

Garbage menace haunts residents

'Private plots' being used to throw trash



Household waste being thrown in private plots near Um Al Hassam.

● **The authorities should prohibit dumping waste on private property, experts suggest.**

Zahra Ayaz

TDT | Manama

Many private plots are being fast turned into illegal landfills across many areas within Manama, creating a health hazard for the locals as household waste forms a mountain in their proximity.

The rising population bears the blame for the current scenario, which is also challenging for policymakers.

With limited land available for waste disposal, managing all the waste generated scientifically has also become a highly challenging task for policymakers and municipalities.

Experts point out that the pressure is increasing on GCC

countries to reduce waste and become more sustainable with a growing emphasis on a circular economy.

In this scenario, Waste and Recycling Middle East takes a deep look at the waste management practices in Bahrain.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Kai Mieting, 'wastrepneur' and environment advocate, said, "Illegal waste dumping is a general issue worldwide, and usually the culprits are not the residents.

"They will not dump trash near their homes as they like to

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In Germany, there are waste police who are investigating illegally disposed waste. Once the person is caught, a fine and rectification or proper disposal are enforced. That way people will learn from their mistakes and this can be implemented in Bahrain as well, as it will create new jobs and awareness within the local society

KAI MIETING, 'WASTREPNEUR' AND ENVIRONMENT ADVOCATE

keep their area and neighbourhood clean. The blame is on people who throw trash carelessly on private plots far away from their homes.

"In Germany, there are waste police who investigate illegally disposed waste. Once they catch a person, cops will enforce a fine and rectification for proper disposal.

"This helps people learn from their mistakes, and this can be implemented in Bahrain as well, as it will create new jobs and awareness within the local society." Mr. Kai also highlighted another

issue: the impact on health and the environment through illegal dumping, as the emissions and smell could cause serious harm to humans, animals and nature.

"Even as the waste collection here is free, there shall be incentives to reduce waste, especially the toxic and dangerous items.

"I suggest charging the producer for collecting waste, as the cost will make people more mindful of the waste production.

"Unfortunately, money is a key which makes humans change in both ways.

"It is everyone's responsibility to care for our environment, nature, surrounding and living space. No one of those illegal dumpers would dump it in their own living space, but elsewhere it seems acceptable."

Rashid Muhammad, a security guard, revealed to The Daily Tribune, "I observe many local residents going from their apartments and putting trash in empty spots, and even though the garbage bin is nearby, some people are lazy to walk there."



The Secretariat-General of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sport (SCYS) held a ceremony marking Bahraini Women's Day. Patronised by the SCYS Secretary-General, Ayman bin Tawfiq Al-Moayyed, the ceremony was attended by Minister of Youth Affairs, Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, and Acting SCYS Assistant Secretary-General, Marwan Fuad Kamal.



The Public Security Officers Club announced renewing its accreditation as the first government health-reinforcing organisation for the second year in a row. Brigadier Adel Abdullah Ameen, the Assistant Undersecretary for Human Resources and administrative member of the Club, thanked Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, for his support in promoting the club. The certificate was handed over by Health Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health, Dr Mariam Al Hajeri.

Donate to Royal Fund for Fallen Servicemen

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The Royal Fund for Fallen Servicemen invited individuals and companies to make donations and contribute to honouring the martyrs of duty.

The fund will provide the martyr's flower (Razji) at the

points of sale across Bahrain. Details of the points of sale are available on the fund's website <https://www.rffs.bh>.

The Royal Fund for Fallen Servicemen was established to provide support to all martyrs' families and ensure them a decent life and a promising future.

Public urged to take newly developed Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine

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Public Health Director Dr Najat Abul Fateh yesterday urged the public to take the newly developed Pfizer-BioNTech as a booster dose to prevent Covid-19 and new mutants, including Omicron.

The new Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is available for all citizens and residents in health centres. She urged people to take the booster dose to protect themselves and those around them, especially those

aged 12 years and above. Starting Sunday all COVID-19-related testing and vaccination will be administered at primary healthcare centres without prior registration, said the National Medical Taskforce for Combating COVID-19.

The National Health Regulatory Authority has approved the emergency use of the developed Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine against Covid-19 and new variants. The vaccine is available as a booster dose for 12 years and above.



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) yesterday took legal action against several people in the Capital Governorate for violating Labour and Residency laws. The actions followed an inspection campaign held in cooperation with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) of the Ministry of Interior and the Capital Governorate Police Directorate. LMRA called on the public to report violations either through LMRA's website www.lmra.bh or by calling the authority's call centre on 17506055.



Dr Lulwa Rashed Showaiter, Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Primary Health Care Centres, yesterday expressed pride in Bahrain's women's achievements during a celebration organised by the Committee for equal opportunities, marking Bahraini Women's Day. Minister of Health, Dr Jalila bint Al-Sayed Jawad, Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities Committee, Dr Huda Al-Ibrahim, members of the Board of Trustees of the primary health care centres and health centre officials were present.