



Your garden waste  
improves the earth

BIO  
KOL

# BIO KOOL

Biochar is produced from the garden waste of the residents of Stockholm. Biochar is a soil conditioner in several ways. It helps trees and other plants to flourish while contributing to the mitigation of climate change.

# Biochar makes the city and the world greener

There is a seemingly anonymous little building in Högdalen that is something of a global sensation. Behind its walls hides a unique biochar facility that has gained both international attention and an award for its innovation. Stockholm Biochar Project is the result of a prestigious innovation competition, the Mayors Challenge, in which Stockholm was one of five winners in competition against 155 other cities.

The city's winning contribution is a modern version of an ancient idea. It is an urban charcoal kiln that creates a sustainable ecocycle when twigs and branches are charred. Both biochar and climate-positive heat that can be used in the city's district heating network can be recovered from Stockholmers' garden waste. The biochar is used in gardens, city parks and plant beds. It helps trees and plant beds to flourish while contributing to the mitigation of climate change by binding the carbon in the ground instead of dispersing it into the air as carbon dioxide. In other words, biochar is a fantastic soil conditioner that contributes to making the city greener in several ways.

# Garden waste in Stockholm be

Stockholmers deposit their garden waste such as twigs, branches or Christmas trees.

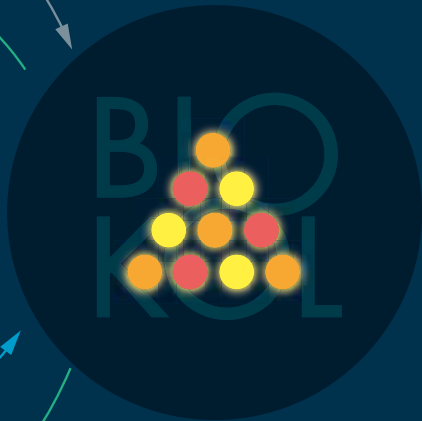
The biochar helps trees and other plants to flourish while contributing to the mitigation of climate change. The carbon is bound in the ground instead of escaping into the air as carbon dioxide.

The energy is used in the city's district heating network. The goal is to heat 400 apartments per year.

The biochar is mixed with the soil and used as a soil conditioner in Stockholmers' pot plants and gardens, as well as the city's parks and plant beds.



# becomes part of the ecocycle



The biochar facility is a modern charcoal kiln. When twigs and branches are charred, biochar and climate-positive heat are produced.

It is the collected garden waste of Stockholmers that is used to create biochar in this modern charcoal kiln. During the production process, climate-positive heat is also produced, providing the residents of Stockholm with heat through the district heating network.

Biochar has fantastic properties as a soil conditioner. It helps the gardens and plant beds of Stockholm to flourish while also contributing to the mitigation of climate change by locking carbon into the ground for thousands of years into the future.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT

Approximately 4 kg of garden waste  
produces 1 kg of biochar.

Both biochar and renewable energy are extracted  
from each kg of garden waste.

The heat from the facility in Högdalen is enough to heat  
80 apartments per year. The goal is to build more facilities  
that combined will help to heat 400 apartments per year.

The biochar from the facility in Högdalen compensates  
for the carbon dioxide emissions from 700 cars per year.

The goal is to build more facilities that  
combined will compensate for 3,500 cars.

The biochar project is an environmental initiative involving all of Stockholm.

It is based on a shared commitment from the city and all of us who live here.

Together we can help Stockholm become the world's most sustainable city. Would you like to know more about the biochar initiative or how you can use biochar in your garden?

Read more about [svoa.se/en/biochar](https://svoa.se/en/biochar)



Together we can achieve  
the world's most sustainable city  
[svoa.se/en/biochar](http://svoa.se/en/biochar)

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Stockholm Biochar Project is one of five winners of Bloomberg Philanthropies' 2014 Mayors Challenge. The Mayors Challenge is an ideas competition that encourages cities to generate bold new ideas that solve urban challenges and improve city life – and have the potential to spread.

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