**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

“Don’t be a problem, be the solution.” Upon entering premises of Barangay Camp Allen, several slogans are seen that are catchy to the eyes. There are several activities that are being implemented in Barangay Camp Allen to preserve the barangay’s fresh and clean surrounding.

Garbage collection is scheduled every Monday at exactly 5 o’clock in the morning until 12 noon only. Before the garbage collector dispose the garbage. Barangay Camp Allen strictly follows Republic act of 9003 (Proper waste management and segregation) wherein the residents are obligatory to segregate their wastes. Garbage collectors don’t collect garbage that are not well segregated, wherein this activity involves the residents of the community to help preserve mother earth. *“No segregation, no collection”* is strictly imposed. The community practices the 3Rs’s (Reuse, Reduce, Recycle) in managing their garbage. The barangay officials of this community strictly impose discipline regarding the protection of the environment. Sari-Sari stores and cafeterias have disposal garbage bags within their surroundings to avoid customers littering. Smoking in public places inside the premise of the barangay is also prohibited, in order to maintain the fresh air pollution of the barangay. Urinating in public areas, especially on the corners of the community is also prohibited.

Regarding the disposal of garbage, their main problem is the staging area wherein they don’t have a proper place in disposing the garbage for the whole barangay.

Eventually, a solution was proposed which is the Compost pit. They will gather all the biodegradable wastes of the barangay and stock it for 1 and a half years. Then the waste that was accumulated and decomposed will be used to fertilize the soil for their so-called activity “gardening”. The decomposed wastes contribute a lot in helping the plants grow and in order to preserve the clean surrounding of the entire barangay. To help contribute to the community of barangay Camp Allen, some of the students who are residing in the community and are taking NSTP proposed a project to the barangay to have a community garden wherein they can plant and landscape the soil to make their barangay green.

Every last Saturday of the month, barangay Camp Allen has an cleaning activity which they call “*Clean up drive”* where in barangay officials and volunteers work hands together to clean the community’s surrounding and as well maintain their barangay community garden. According to the punong barangay, “if ever there is a dead tree we are going to request for the DENR to remove the tree and in replace we are going to plant 30 any fruit bearing trees or plants once a year” said by punong barangay Maribel A. Estacion. Regarding to health and sanitation, barangay Camp Allen conducted an encouragement to the constituents to have backyard gardens producing organic fruits and vegetables, practicing a healthy lifestyle. They also educate constituents on the awareness of dengue and other diseases such as tuberculosis that can be obtained from the environment’s cleanliness.

Every year, barangay Camp Allen conduct tree planting involving barangay council and some volunteers so that more trees to absorb water and release oxygen to breath in. Barangay Camp Allen conducts cleaning of clog canals, gardening, search and destroying the breeding sites of mosquito and more in order to maintain the beauty of the barangay’s surrounding. Hanging of tarpaulins and posting of bills in waiting sheds and in public areas are also prohibited in the premise of barangay Camp Allen because, there is a designated area for tarpaulins and bills.

Aside from this, one of the rules of Camp Allen that is strictly imposed was the “*No littering*” policy. Illegal dumping of garbage to any areas are also part of the strict rules of the barangay, when caught, the person will be penalized by the barangay according to the penalties imposed to the act he/she violated.

Residents also follow the “*TAPAT KO, LINIS KO*” policy wherein the residents are obliged to clean their own backyards. Since the barangay is equipped with CCTV’s, the higher authorities of the barangay can monitor who is not strictly following the rules and regulations inside the barangay. Barangay Camp Allen believes to the saying “*CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS*”.