

Formation of charcoal briquettes from pine needles (Jan. 2019)

Pine needles (leaves) pile up in adjoining forest of JUIT and also other areas of H.P. At times, the needles cause forest fire due to presence of resins in them.

The Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Technologies for Rural Development is working on managing this waste. The pine needles were converted to charcoal briquettes and then used in place of coal.

This technology will be promoted in the villages of HP to manage the pine needles waste. This will also generate a renewable source of energy and livelihood avenues for villagers and self help groups.

This is a low-cost technology converting low bulk density biomass (pine needles in our case) into high density briquettes. We used a kiln and a mould.

