



Eid ul Fitr

#WorldEnvironmentDay

BEATING AIR POLLUTION

You often can't see it, but air pollution is everywhere. With every breath, you may be taking in harmful tiny particles which attack's your lungs, heart and brain. This year, Eid Ul Fitr will coincide with World Environment Day 2019, and so this is a great opportunity to call everyone to action in combating the global environmental crisis.

Air pollution is the cause of around seven million deaths worldwide. It is preventable, but everyone needs to be on board to tackle this issue. This basic resource guide provides you with some tips on what can be done to reduce your contribution to air pollution on Eid Day, to help create cleaner better quality air. Also, this guide should be applied to your daily life, and is not just limited to Eid Day.

“We made the sky a well protected canopy – yet from it's wonder they turn away.”
Al-Anbya (The Prophets) 21:32



**WORLD
ENVIRONMENT
DAY**

Eid-ul-Fitr is a day of great festivity and thanksgiving to Allah Almighty for giving us a chance to celebrate the month of fasting. Muslims celebrate by gathering for Eid prayers in the morning with friends and family, preparing sweet delicacies, wearing new clothes, and giving each other gifts. May Allah accepts our fasts and good deeds in the month of Ramadan and makes our Eid blissful!



If you have to use your car....

Car Share

Rather than driving on your own to the masjid, car share with family, friends or neighbours. The benefits of this include, reduced fuel costs, better air quality and lower carbon emissions due to reduced traffic fumes. You will also find less congestion and shorter journeys due to fewer cars being on the road, you have an increased chance of finding a parking space because fewer cars means less competition for spaces and your journey being more pleasant due to having company.

Tyre Pressure

Make sure to have the right tyre pressure. If the pressure is down by 0.5 bars, The car needs 5 % more fuel and also gives off more pollution.

Warming your car

Turning on your car while stationary causes more fuel consumption and proven to have no benefits to the efficiency of your car engine. It is environmentally better to start driving immediately after starting your car as the engine will reach its working temperature quicker.

TRANSPORT

Walking is a Sunnah

Walk to the masjid for Eid prayers if the distance is within reason. Walking releases no carbon dioxide or polluting gases into the air.

It was narrated by Ibn 'Umar (RA):
"The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) used to go out to the 'Eid prayers walking, and come back walking." - **Ibn Majah**

Public transportation

The more people who take a bus or train, the fewer cars there are on the road, and fewer emissions. If you choose to take the car rather than the train or bus, for instance, you will generate several times more air pollution and up to 30 times more CO2 emissions.



AT HOME

Buy and eat local food.

Locally produced vegetables and meats are easy to find in many places. Purchasing these means fewer miles would be travelled by delivery trucks, limiting air pollutants, and also supporting the local economy.

Buy products with recycled materials:

This helps reduce raw materials consumption. Many stores stock items with a recycle logo, and the label may also indicate at least some of its contents are recycled.

Prepare less meat

During Eid, we serve a variety of dishes to be eaten on the occasion of celebrating the happy ending of Ramadan (which brings the mercy of Allah). Try to reduce the amount of meat served to your family and guests, meat production is one of the leading causes of greenhouse gas emissions and other particulate matter pollution in the atmosphere.

“Eat and drink of what Allah has provided, and do not go about the earth spreading ‘Fasād’ (corruption, mischief, disorder).”

Al-Baqarah (The Cow) 2:60

Joint cooking

If possible, share out the cooking responsibilities with other members of the family. Gas is a big contributor to air pollution. Gas creates fumes when we burn it to heat our homes or for cooking. Instead of visiting each other’s homes, consider arranging for everyone to meet in one



communal place. This reduces the amount of car journeys made and the need for everyone to cook individually.

Garden party

If you’re preparing your garden to host guests during Eid festivities, cut or sweep the grass, leaf blowers and lawn mowers consume fuel and emit pollutants into the air. By using manual methods to cut the grass and care for the lawn with a broom or rake, you can contribute to better air quality over the long term.

Reduce your electricity use

Spend as much time celebrating by talking and socialising with friends and family. Reduce your reliance on TV sets, computers, devices and other electronic items. Less electricity consumed means less power produced and fewer pollutants into the air from burning of fossil fuels



OTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO

- Ask your Imam to speak about the environment and about air quality, help him prepare a short message that he can deliver at the mosque
- Apart from Fitrana, when giving donations on Eid, consider donating towards tree planting projects. Trees are able to clean the air and absorb harmful airborne particles and gaseous pollutants.
- In accordance with the prophetic example of speaking out against injustice, ask your friends and family members to get involved and do their part to tackle the injustice to our environment.

“Whosoever of you sees an injustice, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able to do so, then [let him change it] with his tongue; and if he is not able to do so, then with his heart—and that is the weakest of faith.”

Sahih Muslim

- If you use social media, take pictures and share it online with the hashtags #WorldEnvironmentDay and #EidMubarak this way Muslims can be part of the global campaign, alongside people of other faiths and none.

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MAKE A DUA (PRAYER) FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Oh Allah, You are the Creator, the All-Powerful, the Sustainer of all life. Forgive us for being careless with Your earth that you created in perfect measure and balance. Inspire us to love and care for every part of Your Creation. Allow us to encourage others to care for your Creation. Allow us to take seriously the role You have given us to be Your steward on earth. Allow us to implement the practices of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) by caring for all species, planting trees, valuing each resource and being grateful for the use of any of Your Creation for our needs.

Oh Allah, protect the people living with the effects of air pollution and give them strength. Give patience and strength to those facing rising temperatures, drought, water shortages, unpredictable weather, failed crops, flooding and land loss.

Oh Allah allow all people everywhere to recognise the importance of protecting and maintaining Your Creation.

Oh Allah, change us and use us in ways you are pleased with, For the restoration of your world and the protection of all people.

Amin