

Photo of the Month



Coypu
(*Myocastor coypus*)

The coypu is a large, herbivorous, semi-aquatic rodent that inhabits swamps, marshes, and river corridors, where it lives in groups in extensive burrow networks. Native to South America, it has been introduced worldwide and is often considered a pest due to its burrowing and feeding habits. It was introduced in Jordan in 1940 under a British Mandate that sought to encourage harvest and trade of its fur.

Did You Know?

Did you know that it takes about 12,000 liters of water to produce just one kilogram of beef? A kilo of chicken requires about 3,000 liters.



BioBit



Sand Fox
(*Vulpes rueppelli*)

One of the most elusive members of the Vulpes genus. The Sand Fox is slightly smaller, more yellowish in color and has larger ears than the similar Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*).

This primarily nocturnal desert inhabitant feeds on small animals such as arthropods and rodents as well as vegetation. The status of this elegant and magnificent creature remains uncertain in many parts of its range.

Go Greener!

Go vegetarian at least once per week. Compared to veggies, meat production requires vast amounts of water, energy and environmental resources.



World Environmental News

World Cup Goes Green

One of the largest and greatest events on the planet has officially gone green. The 2010 FIFA World Cup is using its global platform to raise environmental awareness and promote green tourism and carbon-emission reduction throughout host country South Africa.

[Read more](#)



Local Environmental News

the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED)

On Sunday 27 June the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) held an event to launch their recent report "Impact of Climate Change on Arab Countries." HRH Prince Hamzah gave the opening address, followed by the presentation of the report by AFED Secretary General Najib Saab. The report, published in 2009, highlights the many ways in which climate change is likely to affect the Middle East region and calls for various measures to counter the effects. Topics addressed range from tourism to food supply and human health.

[Learn more](#)

[Watch the Movie](#)

[AFED report: Impact of Climate Change on Arab Countries](#)



RSCN News

RSCN Launches Member's Committee

Continuing its dedication to member involvement and grass-roots leadership, RSCN launched the Member's Committee in November of 2009. The 8-member committee aims to raise environmental awareness, increase RSCN membership, and support the conservation of Jordan's natural resources.

[Read more](#)



The House of Calligraphy and the Biscuit House

With the recent opening of the House of Calligraphy and The Biscuit House, Ajloun Forest Reserve is now home to three interesting workshops, all open for visits and tours.

The House of Calligraphy is unique among RSCN's workshops. Located in Rasun village, the goal of this new facility is to educate about Arabic and Islamic culture and promote inter-cultural dialogue. The workshop employs three local women to create unique, customizable gifts and teach visitors about the beautiful Arabic language and calligraphy. Guests can take the first steps towards learning Arabic by learning to write some words, including their names. There is also a silk screening workshop, where the women prepare products for the Nature Shop. In addition, customized gifts like t-shirts and mugs can be designed and printed.

Take Action

Revolutionize your Driving Efficiency

Tired of emptying your wallet at the gas pump? Revolutionize the way you drive and get the most out of every liter by following these interactive suggestions to optimize your fuel efficiency offered by Volkswagen.

[Learn how](#)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RSCN'S 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

RSCN held its Annual General Assembly Meeting on June 9th in the Royal Culture Center. The meeting serves as a forum for all members to review the accomplishments, projects and progress made over the previous year. This year's meeting had much to celebrate, including the following highlights from 2009's achievements:

- Saw Fenyan Ecolodge named as one of National Geographic Adventure magazine's "World's Top 50 Ecolodges".
- Joined His Majesty King Abdullah as he laid the cornerstone for the Royal Institute for the Conservation of Nature to be built near the Ajloun Forest Reserve.
- Obtained approval for a new nature reserve to be established in the Yarmouk region in 2010.
- Launched a web-based national biodiversity database for all of Jordan's flora and fauna, the first website of its kind in the region.
- Launched the regional Arab Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement to support adherence to national and international environmental laws.
- Recorded 167,347 visitors to RSCN reserves and facilities, a 35% increase over 2008.

[You can download the full report here](#)

follow RSCN on



Join RSCN's Team.
Check our careers page

