



iNaturewatch Foundation

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Parties Involved:

1. **iNaturewatch Foundation**, 107, Royal Palace, Plot 11, Station Rd, opposite Glomax Mall, Sector 2, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 410210.
Contact Person: Ms. Roshni Tiwari (99872 93535)
2. **Information Technology Department, Guru Nanak Khalsa College**, Nathalal Parekh Marg, Matunga East, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400019
Contact Person: Mrs. Pinky Panda

Objective:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines the collaboration between iNaturewatch Foundation and the Information Technology Department of Guru Nanak Khalsa College for organizing a volunteer activity at the Taloja Hill forest, Kharghar. As part of the Community Engagement programme for 2 credits, Khalsa College is organizing activities at Taloja Hill Forest. These activities aim to engage students in environmental conservation, fostering a sense of responsibility while making a positive impact on the local community and the forest ecosystem.

Proposed Activities:

- **Clean-Up Drive:**
 - **Objective:** Volunteers will collect non-biodegradable waste, such as plastic and glass, from the hill to help maintain a clean and safe environment.
 - **Benefits:** Removing non-biodegradable waste helps prevent pollution and reduces the risk of harm to wildlife. By clearing plastics and glass, we improve the health of the ecosystem, protect natural habitats, and contribute to a more sustainable environment.
- **Invasive Species Removal Activity:**
 - **Objective:** To engage volunteers in removing invasive species, such as American Mint, from the plantation area. This activity helps to clear the site of invasive vegetation, creating a more favorable environment for native saplings and future plantation efforts.
 - **Benefits:** Removing invasive species like American Mint reduces competition for nutrients and resources, allowing native plants to flourish. This promotes healthier and more sustainable ecosystems, supports effective reforestation efforts, and enhances overall biodiversity in the area.
- **Tree Guard Installation Activity:**
 - **Objective:** To install new tree guards using bamboo and green materials to protect young saplings from cattle grazing and vandalism. This will ensure the effective growth and development of the plants in our plantation area.
 - **Benefits:** Tree guards provide essential protection for young saplings, preventing damage from cattle and reducing the risk of vandalism. This fosters the healthy growth of the trees, supports biodiversity, and contributes to the long-term sustainability of the Taloja Hill forest ecosystem.

- **Soil Removal from Check Dam:**
- **Objective:** Volunteers will remove accumulated soil from the check dams to support their ongoing construction and maintenance. This activity is crucial for promoting effective water conservation, addressing soil erosion, and preparing the check dams for the next monsoon season. The removed soil will be kept for reuse, enhancing sustainability and resource efficiency.
- **Benefits:** Removing soil from the check dams helps mitigate soil erosion and ensures the effective functioning of these structures in capturing and retaining water. This process replenishes groundwater resources and prepares the area for the upcoming monsoon, fostering a resilient ecosystem that supports diverse flora and fauna.
- **Ring De-weeding Activity**
- **Objective:** Ring de-weeding in our plantation areas will focus on enhancing the growth of saplings by removing competing vegetation around their base. This method improves the conditions for healthy development, allowing our planted trees to thrive and reach their full potential.
- **Benefits:** Ring de-weeding promotes robust sapling growth by eliminating competition for nutrients and water. This practice supports healthier plants, ensuring the success and sustainability of our plantation efforts and contributing to effective ecosystem restoration.

Responsibilities:

- **INaturewatch Foundation:** Will provide necessary guidance, materials, and supervision for the proposed activities.
- **Information Technology Department, Guru Nanak Khalsa College:** Will coordinate volunteer participation, ensure adherence to safety protocols, and support the successful implementation of the activities.

Terms and Conditions:

1. Volunteers are required to commit a minimum of 3 hours and a maximum of 8 hours of work per day.
2. The Organization will issue certificates of completion only after the volunteer has completed a total of 30 hours of volunteering work.
3. Volunteers must agree to abide by all applicable rules and regulations while participating in the volunteer program.

Conclusion:

This MOU signifies the commitment of both parties towards promoting environmental conservation and community engagement. By working together, we aim to create a positive impact on the Taloja Hill forest ecosystem while fostering a sense of responsibility and stewardship among volunteers.



Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi
Founder and Managing Trustee



Mrs. Pinky Panda
IT Department, Guru Nanak Khalsa College

Contact Us

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