

HOPING FOR A GREENER PLANET

Tree plantation campaign by NSUEC

HASAN MAHMUD MARUF

Earth Club of North South University (NSUEC) successfully organised their tree plantation campaign for the first time, Yamaha Presents "Plants for Future" (PFF) on December 11-12, 2016. Earth Club planted around 85 saplings on NSU campus. The main purpose of this event was to bring a sustainable solution to air pollution and make Dhaka greener than before.

The first day of the event was a field preparation day. On the second day, the Treasurer of NSU, Professor Dr. Gour Gobinda Goswami and Director of Student Affairs, Professor Dr. Emdadul Haq inaugurated the tree plantation campaign. Faculty Advisor of Earth Club, Mohammad Moshiur Rahman and ACI Motors' Brand Executive, Zahidul Islam was also present.

To make Dhaka greener, 500 saplings will be planted in different places of the city by the Earth Club. The club has already planted 85 saplings on December 12 and more saplings of fruit, timber, flower, medicinal species etc. will be



planted within the next month. The club will take care of those saplings for the next 6 months.

Sheguptaroh Soha, a student of environmental science, said, "PFF was an excellent initiative taken by the Earth Club. Trees are very important for our

environment and by planting trees we are actually helping our next generation. People should think more often about the environment and this event is such an example."

The tree plantation campaign was appreciated by the citizens as well as

leading environmentalists. Shehta Zarab, Joint Secretary of Earth Club, explained when asked about the event purpose and its future plan: "We took the initiative of planting 500 trees in different places of Dhaka, which is a giant step for any university club. It's not something that just affects hundreds, thousands or even millions; we believe it affects the 7 billion people on earth in the long run. We are glad we could do it and as for the future, we are hoping to increase the number of trees and target more places. We hope everyone becomes more concerned about the environment."

Alongside this event, NSUEC also organises other events such as "A Tree for Free", "Champions of Earth International" (a green idea generation competition), "Environmental School Campaign and Encounters" to create a massive response in order to fight pollution and to spread awareness about environmental issues.

This event was sponsored by ACI Motors Limited and the media partners were SHOUT, Kaler Kantha Shuvoshongo and Radio Foorti.

Games to Play at a Small School Campus

SALMA MOHAMMAD ALI

If you're one of the lucky few who go to a school with a large campus, you probably have tons of options for recreation – playgrounds, football fields, basketball courts, maybe even a swimming pool. Many other students, however, have to cope with a small campus thanks to overpopulated city life. This is often temporary, but here are some ideas to make the most of it.

If the main problem is the lack of a field or playground, there is no solution except to work your way around it. Maybe you can't play football properly without a field, but basketball and cricket practice may be slightly easier. If your school is located in an apartment building, it may have some space to spare in the garage. This will probably be used during assembly but why not fit a basketball hoop on the wall for some practice shots at other times? Cricket, with some makeshift stumps may be possible as well. Just be careful about surrounding windows, don't use a wooden ball. While my school has a large permanent campus in Satarkul right now, not all the facilities are complete yet. We resort to an area in the underground parking for basketball practice for now, and it works out just fine.

Don't let lack of space stop you from trying out other games. Request your school to spare you a room that can be turned into a game room. It doesn't have to be all that big, you just need to use the space smartly. The must-have in this game room is a table tennis table. It doesn't take up too much space and it ensures some exercise. It's something most students are likely to enjoy as well. You could even suggest a pool table, which should easily fit in the same room.

Now that we have the more space-consuming ideas out of the way - let's focus on some easier ones. Stack the common room with board games such as Scrabble or Pictionary. Your school authority should like this idea because of the educational benefits. Card games, espe-

cially UNO will prove very useful, since a large number of students can play at once. This somewhat solves the problem of too many students getting bored in free periods or P.E. class. Don't forget chess, and snakes and ladders. Here's another idea for effective space usage – hang a dart board on one side of the wall. Learn to improve your aim and challenge your friends.

You probably can't play actual football or basketball games, but don't cross out the idea of tournaments off your list just yet. If your school's willing, you can consider holding intra-school tournaments at a separate

venue, such as Gulshan Youth Club, but if this isn't possible – turn back to table tennis. All you'll need is that game room for an effective table tennis tournament for the whole school!

Be creative and don't let space be a restriction, and you'll find waking up for school isn't all that annoying anymore.

Salma Mohammad Ali fears she is becoming a crazy cat lady and uses writing as a means to grasp on to sanity. Send her your views/hate/love at fb.com/salma.ali209

