

▶ Photo of the Month



Long-eared Hedgehog
(*Hemiechinus auritus*)

This is the smallest hedgehog species in Jordan. It can tolerate extreme arid conditions and can hibernate for as long as 40 days in its burrow. It feeds on various insects, centipedes, and land snails. This species can dig burrows or can seek refuge in depressions under stones.

▶ Did You Know?



Did you know that RSCN participated in Toyota's environmental week, which raised awareness about the benefits of hybrid cars?

▶ BioBit



Stone Marten
(*Martes foina*)

A rare animal mostly associated with fertile and wooded parts of the Mediterranean ecozone in the northern parts of Jordan. Its population is declining due to deforestation as well as its continuous killing as it is considered a destructive animal that attacks chickens. Its impressive climbing and jumping abilities assist it to hide quickly. It has been recorded in Dibeen and Ajloun as well as recently in Yarmouk Protected Area.

Go Greener!

Check the air pressure in your vehicle's tires. Properly inflated tires let you drive farther on less fuel, thereby reducing carbon emissions and saving you money at the pump!



International Environmental News

Can Dolphins Help Cure Diabetes?

Sufferers of diabetes might get some relief from an unlikely source: dolphins. New research shows that dolphins exhibit insulin resistance similar to humans with type 2 diabetes. But, unlike humans, dolphins can turn their resistance off and avoid its harmful effects.

[Read more](#) ▶



RSCN News

Feynan Included in Green Travel List

The UK's Guardian online newspaper featured the Feynan Ecolodge in the Dana Nature Reserve in its "Green Travel List" for 2010. The article highlighted the unique cultural experience of staying at Feynan and praised its "magical" atmosphere and "jaw-dropping" scenery.

[Read the article](#) ▶

theguardian



Recycling Project Launched in Azraq

The Paper Recycling Workshop Project was officially launched in February in the Azraq Wetland Reserve. The project, funded by the Czech Republic, will reduce paper waste while providing local jobs and producing a variety of goods made from recycled materials.

[Learn more](#) ▶



New Partnership with Cups and Kilos

RSCN is proud to announce a new partnership with Jordanian coffee shop company Cups and Kilos. This March, Cups and Kilos will launch a new line of herbal drinks featuring natural teas made in RSCN's nature reserves. The initiative supports ongoing RSCN efforts to conserve nature while providing high-quality natural products and creating jobs in local communities. The new line of teas will be available at all Cups and Kilos locations.



Local Environmental News

Aqaba Beaches Reopen Following Oil Spill Cleanup

Aqaba beaches reopened following a brief closure due to a minor oil spill near the coast. The Royal Marine Conservation Society (JREDS) responded to the spill immediately and worked around the clock to contain and remove the oil from the waters of the Red Sea.

[Learn more](#) ▶

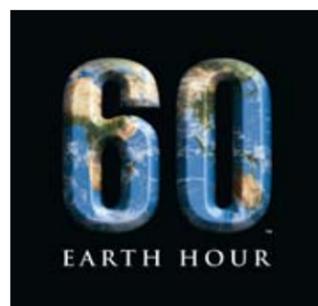


Take Action

Earth Hour 2010

Support a brighter future by joining the world in an hour of darkness. This March, hundreds of millions across the globe will shut off their lights to take a stand against global climate change. Earth Hour 2010 will take place on Saturday, March 27th from 8:30pm to 9:30pm local time.

[Learn more](#) ▶



MEMBER PROFILE
ABEER HISHAM



Member Abeer Hisham won last year's Environmental Reporting Award, an RSCN-sponsored competition to promote excellence in environmental reporting. The following is a summary from an article she wrote about the experience*:

"And this year's Environmental Reporting Award, a trip to the Kia Factory in South Korea, presented for her investigative inquiry into forest fragmentation in Jerash and Ajloun, goes to... Abeer Hisham!" As I heard my name announced, I was filled with excitement and immediately began preparing for the adventure ahead of me.

After a grueling series of international flights, I arrived in South Korea to find a Kia Motors representative waiting for my arrival. I joined him in his silver 2009 Kia Sorento and fought fatigue from the journey as we completed the two-hour drive to my hotel in the capital city of Seoul.

The following morning I visited the Kia Motors manufacturing plant, an impressive facility characterized by spaciousness, cleanliness, and tranquil landscaping. The plant also had recreation and entertainment rooms for employees to promote worker satisfaction and stimulate creativity. It seemed to be working, as one employee confessed to me, "this plant is like home to me." Inside the facility I was given a special sneak peak of an environmentally-friendly car to be released in 2011; a car that, according to one Kia official, will be "a revolution in green technology."

The trip passed pleasantly and quickly, filled with gracious hosts and stimulating conversation of a greener future, and I returned to Jordan with a sense of pride and gratitude of having had this opportunity to visit the front lines of green technology development.