

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 5 JUNE 2008



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 - Twelve Steps to Help You Kick the CO₂ Habit” by UNEP
 - The Energy Conservation Act 2001 – Key Provisions
 - Energy Conservation Building Code 2007 – Guidance on Eco-friendly Buildings
 - Important Impacts of Global Warming – IPCC’s 4th Assessment Report



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Background

World Environment Day (WED), was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972, to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. Commemorated each year on 5th June, it is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action.

Objective

Create worldwide awareness on important environmental issues and initiate measures to eliminate / mitigate the adverse environmental impacts.

Theme

"Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy" is the theme for WED 2008. It recognizes that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era. UNEP is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. The World Environment Day will highlight resources and initiatives that promote low carbon economies and lifestyles, such as improved energy efficiency, alternative energy sources, forest conservation and eco-friendly consumption.

International Celebrations

The main international celebrations of WED 2008 will be held in city of Wellington, New Zealand.

Suggested Actions

- Use energy efficient rated electrical equipment, e.g. AC, Refrigerators, etc rated with Bureau of Energy Efficiency Star Energy Efficiency labels.
- Switch off all lights, fans and electrical appliances when not in use. Make maximum use of daylight.
- Use CFL lamps, energy efficient tube lights.
- Set water heater / geyser temperature at optimum level.
- Avoid frequent opening of refrigerators or doors of air conditioned rooms.
- Use public transport as much as possible, alternatively use Car pool system.
- Make use of video-conferencing for business meetings and avoid travels.
- Message on environmental protection by head of organisation.
- Water, power and paper conservation programmes.
- Tree Planting and Clean-up campaigns.
- Display of banners and posters on environment protection at strategic locations.
- Training programmes/lectures on environment protection & water conservation.
- Screening films on environment protection.
- Essay/debating/painting/drawing competitions/lectures/film show in schools/colleges.
- Community awareness seminars/workshops.
- Issuing messages on local TV/Radio channels, local newspapers, etc.
- Printing environment related slogans on company stationary, pay packets etc.

Messages

Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General: "The message of World Environment Day 2008 is that we are all part of the solution. Whether you are an individual, an organization, a business or a government, there are many steps you can take to reduce **your carbon footprint. It is message we all must take to heart**".

Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP: On this special UN day, let us send a loud and clear message that the global public wants the transformational changes already underway to continue and to accelerate - that each and everyone wants personal, corporate and political action to "Kick the CO₂ Habit".

LIST OF LEGISLATION ON ENVIRONMENT IN INDIA

The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1975

The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Rules, 1978

The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981

- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1982

The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

- The Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986
- The Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-Organism, Genetically Engineered Organism or Cells Rules, 1989
- The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000, 2003
- The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 as amended in 1994, 2000
- Scheme of Labelling of Environment Friendly Products (ECO-MARK), 1991
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006
- The Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996
- The Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 as amended in 2003
- The Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999 as amended in 2003
- The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000
- The Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000
- The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000
- The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001

The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991

- The Public Liability Insurance Rules, 1991

The National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995

The National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997

- The National Environment Appellate Authority (Appeal) Rules, 1997

The Disaster Management Act, 2005

KICK THE HABIT !

TOWARDS A LOW CARBON ECONOMY

WAYS TO CELEBRATE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

- A**
 - Adopt a 'green' way of life
 - Art made of recycled materials
 - Auctions to benefit an environmental project
 - Award presentations for environmental competitions
 - Awareness campaigns
- B**
 - Bicycle parades/races
 - Broadcast of public service announcements (TV/Radio)
 - Buy a fuel-efficient car
- C**
 - Calculate your carbon footprint
 - Carpools
 - Celebrity support
 - Clean-up campaigns
 - Competitions (banner, drawing, essay, painting, poster, poetry)
 - Conferences on the environment
- D**
 - Debates on environment issues
 - Dedicate your blog to World Environment Day on 5 June
 - Distribute leaflets, brochures and posters
 - Donate to an environmental cause
- E**
 - Environmental education programmes in schools
 - Excursions to nature sites
 - Exhibitions (drawings, posters, photos, paintings)
- F**
 - Fairs
 - Festivals
 - Film festivals on the environment
- G**
 - Give a gift membership of an environmental organization
 - Guidelines to community-based environmental activities
- H**
 - Hoist banners at major road intersections
 - Help local environmental groups organise WED events
- I**
 - Inform all your friends about WED
 - Involve various partners (NGOs, ministries, youth groups, celebrities, private sector)
 - Issue First Day Covers (stamps)
- J**
 - Join an environmental group
 - Join UNEP's carbon neutral network
- K**
 - Keep your neighbourhood clean
 - Kick-start an environmental campaign
 - Kick the CO₂ habit!
 - Know your rights
- L**
 - Launch of government environment policies, books, reports
 - Lobby local authorities to adopt sound
- M**
 - March for the environment
 - Media coverage and activities
- N**
 - Never litter
- O**
 - Offset your emissions
 - Organic farming/cooking
 - Organize a WED themed event in your neighbourhood
- P**
 - Parades
 - Performances (plays, songs, poetry)
 - Plant a tree
 - Plastic bags: avoid them!
 - Promotional material (t-shirts, stickers, bookmarks)
 - Puppet shows for children with an environmental message
- Q**
 - Quizzes related to the theme for schools, youth groups, company staff, etc...
- R**
 - Rainwater harvesting
 - Rallies
 - Ratify international environmental conventions
 - Reduce, re-use, recycle
 - Rehabilitate natural habitats
 - Replace your light-bulbs with energy saving ones
- S**
 - Save paper
 - Seminars
 - Sort rubbish
 - Speeches
 - Sponsorship from private sector
 - Sports activities
 - Switch off stand-by TV and computer
- T**
 - Take action
 - T-shirts for WED
- U**
 - Use sustainable modes of transportation (walking, jogging, cycling, skating, carpool)
- V**
 - Vehicle emission monitoring
 - Vermi-composting
 - Visits to botanical gardens and national parks
 - Volunteer for organizations such as Clean Up the World
- W**
 - Waste less!
 - Workshops
 - Write plays, poems, songs
 - Write letters to civic leaders, members of parliament, government and newspapers
- X**
 - Xchange ideas
 - Xpect environmental responsibility
- Y**
 - Youth-led activities
- Z**
 - Zero emissions