



Finima Nature Park

FINIPARK

NEWSLETTER

vol 4
issue 4
september 2018

A NEWSLETTER FOR NATURE LOVERS



FINPARK

NEWSLETTER

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Issued three times yearly is an official publication of Finima Nature Park.

opinions are those of the writers and not necessarily the organization as a whole

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Finima Nature Park



INTRODUCTION

Another edition of FINPARK news is here again: our knowledge on environment keeps growing as we continue reading up new articles about the environment.

About 12.2% or 11,089,000 hectares of Nigeria is forested. Of this, 2.9% or roughly 326,000 hectares is classified as primary forest, the most diverse form of forest. Nigeria lost an average of 409,700 hectares of forest per year between year 1990 and 2000 the amounts to an average annual deforestation rate of 2.38%. In total between 1990 and 2005, Nigeria lost 35.7% of its forest or around 6,145,000 hectares. Less than 5% of the country's total land area is afforested, even the sparse forest remainders are under threat with land use pressures from agriculture, infrastructure, housing and resource harvesting which are critical drivers of deforestation.



PICTURE BY YB EDOSE

Forest and trees serves as carbon sinks which helps to mitigate the impacts of climate change in and around urban areas, improve the local climate, helping to save energy used for heating by 20 to 50 percent, while strategic placement of trees in urban areas cool the air by up to eight degrees Celsius reducing air conditioning needs by 30%. Trees also help in air filtration and reduction of noise pollution as they shield homes from nearby roads and industrial areas among others.

Well managed forests and trees in and around cities provide habitats, food and protection for many plants and animals and help to maintain and increase biodiversity. Forests in cities and surrounding areas generate tourism, create tens of thousands of jobs and encourage city beautification schemes, building dynamic, energetic and prosperous green economies. Urban green spaces including forests encourage active and healthy lifestyle, improve the cognitive functioning of children, improve mental health, prevent diseases and provide a place for people to socialise.

We must however inculcate the habit of tree planting and protection, forest conservation and nature management in our daily activities.

Visit Finima Nature Park



NIGERIA BIODIVERSITY AND FINIMA NATURE PARK FAUNA

PICTURE BY YUSUF OLAMILEKAN



PICTURE BY AUGUSTINE

Nigeria has some 1417 known species of amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles according to the figures from the World conservation monitoring centre. Of these known species, 1.2% is endemic meaning they exist in no other country and 3.5% are threatened. Finima Nature Park is a natural park in Bonny Island covering an area of approximately 1000 hectares. It was established in 1999 by Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas with the aim of conserving nature and biodiversity in the region and it is being managed by a reputable NGO known as the Nigerian Conservation Foundation.



Finima nature park is home to some wildlife species of high conservation value, a variety of mammals, birds and reptiles including crocodiles, snakes and monitor lizard and more.



FNP



CHILDREN'S DAY



May 27th being marked as children's day nationwide was highly celebrated in the nature park with churches, schools and individuals trooping in to enjoy nature richness, over 900 attendees were recorded on this day.



WED is a UN environment led global event, the largest of our environment celebration each year which takes place on June 5th and marked by thousands of communities worldwide. This day has developed into a global platform for acting on urgent environmental issues, driving change in our consumption habits as well as influencing the local and national policy.

This year's theme "Beat plastic pollution" urges Government, industries, communities and individuals to come together and explore sustainable alternatives to urgently reduce production and excessive use of single use plastics. FNP joined the world to celebrate the highly coveted event by organizing strings of activities to mark the event. The events were basically divided into two segments: PRE-WED and WED

PRE-WED: These activities took place before the day proper and includes: quiz competition, debate, collage art, dance and spelling bee competition.

Winners and the first runner ups for all competitions were informed about the prize and an award presentation which was slated for day proper 5th June, 2018 at the RA Banquet hall and 15 schools were also invited for the walk for nature event which took place on the 2nd June, 2018



WED CELEBRATION: The WED proper was commemorated on 5th June, 2018 with an award and prize giving. In summary a total of 258 pupils with 28 teachers and 156 students with 13 teachers attended the quiz competitions, 52 pupils and 8 teachers attended the spelling bee contest, 52 students and 4 teachers were present for the debate competition while 265 persons were present on the 2nd June, 2018 for the nature walk and 237 attended the 5th June, 2018 Prize and award day for the WED celebration to mark the end of the World Environment Day.



CONSERVATION CLUB ACTIVITIES



IN THIS ISSUE

Schools during environmental education and conservation club activities.



BIRD WATCHING

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Finima Nature Park



Inside the Issue

The Bird watching for the Second Quarter of the year was organized as part of the recreational and educational activity of the Park with the core essence of Bird Identification,

species abundance and migration. A bird club tagged “Finima Nature Park Bird Club” was formed on that day, though the heavy rainfall

was a constraint that limited the attendees to thirteen people (Excluding the FNP staff) only. The participants were educated on the required tools for Bird Watching and how to operate a Binocular.





ANNUAL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



The annual holiday program was organized at the park for children, teenagers and youths. Though the heavy rainfall was an impediment to some schools without school bus, a total of 102 persons participated in the skill acquisition program which featured soap making, Zobo drink making, photography and Digital skills. The participants commended the officials for their good work in organizing such an educational and capacity building program.



OZONE DAY COMMEMORATION



The world ozone day was commemorated on 16th day of September with community sensitization using flyers and use of educational letter. The educational materials were sent to 20 religious houses (churches and mosque) which was read out to the congregation to educate them on the significant of the ozone layer.



— ASOEGWU CHISOM

UP NEXT!!!

- **WORLD HABITAT DAY OCTOBER**
- **SCHOOL TREE PLANTING EXERCISE OCTOBER**
- **BIRD WATCH NOVEMBER**
- **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

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