# **Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative**

# **Dear all in the BK environment community**

It is spring in this part of the world - fantastic time and a good reminder of golden age. Enjoy all the green service news, full of opportunities and creativity, including a <u>big award</u> to Madhuban for water practices.



### **World Environment Day 5th June 2016**

Our Rural Development Wing are encouring the centers in India to do an awareness program dedicated to World Environment Day!

You can also celebrate World Environment Day - this year it is a Sunday. Maybe dedicate Sunday meditation to the Environment? Read more and register activity. http://web.unep.org/wed/

Please let us know if you do a meditation/activity on this day, and we will include it in the UN Environment Program report.



#### Brahma Kumaris Environment has now it's own Facebook Page!

Most welcome. It is administrated by Romina in London and Juan in Canada. Romina writes: We have just recently launched our official Facebook page Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative. The aim of having this page is to have a presence on social media and enable other organisations to connect with us. Please like us and share the page with other people who may be interested!

Kindly note that this page is not a BK page for personal conversations about gyan or related matters. There are many other closed groups you can join for that. This is just our official presence to connect with the world. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bkenvironmentinitiative">www.facebook.com/bkenvironmentinitiative</a>



# **UK EcoHub on Facebook** - a closed group, mail from Joanna:

Dear eco friends, just to let you know that a closed group Facebook page has now been set up to share practical hints and tips on how to be more eco friendly in our homes and centres. I have joined a few of you already and any members can post material that they think will be useful. I have put a few vegan recipes up to get the ball rolling. If you are on Facebook you can just ask to join. The GCH eco group in London have been busy experimenting with cleaning products so it would be great to hear of any recommendations they have come up with. In Baba's Yaad, Joanna



# **Award - congratulations to Madhuban**

The Brahma Kumaris received an award from the World CSR Congress for BEST WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. (CSR means Corporate Social Responisbility). A short report can be seen

**EU Sustainable Energy Days** in the month of June. Most welcome to participate! We enclose the invitation letter to the centers in Europe. Read more here: <a href="http://eusew.eu/">http://eusew.eu/</a>

#### **Newsletters:**

Australia - Growing Green Angels

Malaysia - Golo visits Malaysia for World in transition programmes

Colombia - François doing environment programs and help the start of a green team

Brazil - Fco retreat place Vila Serena - Management of solid waste and composting redu

Brazil - <u>Eco retreat place Vila Serena</u> - Management of solid waste and composting, reducing and reusing



Thanks for all your input on our question:

What environment-friendly practice at the centre would make you most proud of the BK's?

There were many occasions where we have asked about our next steps:

- Sessions with BK Greens, COP team, NC meeting in Madhuban
- Mailings to BK Green Network and BK Rosary.

Based upon the input, we propose that the centres hold **`Eco-conversations**', where the students can have dialogues about:

- The need for sustainable practices in the centres
- The link between sustainable practices (related to food, water, energy, waste, other) and our virtues and values (of course you can add other relevant virtues)
- What we are doing now and
- What we would like to change and when

Through these **'Eco-conversations'** we do hope to increase both the awareness and the ownership for sustainable practices in the centres.

Econversations	Value for example, Simplicity	Value for example, Non-Violence	Value for example, Empathy
Food	What are we doing now?		
	What would we like to change?		
Water			
Energy			
Waste			
Other			

We do invite all the centres to start with these **Eco-conversations**'. Please do share your results with us, ultimately by July 2016. It would be great if our 'Green Angels' (those of you who are members of the Green Network) could be the facilitators!

#### **Green Retreats for BK's**

Portugal, Lisbon 16-20/6, please see attached invitation. Facilitated by Valeriane Bernard and Joanna Kitto.

US, Peace Village, 29-31/7

## **Inspiration**



The Four traits of climate leaders - Good article from Sustainia

Class Brother Nirwair – 7<sup>th</sup>March 2016 – Diamond Hall, Shantivan Serving the five elements, attached word doc.

<u>Crossroads</u> - English documentary on the interconnectedness between awareness and the environment, see link.



Many peaceful greetings and om shanti

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www.environment.brahmakumaris.org