANT	Netherlands Antilles	2641	32
NCL	New Caledonia	153390	74
NZL	New Zealand	2667984	16
NIC	Nicaragua	1240603	42
NER	Niger	1150996	164
NGA	Nigeria	29416937	104
NOR	Norway	1480521	21
OMN	Oman	887000	105
PAK	Pakistan	37274140	180
PAN	Panama	807742	53
PNG	Papua New Guinea	293000	31
PRY	Paraguay	1277983	97
PER	Peru	13432077	62
PHL	Philippines	28976543	49
POL	Poland	12123629	44
PRT	Portugal	5358314	34
PRI	Puerto Rico	2713196	25
QAT	Qatar	391000	67
ROM	Romania	7319254	23
RUS	Russian Federation	70490869	26
RWA	Rwanda	369000	35
STP	Sao Tome and Principe	34762	52



SAU	Saudi Arabia	8536823	106
SEN	Senegal	2898518	92
SLE	Sierra Leone	822000	63
SGP	Singapore	3162838	41
SVK	Slovak Republic	924996	22
SVN	Slovenia	413966	36
SLB	Solomon Islands	69691	31
SOM	Somalia	1329198	39
ZAF	South Africa	18744777	24
ESP	Spain	16824222	40
LKA	Sri Lanka	1719302	94
KNA	St. Kitts and Nevis	11809	23
LCA	St. Lucia	58905	38
	St. Vincent and the		
VCT	Grenadines	20852	33
SDN	Sudan	5094060	246
SUR	Suriname	233000	51
SWZ	Swaziland	73000	40
SWE	Sweden	2644649	13
CHE	Switzerland	2950271	26
SYR	Syrian Arab Republic	6237125	102
TJK	Tajikistan	710505	64
TZA	Tanzania	6581703	37
THA	Thailand	9558784	76
TGO	Togo	790000	46
TTO	Trinidad and Tobago	47013	24
TUN	Tunisia	2783341	47
TUR	Turkey	39723188	54
TKM	Turkmenistan	812340	68
UGA	Uganda	1171076	16
UKR	Ukraine	20215043	35
ARE	United Arab Emirates	2292838	78
GBR	United Kingdom	30905786	19
USA	United States	201423008	25
URY	Uruguay	1473550	173
UZB	Uzbekistan	5158918	83
VUT	Vanuatu	25097	28
VEN	Venezuela, RB	14660550	13
VNM	Vietnam	14892285	75
VIR	Virgin Islands (U.S.)	11912	43



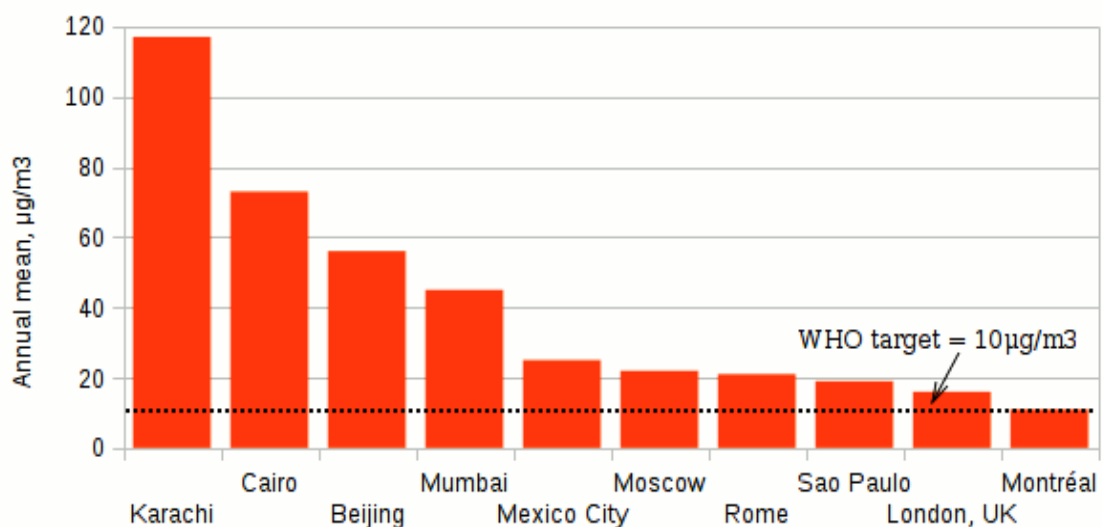
YEM	Yemen, Rep.	2524606	98
YUG	Yugoslavia, FR (Serbia/Montenegro)	2080665	26
ZMB	Zambia	3122575	73
ZWE	Zimbabwe	3064407	61



Our polluted cities

www.explainthatstuff.com

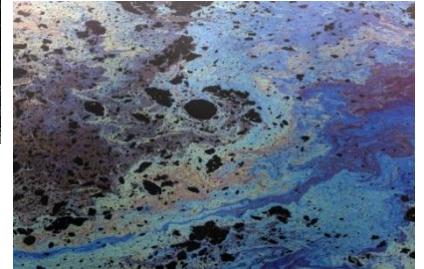
Fine particulate concentration ($PM_{2.5}$)



Source: World Health Organization (WHO) Ambient (outdoor) air pollution in cities database 2014



WATER POLLUTION



Facts and figures on water quality and health (WHO and National Geographic)

The global health challenge: preventing water quality-related disease

- No safe drinking-water: almost 1 billion people lack access to an improved supply
- Diarrheal disease: 2 million annual deaths attributable to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene
- Cholera: more than 50 countries still report cholera to WHO
- Cancer and tooth/skeletal damage: millions exposed to unsafe levels of naturally-occurring arsenic and fluoride
- Schistosomiasis: an estimated 260 million infected
- Emerging challenges: increasing use of wastewater in agriculture is important for livelihood opportunities, but also associated with serious public health risks
- Every day 2 million tons (1.8 billion kilograms) of human waste are disposed of in waterways around the world.
- In developing countries, 70 percent of industrial wastes are dumped untreated into waters, polluting the usable water supply.
- On average, 99 million pounds (45 million kilograms) of fertilizers and chemicals are used each year.

Further Facts on Water Pollution (<http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/various-water-pollution-facts.php>)

Fact 1: The total volume of water available on Earth is about 1.4 billion km and about 70% of the earth is covered in water.

Fact 2: The largest quantities of water are in the oceans.

Fact 3: Fresh water in the world is only 2.5% of the total water available on this planet. Make sure the water you drink is clean by using a water filter on your refrigerator. Discount filters can easily be found by going online..

Fact 4: Around 70% of the industrial waste is dumped into the water bodies where they pollute the usable water supply.

Fact 5: At least 320 million people in China do not have access to clean drinking water.

Fact 6: 20% of the groundwater in China is used as drinking water which is highly contaminated with carcinogenic chemicals which cause high levels of water pollution.

Fact 7: Fourteen billion pounds of garbage mostly plastic, is dumped into the ocean every year.

Fact 8: The nuclear crisis that occurred in Japan after 2011 Tsunami prompted Japanese government dumped 11 million liters (2 million gallons) of radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean.

Fact 9: 15 million children under the age of five die each year because of diseases caused by drinking water.

Fact 10: The Ganges river in India is one the most polluted in the world. It contain sewage, trash, food, and animal remains.

Fact 11: According to the WHO (World Health Organization) and United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), around 2.5 billion people do not have access to improved sanitation.

Fact 12: The 2011 Tsunami in Japan created 70 km long island of debris which is floating out into the Pacific Ocean.

Fact 13: Ground water in Bangladesh is contaminated with arsenic. Arsenic is very toxic, acute poison and a carcinogen. Approximately 85% of the total area of Bangladesh has contaminated groundwater.

Fact 14: In America, 40% of the rivers and 46% of the lakes are polluted and are considered unhealthy for swimming, fishing or aquatic life.

Fact 15: According to UNICEF, more than 3000 children die every day globally due to consumption of contaminated drinking water.

Fact 16: Water pollution is the major cause of various diseases like cholera and typhoid.

Fact 17: On an average 250 million people worldwide succumb to diseases related to water pollution.

Fact 18: According to the World Health Organization, 3.2 million children under the age of five in developing nations die each year as a result of unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation.

Fact 19: 80% of the water pollution is caused due to domestic sewage like throwing garbage on open ground and water bodies.

Fact 20: According to the survey done by Food & Water Watch cites that approximately 3.5 billion people in 2025 will face water shortage issues. This will be mainly due to water pollution. This is likely to happen because the world pollution is increasing tremendously with more water sources getting contaminated as a result of water pollution.

Fact 21: As per U.S. EPA estimates, every year in the U.S, 1.2 trillion gallons of sewage from household, industry and restaurants is dumped in to U.S. water annually.

Fact 22: Asia has maximum numbers of polluted rivers than anywhere else in the world. Most of it contains bacteria created from human waste.

Fact 23: Plastic waste being a major water pollutant is causing huge destruction of marine life and is believed to be responsible for deaths of more than 100,000 sea mammals, sea birds and various types of fishes.

Fact 24: Canada has 10 most polluted rivers- some of which are Petitcodiac River, Okanagan river and Eastmain River.

Fact 25: The waste produced in the river contains bacteria, parasites and viruses. These cause life- threatening diseases like diarrhea, cholera and typhoid.

Fact 26: Rivers in Asian subcontinent re considered being the most polluted. The bacteria (from human waste) found in these rivers are 3 times as much as that of the global average.

Fact 27: About 700 million people worldwide drink contaminated water.

Fact 28: Important water contaminants which are man-made include heavy metals, nutrients, microbial pathogens, sediments, organic matter etc.

Fact 29: About 1.2 billion people or 1 in 3 people in rural areas defecate in the open. Open defecation poses and human health risk and compromises quality in nearby water bodies.

Fact 30: Aquatic animal have faced an estimated extinction rate five times more than that of terrestrial animals.

Fact 31: According to WHO and UNICEF, approximately 894 million people globally don't have access to improved water sources.

Fact 32: Over 30 billion tons of urban sewage discharged into lakes, rivers and oceans each year.

Fact 33: Leather and chemical industries cause are major contributors of water pollution and are emerging leading market economies.

Fact 34: Two million tons of human waste is disposed in water every day.

Fact 35: As per reports by UNESCO, 27% of the urban population do not have piped water in their homes.

Fact 36: An estimated 1000 children die every day in India due to polluted water.

Fact 37: Lack of safe drinking water and sanitation in cities leads to cholera, malaria and diarrhea.

Fact 38: Huge oil spill was caused by BP in the year 2010. Over 1,000 animals i.e. birds, turtles, mammals have been reported dead and many of them were on the endangered species list.

Fact 39: Each year 1.2 trillion gallons of untreated sewage, storm water, and waste are dumped into U.S. waters.

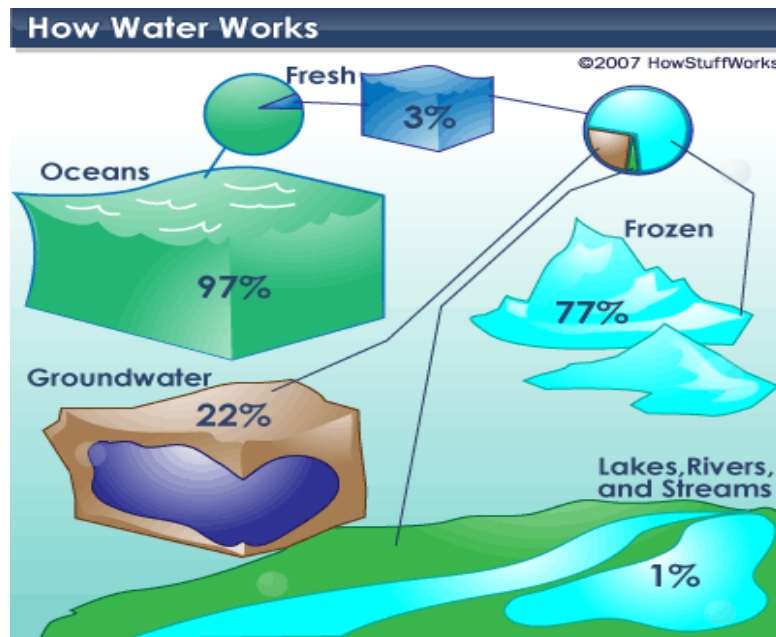
Fact 40: Cruise ships are also a major source of water pollution. They produce over 200,000 gallons of sewage which is mostly released in the ocean. Apart from that, they are also causing at least 35,000 gallons of water contamination due to oil spill.

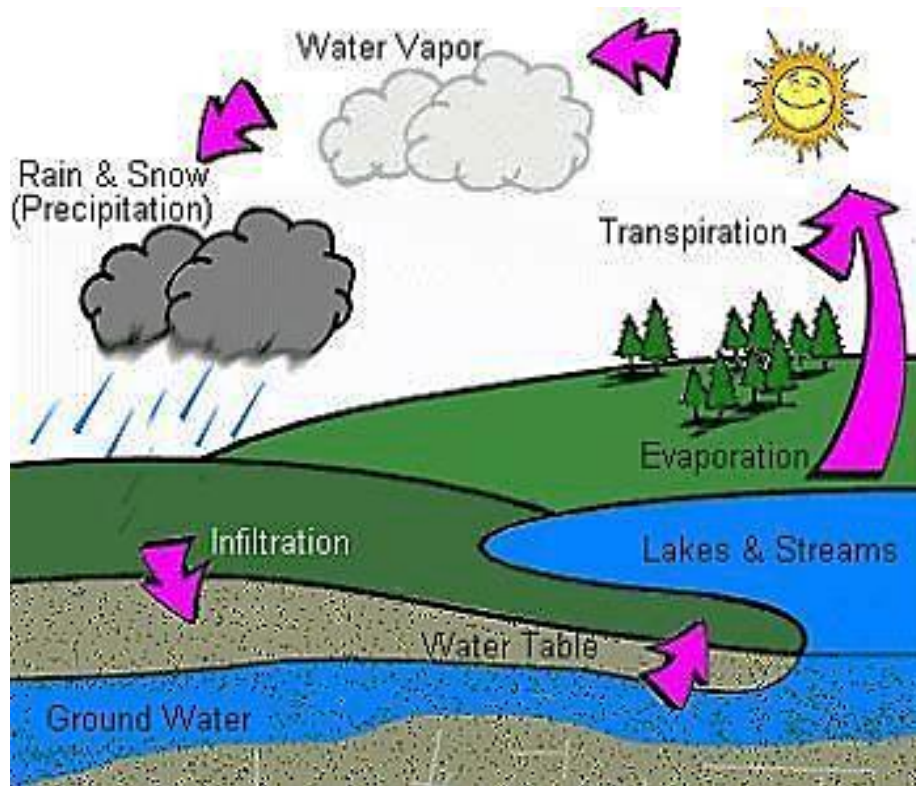
Even though people have already started taking precautions, the water pollution levels are rising rapidly and there is very little hope left to the polluted water bodies. One big step that every human being can take to prevent water pollution is to minimize water contamination and wastage from their side at every possible level. This way we will be able to save some clean water for the future generations.

References:

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/>

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/Blogs/makingwaves/world-water-day-10-devastating-facts/blog/44430/>





The key Health Problems Caused by Water Pollution



Diarrhea



Vomiting



Typhoid



Diphtheria



Hepatitis



Kidney Damage

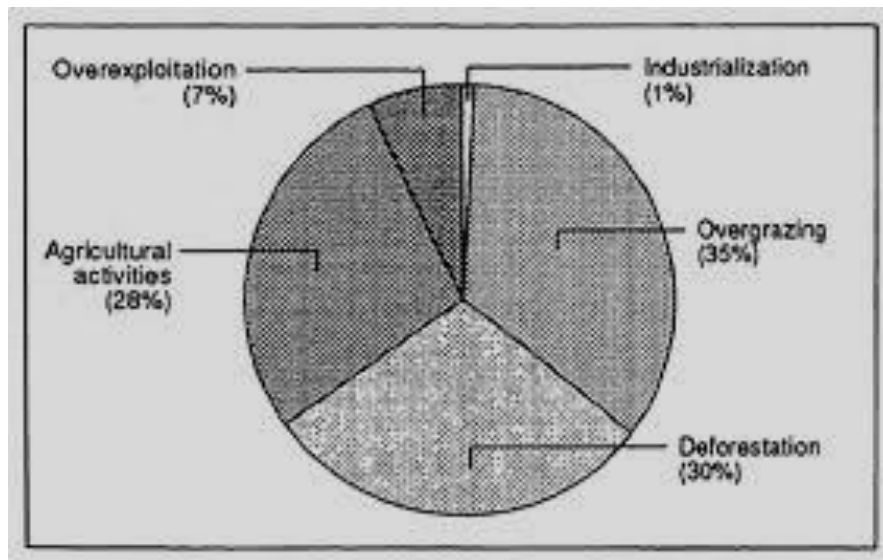
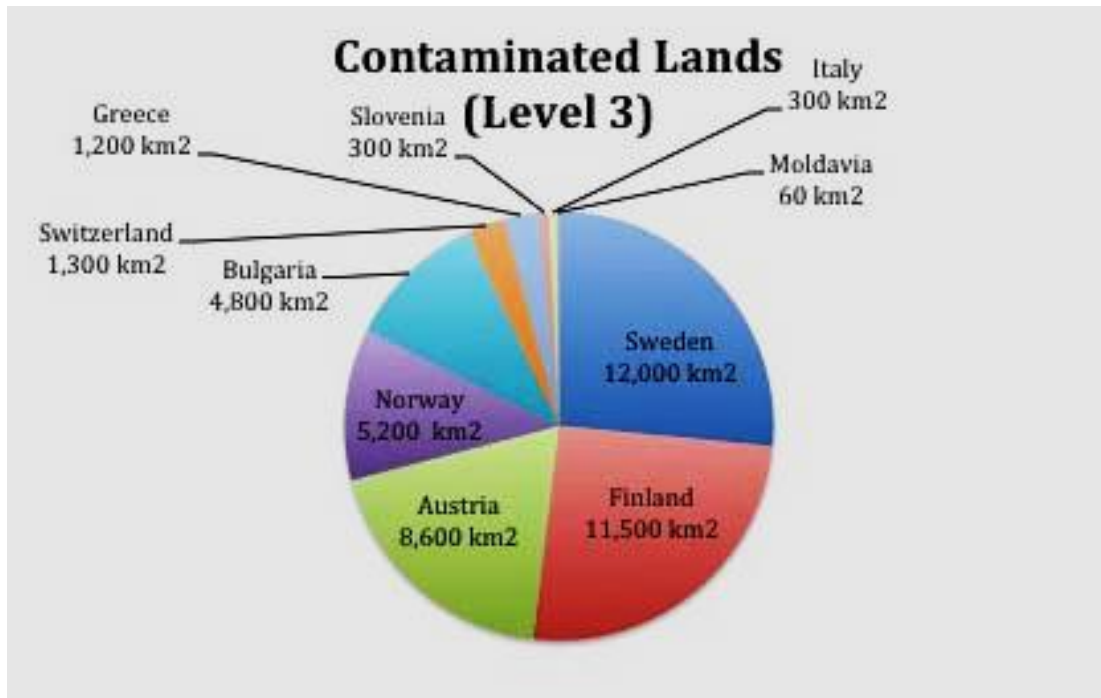


Nerve Disorders



Skin Lesions

LAND POLLUTION



Land Pollution Facts (<http://poopy.org/land-pollution/land-pollution-facts/>)

- According the United Nations, the United States disposes more than half of its solid waste in landfills. This amounts to over 110 million tons of waste per year and makes the US one of the top contributors to worldwide landfill waste.

- In 2008, the United States produced more than 250 million tons of municipal solid waste. Most of the waste came from residential homes.
- According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), electronics waste is rapidly increasing and seriously contributing to land pollution. In 2005, more than 1.5 tons of electronic wastes were dumped in landfills.
- Due to land pollution, the Earth loses approximately 25 billion tons of valuable topsoil each year.
- It takes at least 500 years for 2.5 centimeters of topsoil to regenerate, and the United States loses soil at a rate 17 times higher than it takes to generate new topsoil.
- Much land pollution is caused by agricultural activities, like grazing, pesticide spraying, fertilizing, irrigation, confined animal facilities and plowing.
- Excessive irrigation impacts water and soil quality by concentrating pesticides and harmful bacteria in the top layers of soil.
- Land-based pollution has threatened 22 percent of the Earth's coral reefs.
- Up to 80 percent of land pollution is caused by energy production, food production and transportation.
- In 2009, more than 20,000 beaches were closed as a result of land pollution.
- Only one-third of municipal solid waste is recycled in the United States each year.
- More than one million bushels of garbage are thrown out of car windows by Americans each year.
- On average, Americans throw out 200,000 tons of edible food each day.
- Just one American produces nearly 3,500 pounds of hazardous waste every year.
- More than 80 percent of the items in landfills are fit for recycling.
- Land pollution can cause skin problems, birth defects, respiratory issues and a number of other diseases. A study published by Cornell University maintains that about 40 percent of deaths in the world are caused by pollution.
- Drinking water is significantly affected by land pollution. About half the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water, and water-based diseases cause up to 10 million deaths each year.

- Each year, Americans add 1.8 billion disposable diapers, 30 billion foam cups and 220 million tires to landfills.

Now that we are aware of the extent of pollution: of air, water and soil we need to become active to protect our environment. If we do, we can have a healthy life, but if we don't we will be sick.

Time has come to Turn back to appreciate the environment

The choice is ours!!!!

Protection of our environment requires that we start to be responsible towards ourselves. Before we correct others, it is better to start with ourselves, so that we do understand the difficulties they will face as they begin to have a changed lifestyle.





Eco- Park in Germany

Every human being needs to become responsible and committed to protection of his or her surroundings. This can be done in the form of community service



DISMAC Team Planting mangroves



Methodist Women's fellowship painting the garbage bins at Saweni beach



Green Scouts of Natabua collecting garbage Around the church premises



Saweni beach cleanup by the ANZ Bank-Lautoka



Mangrove planting by the Saru AOG church and the Lautoka City Council



World Environmental day tree planting in the botanical gardens



Scouts Cleaning up Saweni beach

The purpose of establishing a Green Scouts Movement:

Establishment of a well-disciplined group of people: who cares about the environment and are willing to make a difference.

How should they be built up:

1. Development of environmental understanding
 - Listen to lectures based on the subject of environment
 - Participate in field studies based on exploration of the environment



- Clear understanding of environmental issues, their origin and their mitigation
 - Documentation of articles, research data, literature, display and exhibition of knowledge on environment for the sake of others
2. Improvement of understanding the link between man and his environment
 - Understanding of an environmentally friendly life style, its appreciation.
 - Study the difficulties faced by present generations to have an environmentally friendly life style

- Find ways to encourage an environmentally friendly life style at home and in the neighborhood
3. Study of traditional environmental protection methods
 - Better understanding on the ways of environmental protection
 - Use of natural resources to create attractive colorful items
 - Research on ways to incorporate traditional technology in present day life

Which are the best Environmental Awareness creation methods:

1. Sending messages on environment to homes through the school children
2. Through exhibitions, drama, art, seminars, conferences, workshops
3. Community work
4. Creation of Advisory centers to provide knowledge on home gardening
5. Workshops on Waste management and energy conservation
6. Environmental Videos and films
7. Distribution of leaflets and brochures



Tree made of coconut husks

Development of a life style that truly protects the environment:

- Inclusion of environmental sensitivity into the life style
- True love for the plants and animal
- Improvement on environmentally friendly habits
- Avoid damaging the environment and also prevent others from doing so
- Take leadership in initiating environmental programs

- Establish environmental societies in villages, communities, and religious institutions
- Develop a network among the environmental societies
- Identify environmentally sensitive places within your village, community and activate to protect of such places
- Link with Government, Non-Governmental Organizations dealing with environmental protection works,

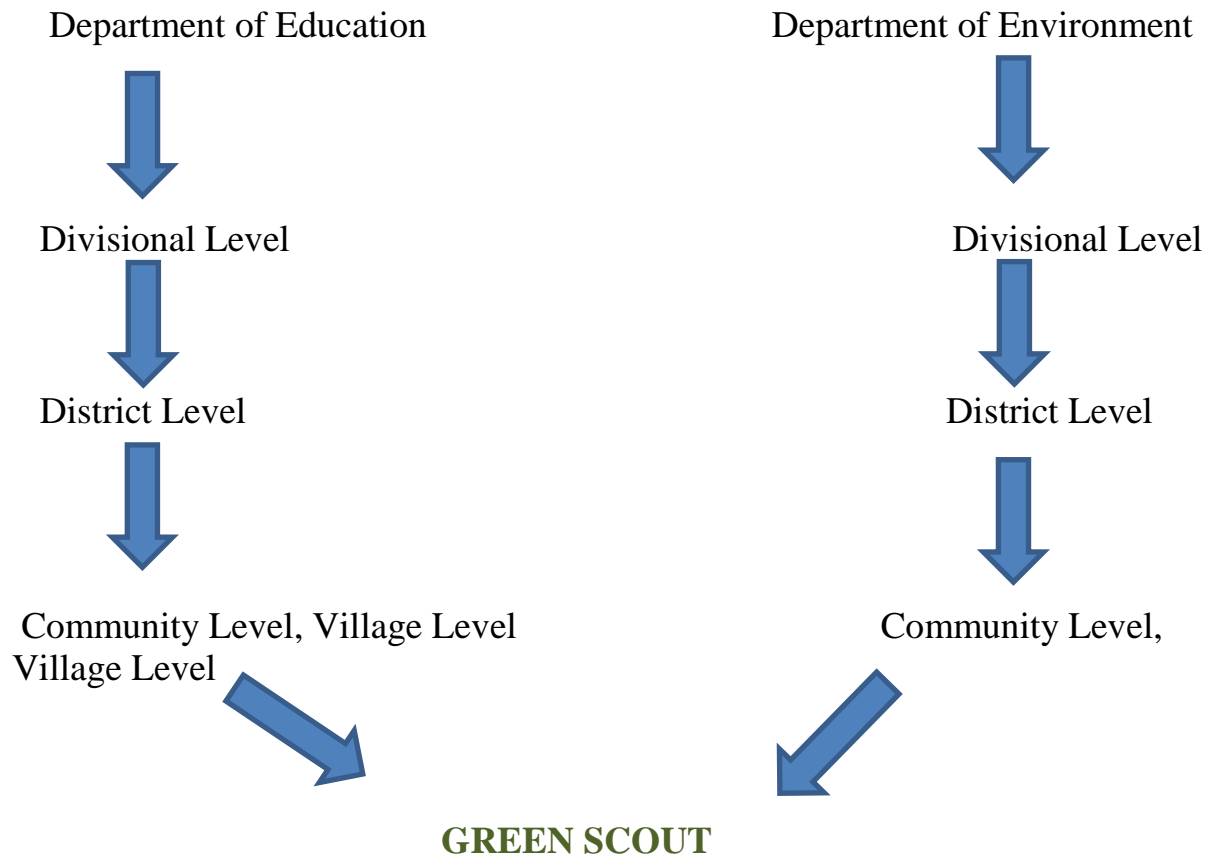


Code of Ethics for a Green Scout:

- **Green Scout at all times will respect his or her motherland, nationality, and culture.**
- Will not waste resources, but will enjoy a simple lifestyle
- Honest, truthful and kind
- Friend of the nature
- Consider others as important as one's own self
- Puts environmental protection theory into practice
- Face challenges and hurdles patiently while protecting the environment
- Always prioritize environmental protection activities
- Believes in sustainable development

Organizational chart of the Green Scout Movement

Two Authorities, one implementing, one monitoring



The duties and responsibilities of teachers and leaders in charge of the Green Scouts:

- Awareness creation in schools for establishment of new green Scouts
- Conduct Lectures, workshops, and provide resource persons for such programs
- Member of the monitoring committee
- Build connections with the relevant Governmental and no Governmental Institutions

- Organize celebrations of special days related to the environment
- All organization tasks related to the Green Scouts Movement
- Provide a monitoring report every 6 months to the department of Environment and Education



The Possible Activities leading to a Green Award

1. Must visit at least two Governmental and two Non-Governmental Organizations which are active in environmental protection works and prepare a short write up on the activities carried out by them
2. Plant two native trees, one food tree and one medicinal plant, and monitor its growth for 6 months. Best if the trees can be planted either in school or at home and make sure that they are planted in an area which is unlikely to be developed in the future. Prepare a report

3. Prepare a display using the paper articles on environmental issues. Read one of the articles during the general assembly of the school
4. Learn the environmental song and sing it from memory
5. Write a report on an environmental issue of your area, including suggestions on how the negative impacts can be minimized, for. Eg. Deforestation, soil erosion.
6. Write an account on the endangered plants of Fiji, giving examples, how they are threatened. How one can minimize the damage to them.
7. Set up a recycling system in your school or in your community. Ensure that you create awareness among the students, teachers and the community on the importance of segregating waste. Give an account.
8. Set up a composting system in school or in your community. Monitor on a weekly basis how much compost is being produced. Create awareness on the importance of compose. Give an account.
9. Identify three (3) tradition methods of environmental conservation., and investigate as to why they are not been used at present
10. Identify an area of low biodiversity, high biodiversity and medium bio diversity. Carryout an activity to improve the bio diversity of the environmentally degraded area.

Further details in relation to the activities suggested;



Choose a public space to do a clean-up program and also for setting up waste disposal facilities and awareness boards



**Build Green Scout Teams at Village level, here are the
Green Scouts of Lauwaki village**



Stop destructions to the environment, consider it as a crime



Study environmentally sensitive areas such as rivers and sand dunes



Encourage recycling, and composting, learn the best ways to recycle



Composting



Making items from Waste





Support environmentally friendly
Landfilling of only non-recyclable waste



Make Rainwater
Harvesting system
compulsory to be
submitted with the
building plans



Food and seed conservation
through traditional methods



The Use of waste to make
profitable items

Encourage reuse, recycling and reducing the amount of waste, which you bring home;

- When shopping take a bag with you to avoid bringing extra plastic bags home.
- Give all your used items to those who need them
- Instead of buying a gift, make a gift
- Instead of buying a card, make a card



Support protection of wild life, plants, & rare species. Identify those species in your areas which are in threatened of extinction. Find reasons for their loss and find ways to minimize their loss from the environment. Over harvesting, illegal netting, and harvesting of young fish are some.

Fashions from waste, bridal from black thin shopping bags

Bottle caps as the dress straps
Metal pieces as decorative

Clothes from waste, eventhough this is just a show one can learn ways not to throw away used material but to use them wisely to make new saleable items from them.



The world needs plants provide them with oxygen, water , food, shelter, medicine. In trn also to provide protection by reducing global warming through absorbing carbo di oxide. Plant a tree for your anniversaries, for your birthday, your National day, and even on your wedding day. Plants keep you alive throughout your life. But you never say thank you to them



EXTRA READING MATERIAL

Lives near the dump sites



With the heavy rains the little huts in immediate vicinity to the garbage dump of Colombo Municipal Council in Bloemendhal Road went under water. Not only their houses but also their toilets are under water. The water leaking from the garbage heap, flow along with the rainwater directly into the houses adjacent to the dump. With nowhere else to go, the children are playing in those waters. Mothers and fathers cannot stop their children from playing in water full of pathogenic organisms, since the water is in their living rooms. The parents and adults are seen worrying about how they can feed these young ones. Many of the affected were people who went to the dump site daily to earn a living. But now the garbage trucks also do not come because the roads are muddy, hence the trucks slip all over the place. Under such tragic conditions how can we expect them to live a normal life. They are happy when an outsider brings some food parcels. Yet very few outsiders come. Prior to the election, there were many visitors. But now when their needs are at a peak, very few “caring people” come to see them.

It is the garbage of your home, which you throw on to the roadside that the Colombo Municipal Council brings to this dump site. Therefore it is the duty of the public not to throw garbage on to the roadside, but to bury the compostable waste in one’s own garden. Further decide as a family to reduce, reuse and recycle the waste. For more information *write to:*

Silent Giants are valuable in Sri Lanka, than the Noisy Giants

The closest to the silent giants in our world are the trees. The trees take up the carbon di oxide that we breathe out, and using this unwanted gas make food for us to eat. During its production of food, it releases oxygen for us to breath and water vapor to provide us with rain. This is a fascinating piece of work carried out by the silent giants that live around us. The beauty of the trees is that they never expect a thank you from you or me.

How sad it is when we compare the life of a tree with that of a human being. Human beings daily do so little, and often just carryout their routine work, but make a big noise about what they have done. They expect a lot of thanks from all those around them.

The worst error by the humans is their habit of criticism and boasting. While boasting on their achievements, they condemn those who may for a moment block their paths.

Recently an incidence occurred when a garbage dump was proposed to be built in Dompe. The Ministry officials were so keen to impress their hierarchy, and also to grab the opportunity to do gain a large sum of foreign funds, that they planned for a dump site in one of the most unsuitable areas. When the environmental Scientists and the environmentalists visited the area, they quickly understood it to be an unsuitable site for this project. But to convince the Government officials was the most difficult. When the Government officials learnt that the Environmentalists are objecting to the building of the “Garbage landfill site” they started to pour venom on them.

Today using powerful media the Governmental officials are condemning the environmental scientists, the environmentalists. Those concerned about the well -being of the people who will have to live next to the “garbage landfill site” have worked for many years on this problem in Sri Lanka and have even put forward concrete sound ways to minimize the impact of the garbage on the environment. Because such people have very little access to the media they can only be the silent, but continue in their good works.

Eventually this country will be built by the silent giants, but not the noisy ones.

PLANTS KEEPS US ALIVE

Since Birth Every Human Being Throughout its life emit Carbon Di Oxide to the atmosphere thereby contribute to Global Warming. It is therefore the duty of every human being to plant at least one tree during its life time. Let us make sure that we plant a tree this World Environment, on the 5th of June. Get ready.

Very few of us would even want to think that we ourselves are guilty of global warming. Since birth we take in oxygen to our bodies and emit Carbon di Oxide to the atmosphere. It is the green leaves of the trees around us which take up the carbon di oxide that we emit, using sunlight, and water and minerals produce food in the form of vegetables and fruits. During this process of photosynthesis oxygen and water vapour are emitted from the plants. So, plants reduce global warming, human beings even with a large brain increase global warming. Interestingly brains do not seem to help with the survival because many human being cut down a more trees and vegetative cover than any other animal. It is time we face the truth, the human life has a bigger negative impact on the environment than we like to believe. This is where our responsibility becomes important. We need to ensure that we set up a system to absorb the carbon di oxide we emit. This is through growing trees. Many people limit tree planting to school curriculum. They expect little children alone to plant a tree. It is time that each adult plant a tree for his or her birthday. The World Environmental day is coming nearer, let us ensure that we organize effective tree planting campaigns for that day. You can plant a tree in your own garden, neighbor’s garden, friend’s garden, in temple, in church, in Mosque, in a park. Be sure to water it, put compost and help it to grow.

After all it is this plant which will compensate for the environmental damage that you cause by being alive.

Environmental Day is all about Sharing Life

Today the importance of environment is felt by all. As the World Environmental day approaches many programs, events are planned by most communities. Perhaps this is because people are knowledgeable of the fact that life cannot exist without the environment. What is the environment: it is the air that we breathe, the water that we drink, the food that we eat, the animals and plants around us and of course the fellow human beings.

What really is the fact of Life: The day a baby is born to this world, the world hears of its birth through the baby's first cry. With the gulp of the first breathe of cold air the baby gives a loud message that he or she has arrived. With that first breathe this human life begins to depend on air for its life until its death. Fortunately air is free of charge for all people, everywhere. A baby that depends on mother's milk soon begins to feed on vegetables and fruits. The dependency on vegetables and fruits continues until the end of life. The soil of a nation is primarily given to grow crops to provide food for its people. The people themselves should take great pleasure in growing crops in their home gardens. A human body is made up of 70% water; hence every human being requires taking in a sufficient dose of water daily for it to survive. Water is provided for this world in the form of rain water. Even though our forefathers knew well of the value of rain water today, the main priority is to provide drinking water through taps. Many unfortunately use that water even to wash their cars at service stations.

People generally spend most of their life collecting possessions that they cannot take with them, such as property, gold, money, fame, and power. Even though from experience they know that they cannot take any of these things with them to where they go after death, yet it continues. A wise person surely builds house or houses for children, but ensure that they do grow vegetables and fruits in their garden. They work hard to protect water and air and build healthy relationships with other human beings so that there can be peace and harmony for them and their children here on earth.

Think on this World Environmental as to where you are.

May you and your family enjoy the World environmental Day in a meaningful way,

Dr. (Mrs.) Ajantha Perera,

Founder, National Program on Recycling of Solid Waste- Sri Lanka,

Chairperson, Consumer Association of Sri Lanka

Special Awards for the Industry

Industrialization is one of the most vital components of a nation striving towards prosperity and economic growth. It is also the industry which pollutes our environment. Industrial pollution can be in the form of air, water and soil. For economic growth to be sustainable the policy makers and the legislators need to ensure that proper and adequate guidelines are provided for the industrial sector to follow. Penalties must be implemented, where they do not comply with the existing environmental law. One of the best ways to encourage the industry is through rewarding for the best environmental practices. How does one go about rewarding the industry?

Let us take an example, waste management

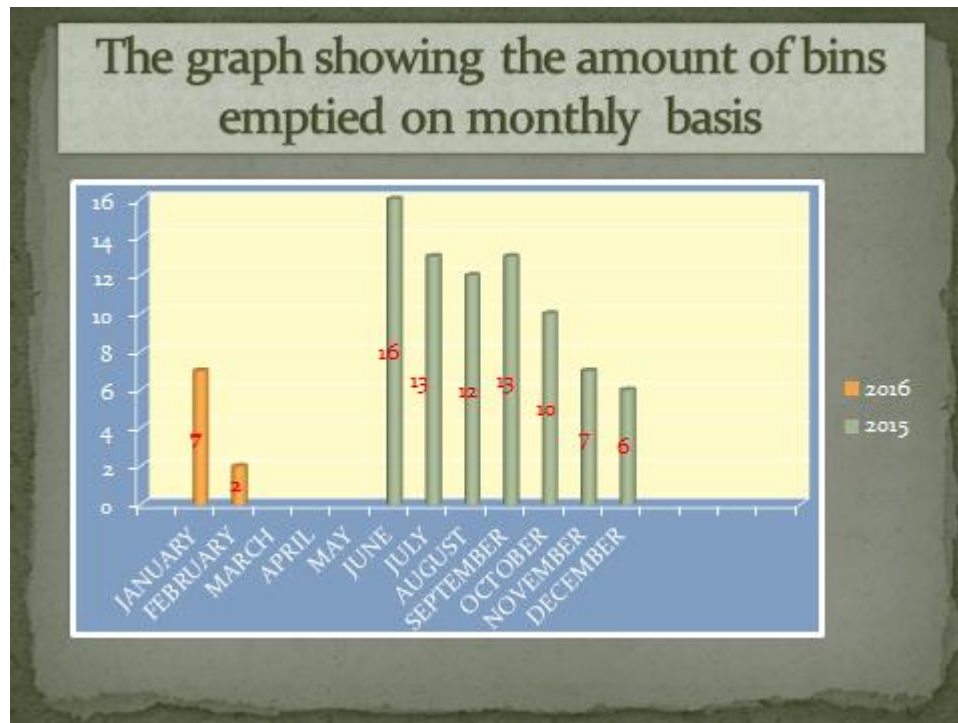
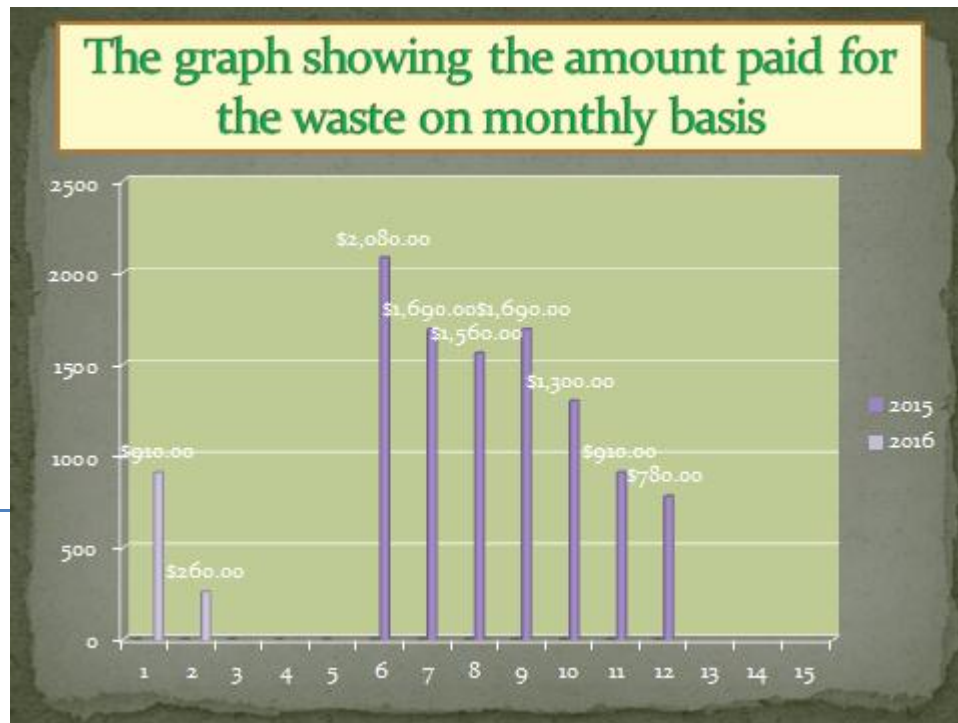
1. Encourage team work: make it an exciting exercise to reduce the waste generated and given for disposal
-



2. Set targets in terms of financial gain. When one reduces the amount of waste generated they will be rewarded
-



3. Reward them for their good work, and make it known



Concluding:



The children of today are the future leaders of tomorrow. We may not like their behavior, their attitudes and their level of concern for parents or adults. Yet they are the only resource we have to lead our nations towards prosperity and sustainability. Instead of criticizing their mistakes, their attitudes, we need to get involved in shaping them to be responsible citizens.

GREEN SCOUTS MOVEMENT is all about, providing the building stones for the nation. As we build youth of strong responsible, caring, well discipline, dignified character, we provide the building stones which can strengthen the nation. The Scouts movement has rigorous discipline. By adding the subject of environment to them we make them Green to care about the environment.

My prayer and hope is that Fiji as the Nation, which has initiated the Green Scouts Movement will run with its banner for a greener and more prosperous Fiji. As they shine, the World will begin to Shine.

MAY THE LORD bless you, prosper you and give you wisdom to shine in a world full of darkness. Our glory will create light for others to Follow,

Dr. (Mrs.) Ajantha Perera - SO WE BEGAN OUR JOURNEY



Special thank you also for the Committee who contributed to make the World Environmental Day 2016 celebration a huge success



God is good all the time