

**Rajpur Community Initiative Society With CMS Vatavaran
present**

1st Rajpur Nature Film Festival

About the 1st Rajpur Nature Film Festival

The first Rajpur Nature Film Festival aims to celebrate the natural biodiversity of Dehradun and throw light on the significance and vulnerability of Rajpur as one of the last remaining green belts of the city. The Festival hopes to create awareness among citizens of Dehradun on the need to prioritize environmental concerns along with intelligent urban planning, and explore options that encourage living in harmony with Nature. The Festival will be on from the 14th to 18th of April 2015 in old Rajpur, Dehradun. Mini screenings will also take place at two local schools Shahenshai Inter College and The Tibetan Homes School.

The films shown during the festival will be exploring themes related to Uttarakhand, such as nature, human-wildlife conflict, river ecosystems and environmentally responsive urban planning. The target audience for the films is school children, college students as well as academics and development practitioners. Along with the film screenings, a symposium will be organized to create an interactive platform and initiate dialogues for potential collaborations.

The first Rajpur Nature Film Festival is being promoted by the Rajpur Community Initiative, a local Community led organization in partnership with CMS VATAVARAN, the International Environment and Wildlife Film Festival and Forum.

Rationale behind the hosting of the 1st Rajpur Nature Film Festival

Despite deriving its historical roots from settlements that first came about due to the abundant greenery in the foothills of the Himalayas, Dehradun has transformed into an aspiring metropolis with little regard given to the city's natural heritage in the face of booming urban expansion. With the population expanding four-fold at least since 2000, the city infrastructure is in shambles with now common traffic jams, inadequate waste management, ill conceived public works etc. There are very few areas left in the Dehradun valley which continue to be a home to abundant natural treasures, scenic forests and wildlife corridors – a treasure that needs to be conserved for future citizens of Dehradun. One such region is the area of Rajpur.

Even today, environmentally speaking, the settlement of Rajpur is significant to the city of Dehradun because of the expanse of forests and green belt in the area. The Rajpur forests serve as the origin and natural aquifer of two important rivers that supply 90% of the water for Dehradun, the Rispana and the Bindal which themselves are fast drying up downstream in the Dehradun city due to rampant encroachment for illegal house and shanty constructions. The delicate balance between Nature and human habitation has been disturbed leading to problems such as drying up of natural water reservoirs, increasing temperatures and pressures on already marginalized populations to earn a livelihood.

The purpose of the Festival is to celebrate the natural biodiversity of Rajpur, create awareness among the Dehradun citizens and visitors on the need to conserve the unique natural resources before it vanishes. We hope that through the festival dialogues will be generated to throw light on the significance and vulnerability of the natural resources of Rajpur, and focus on the need to prioritize environmental concerns along with intelligent urban planning; and explore ideas that encourage living in harmony with Nature.



ABOUT THE ORGANISERS



Rajpur Community Initiative Society

Initially started as a resident welfare movement in the spirit of neighborliness and community development, the Rajpur Community Initiative Society (RCI) is a registered community development organization with a mandate to engage the community, the administration and the other stakeholders in efforts to conserve, preserve and propagate the natural and cultural heritage of Rajpur. It is working on several local initiatives to stop the encroachment of public spaces in the area, initiate proper waste management in the residential areas, as well as forests, roadside, nallas and khallas in the area and also on the heritage conservation of old structures of historical significance in the region.

In November 2014, RCI was instrumental in putting up the first Rajpur Nature Festival in collaboration with the Ecotourism wing of the Dept. of Forests Uttarakhand. The Festival was a huge success, generating footfalls to the tune of almost 1000 people, and offered a range of first of its kind guided walking tours, Heritage Trails, Bird and Butterfly watching trails curated by subject experts. It was covered in all major newspapers of Dehradun. Since Feb 2015, RCI has been supporting a waste management project in Rajpur area in collaboration with Waste Warriors Dehradun. More information can be accessed

from: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rajpur-Community/136916729827063?sk=timeline&ref=page_internal



CMS VATAVARAN - International Environment & Wildlife Film Festival and Forum

CMS VATAVARAN is India's only International Film Festival. A pioneering international festival of environment and wildlife films, it was initiated for encouraging environment films and forums that result in perception, practice and policy change. Today, CMS VATAVARAN festival has become one of the most prestigious film festivals across the globe and has successfully positioned India as a vibrant destination for environment and wildlife filmmaking. A survey conducted in early 2011 with filmmakers ranked CMS VATAVARAN amongst the top two environment and wildlife film festivals in the world.

CMS VATAVARAN aims to:

- Encourage environment films and forums that result in perception, practice and policy change.
- Enhance understanding of the natural world and its conservation.
- Stimulate production of high-quality films on wildlife, nature and environment.
- Nurture a new generation of alternate filmmakers to widen public dialogue and debate.
- Increase space for environmental issues in the mass media
- Strengthen collaboration between individuals, government, corporate, scientific and academic institutions on environment, conservation and sustainability issues. For more information visit to www.cmsvatavaran.org

FESTIVAL PROGRAMMES

Film Screenings

Date: April 10 – 15, 2015 (Friday – Wednesday)

Venues: Shahenshai Inter College and The Tibetan Homes School

1. My Purple sunbird | 00:06:05 | Sunil Raj

2. Reviving Faith | 00:56:36 | Rajiv Mehrotra
3. Tillu | 00:07:45 | Arvind Pandey
4. At Melting Point | Bahar Dutt | 00:20:33
5. Living with Change -voices from Ladakh | 00:19:00 | WWF India
6. Temples in the Clouds | 00:56:39 | Iqbal Malhotra
7. The Agony of the Ganges | 00:52:19 | Iqbal Malhotra
8. Zor Laga ke Haiya | 01:56:56 | Girish Girija Joshi
9. Chhoti si kahani Ababeel ki | 00:17:12 | Anil Yadav
10. Amongst Tigers and Elephants | 00:25:05 | Naresh Bedi
11. Pushed to Kill | 00:22:30 | Jay Mazoomdaar
12. A Garden Dream | 00:03:33 | B Raja Sekhar
13. Kali Bein (the Black River) | 01:08:00 | Surendra Manan
14. Chiv chiv chiv chiv | 00:04:36 | Raj Vasant Shinge
15. Rajaji-A Forest by the Ganges | 00:28:40 | Praveen Singh
16. Kabaad se Jugaad | 00:27:54 | Divyanshu Dobriyal
17. Chasing Water | 00:18:19 | Pete McBride
18. Greeny the Great | 00:06:00 | Dhananjay Bhopale
19. Just Wheels | 00:30:00 | Ashok Mundkur
20. Garbage Island/ Lost People | 00:09:20 | Gourav Ghosh
21. Bunty's Tree | 00:06:12 | Jasraj Singh Bhatti

Day 01: April 16, 2015 (Thursday)	
Time	Screenings/ Programmes
09:15 am - 10:35 am	Pushed to Kill English 00:22:30 Jay Mazoomdaar The Asiatic Lion - On a Roll Call English 00:25:30 Praveen Singh Project Tiger ensuring Survival English and Hindi 00:33:44 Naresh Bedi
10:35 - 11:00 am	Tea Break
11:00 am - 11:45 am	On The Right Track English 00:16:52 Rita Banerji Rajaji A Forest by the Ganges English 00:28:40 Praveen Singh
11:45 am - 01:00 pm	Symposium on Man Animal Conflict Panelists: Mr Sanjay Sondhi; Ms Sujata Paul Maliah; Mr Satish Paul, Mr Suniti Bhushan Datta
01:00 pm - 02:00 pm	Lunch Break
2:15 pm - 3:00 pm	Himalayan Voices Hindi and Local Language 00:14:51 Gurmeet Sapal Amongst Tigers and Elephants (Wild Adventures - Ballooning with Bedi Brothers) Hindi 00:25:05 Naresh Bedi A Garden Dream Non Verbal 00:03:33 B Raja Sekhar
03:15 pm - 04:40pm	Ladakh 's Artificial Glaciers English 00:18:13 Rajendra Srivathsa Kondapalli Foresting Life Hindi and Assamese 01:08: 55 Aarti Shrivastava
05:00 pm - 06:00 pm	Reviving Faith English and Hindi 00:56:39 Rajiv Mehrotra My Purple Sunbird English 00:06:05 Sunil Raj
Day 02: April 17, 2015 (Friday)	
09:15 am - 10:30 am	At Melting Point English 00:20:30 Bahar Dutt The Agony of the Ganges English 00:52:19 Iqbal Malhotra
10:30 am - 10:50 am	Tea Break
10:50 am - 12:05 pm	Kali Bein (The Black River) English 01:00:08 Surendra Manan The Miracle Water Village Marathi and Hindi 00:13:19 Rintu Thomas and Susmit Ghosh
12:05 pm - 01:15 pm	Symposium on Rivers Special Focus on Ganga

	Panelists: Mr Abhijay Negi; Mr Nitin Pandey; Mr Ghidiyal or Mr Florence Pandhi (TBC); Dr Kiran Negi (HESCO)
01:15 pm – 02:00 pm	Lunch Break
02:10 pm – 03:00 pm	Van Gujjar Divyanshu Dobriyal (Local Filmmaker) Kosi- Injustice with Millions of Villagers and Revolt by Kosi River Hindi 00:27:05 Vishaal Niyanand
03:10 pm to 04:45 pm	Saving the Ganga English 00:52:14 Bahar Dutt Faith Revisited English 00:25:10 Ishani K Dutta
05:00 pm – 06:00 pm	Greeny the Great Non Verbal 00:06:00 Dhananjay Bhopale Water Warriors English 00:54:24 Nutan Manmohan Do You? Non Verbal 00:00:58 Sanyog S Mohite Tillu Hindi 00:07:45 Arvind Pandey
Day 03: April 18, 2015 (Saturday)	
09:15 am - 10:30 am	Just Wheels English 00:30:00 Faizan Jawed and Ashok Mundkur Green Warriors of Chandi Fortress English, Hindi and Punjabi 00:34:26 Dr Gaurav Chhabra Garbage Island /lost People English and Marathi 00:09:20 Amar Sharma
10:30 – 11:00 am	Tea Break
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Leave Nothing but Footprints English and Hindi 00:29:24 Sanjay Barnela Organic Waste Convertor Khushboo Dua (Local Filmmaker) In Their Elements English 00:17:26 Inder Kathuria Bunty's Tree Non Verbal 00:06:12 Jasraj Singh Bhatti
12:05 pm - 01:15 pm	Symposium on Cityscape Environmentally Responsive Urban Planning Panelists: Mr Lokesh Ohri; Ms Manjari Mehta; Ms Anubha Kakroo; Ms Sujata Paul Maliah
01:15 pm – 02:00 pm	Lunch Break
2:00 pm onwards	World Heritage Day Celebrations
02:05 pm	Introductory Talk and Welcome
02:10 pm	Dehradun's Heritage Sites: Threats and opportunities – A presentation by Mr Lokesh Ohri
02:45 pm	Panel Discussion with invitees
04:00 pm	Screening of Short Films of the Dehradun Project on Dehradun
04:15 pm	Screening of the Film RAJPUR
04:30 pm	High Tea