

PH Times

CLEAN IT FORWARD ➤ for a better SG



New Year Message from PHC Chairman

On behalf of the Public Hygiene Council, I would like to wish everyone a happy 2024! I also like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support and commitment to keep Singapore clean.

2023 had been a significant year for the PHC. We fostered longstanding partnerships with community and industry partners through our Quarterly SG Clean Day activations. We even set new entries in the Singapore Book of Records for the SG Clean Day Largest Clean-Up, that sparked conversations among residents on what it means to be a truly clean city. We were also inspired by the creativity shown in the entries for the Bulky Waste to Wonder Competition. The five winning pieces were sold at an auction and raised close to \$5,000 for Society of Physically Disabled (SPD).

On a personal note, 2023 is an especially noteworthy year for me as I have been entrusted to take on the chairmanship of the Council. I hope to make new waves and continue the good work of creating strong and positive impact.

Andrew Khng
Chairman,
Public Hygiene Council (PHC)



Public Cleanliness Symposium 2023, Sultanate of Oman

The Quarter's Top Scoop

The Public Hygiene Council (PHC) was invited by Oman Environment Authority (OEA) Chairman, Dr Abdullah Bin Ali Al Amri to share Singapore's public cleanliness efforts at the Public Cleanliness Symposium held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

The Symposium was held in support of the launch of Oman's public hygiene campaign which aims to create awareness about the need to keep city surroundings clean and tidy.



Group photo of participants in the Public Cleanliness Symposium held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.



Ms Gloria Tan, PHC Executive Director delivered a presentation on Singapore's Cleanliness Journey.



Ms Gloria Tan, PHC Executive Director presenting a set of Keep Singapore Clean Mascot to His Excellency, Dr. Abdullah bin Ali Al-Amri, Chairman of Environment Authority, Oman



Ms Gloria Tan, PHC Executive Director, delivered a presentation on Singapore's Cleanliness Journey and participated in a panel discussion with Mr Mohammed Abu Sulaiman, UNICEF Middle East and South Africa Regional Office, Dr. Marwa Ali Talib AL Hinai, Assistant Professor, Marketing Department, Sultan Qaboos University and Dr. Saif Ali Al Hajri, CEO of Qatar CSR National Program and the founder of Friends of Environment Centre (FEC) together with Moderator, Mr Khalid Al Salami, Head of Committee Section, Under-Secretary office, Ministry of Information. She shared how the PHC complements the government's efforts to educate Singaporean on the collective responsibility in keeping public spaces clean and reinforce their sense of ownership for maintaining cleanliness in public places

The PHC launched Keep Clean, Singapore! (KCS) campaign annually to raise awareness on the problem of littering and to nudge fellow Singapore residents to take collective responsibility to uphold higher standards of hygiene and cleanliness in their everyday lives. The PHC also work closely with 3P partners (People, Public and Private organisations) on the adoption of socially responsible behaviours to raise the standards of public hygiene and safeguard public health while there are regulations in place.

She concluded that keeping Singapore clean is a work-in-progress and the positive habit of cleaning up after ourselves at public spaces need to be internalised.



Ms Gloria Tan, PHC Executive Director receiving token of appreciation from His Excellency, Hilal Bin Said Al Hajri, Governor of Al Dakilya.

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



#SGCleanDay Bukit Canberra

Thank you for keeping
Singapore clean!



Sport SG joins quarterly **SG Clean Day (Jul)**

On 30 July 2023, Sport Singapore publicly announced their participation in the quarterly SG Clean Day at 4 Sport Festival sites and 19 Pesta Sukan Competition sites, where they ceased sweeping at all public spaces within the ActiveSG sport centres.

As a gesture of appreciation for their cleaners, Sport Singapore distributed over 200 Old Chang Kee vouchers, expressing gratitude for their ongoing efforts in maintaining the cleanliness of the Sport Centres.

With the strong support and collaborative efforts of various partners, Sport Singapore is dedicated to fostering a culture of personal ownership and responsibility among all Singapore residents. This includes promoting proper trash disposal, maintaining cleanliness of public toilets, and returning trays as a daily norm.

Through "Cleaning it forward," Sport Singapore believes that they not only can enhance the quality of life for everyone, but also leave behind a better Singapore for future generations.



Sport
SINGAPORE

ActiveSG



Quarterly SG Clean Day

CleanPod Opening @ Dakota Breeze

PHC Chairman Andrew Khng, together with Mr Lim Biow Chuan, Grassroots Advisor for Mountbatten and Coordinating Chairman for PAP Town Councils who officiated the launch of Dakota Breeze CleanPod in support of the quarterly SG Clean Day on 30th July alongside PHC's youth volunteers who participated in the community Plogathon.

The SG Clean Day, a quarterly event organized by the PHC to promote cleanliness and hygiene, aims to encourage individuals, businesses, and communities to take action in keeping Singapore clean.

During the quarterly SG Clean Day on Sunday, 30 July 2023, Sport Singapore joined PHC as a new partner, with all ActiveSG centres in Singapore ceasing to sweep public areas from 6am to 12midnight. They also showed appreciation to their cleaners on this day for their efforts in maintaining cleanliness in Singapore.

On the same day, Mr. Lim Biow Chuan, Grassroots Advisor for Mountbatten and Coordinating Chairman for PAP Town Councils, and Mr. Andrew Khng, PHC Chairman, along with the residents of Dakota Breeze, launched the 19th CleanPod in Singapore. This initiative allows residents to access shared tools for their clean-ups in their residential estates, particularly on each quarterly SG Clean Day.

Additionally, Ms. Samantha Thian, PHC's Youth Action Group (YAG) Chairperson, led a community Plogathon involving over 100 youths and residents who walked and jogged around the Dakota Breeze Residents' Network estate while picking up litter. Participants were encouraged to download the Stridy app to log their clean-ups on SG Clean Day and make their Clean It Forward pledge. Over 200kg of litter were collected by the youths and residents as they pledged to #CleanItForward for a better SG.



Students and youth volunteers from Chung Cheng High School (Main) taking part in SG Clean Day Clean It Forward Plogathon litter picking activity held alongside the official opening of the Dakota Breeze CleanPod on Sunday, 30th July 2023.



PHC Chairman Andrew Khng making the final touchpoint for the CleanPod.





Anti-Littering Outreach

GetActive!
Singapore Heartland Festival 2023

Toa Payoh Sport Centre



Volunteers from Kindred Community and ASEZ joined PHC to recognise and thank members of the public who displayed good civic behaviour and even briefly joined by Grassroots Advisor for Radin Mas Mr Melvin Yong who gamely played his part to pledge to keep Singapore clean.

In Singapore, we are fortunate to enjoy a relatively clean and hygienic environment. To mark Singapore's 58th National Day, the PHC collaborated with volunteers from Kindred Community and ASEZ to encourage the public who attended the Toa Payoh National Day Heartland Festival to maintain the cleanliness of our beloved country.

Throughout the day, from the Carnival's opening till the conclusion of the Heartland Festival, the PHC's KeepSGClean volunteers actively engaged and reminded the public to clean up after themselves, while also picking up any litter they encountered.

Additionally, residents were also engaged through an educational anti-littering game station called 'Bin It Right'. Residents were also encouraged to make a Clean It Forward pledge on the Stridy app, reinforcing the message to keep Singapore clean.

Let's give a big salute to commend the efforts of our #KeepSGClean volunteers! Thank you for doing your part for Singapore!



Toa Payoh residents trying out the PHC's Bin It Right game booth at the Toa Payoh National Day Heartland Festival from 5-6 August 2023



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

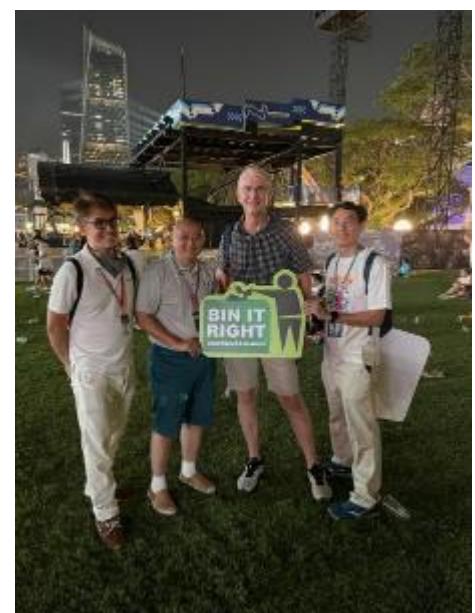


Mass events tend to generate more waste due to the high volume of attendees, the PHC partnered with the F1 event organizer and mobilised volunteers from our R.I.S.E. Champions Network, the Kindred Community, to interact with F1 patrons throughout the race weekend, and encouraged them to maintain the cleanliness of public spaces.

Over the course of the 3-day event, 40 volunteers actively engaged with F1 patrons, reminding them to dispose of their litter properly. The patrons responded positively, and the F1 Event Organizing team were positive that this was a successful start to their collaboration with the PHC. They look forward to the return of our volunteers for the 2024 F1 Singapore Grand Prix, scheduled from 20th to 22nd September 2024.

Litter-Free Outreach @ the Singapore Grand Prix 2023

Driving meaningful changes require collective efforts and every action counts.



PHC Chairman Mr Andrew Khng, together with Kindred Community Chairman, Mr Suen Chun Hui were joined by F1 patrons who expressed appreciation to our volunteers for spending time to ensure that the surrounding event spaces were kept clean.



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Together for the Ocean

#EUBeachCleanUp 2023



#EUBeachCleanup 2023 led by the European Union Delegation to Singapore

On Saturday, 16 September 2023 at Tiny Beach, Singapore, Ms Iwona Piórko, European Union Ambassador to Singapore kick-started the #EUBeachCleanup 2023 together with fellow Ambassadors from the diplomatic community and volunteers and environment champions from Singapore and Europe.

On that morning, over 60 participants from Europe and Singapore joined forces to do a massive cleanup at #EUBeachCleanup 2023 in Singapore. The event was organised by the European Union (EU) Delegation to Singapore, in partnership with Seven Clean Seas.

Cleaning Tiny Beach in the East Coast, participants collected more than 100 large bags – a whole construction skip full – of marine litter. This included ropes, oil canisters, Styrofoam, dozens of flip flops, hundreds of cups and plastic bottles.

In attendance: Ambassadors from Europe and beyond, representatives of Singapore's Public Hygiene Council, families, local entrepreneurs and other nature lovers.

EU Ambassador to Singapore, Ms Iwona Piórko said: "Our oceans are where life started. They generate over half the oxygen we breathe. They feed us and help regulate our climate. Yet, our oceans are under threat. Without action, marine waste will outweigh all the fish in our seas by 2050. Each year, ten million metric tonnes of plastics end up in the ocean. And it is only becoming worse. By 2040, it could be as much as 37 million tonnes per year. I am inspired to see the EU Beach Cleanup in Singapore turn into a blue wave of change, thanks to the support of such a diverse crowd - this morning and over the past few years. Our collective efforts demonstrate how every action counts and why we need all hands-on deck in the fight against marine litter."

#EUBeachCleanup 2023 is part of this year's EU Green Diplomacy Weeks, promoting dialogue and cooperation on climate change.



#EUBeachCleanup #SaveOurOcean

Buddy Clean Workshop



The recent Buddy Clean Workshop, which took place at Radin Mas Primary School on 15 November 2023, marked the conclusion of the workshops for the year. During this event, the PHC also visited the school to learn about their sustainability efforts.

In 2023, a total of 14 primary schools and nearly 3,100 Primary 3 and 4 students gained a better understanding of the importance of personal responsibility in maintaining cleanliness in school and public spaces. They also acquired life skills such as active listening and effective communication through hands-on cleaning activities in the classrooms, common corridors, and canteen.

Stay tuned for the Buddy Clean Workshops in 2024, which will include additional content on maintaining clean toilets.



As part of the workshop programme, students from Radin Mas took part in cleaning up the common spaces

Buddy Clean Workshop @ Maha Bodhi School on 24 May 2023



As part of the workshop programme, students from Radin Mas took part in cleaning up the common spaces



Paddle for a Purpose 2023

The annual coastal cleanup and kayaking event, known as Paddle for a Purpose, was organized by the East Coast GRC. On 17 September 2023, over 150 residents and supporters gathered at East Coast Park for a day filled with environmental stewardship and community bonding. The event not only involved cleaning up the coastline but also included an exciting kayaking adventure, making it a memorable and impactful experience for all participants.



Group photo of kayaking participants participating in the Paddle For A Purpose event.



Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat and Mr. Andrew Khng, Chairman of the Public Hygiene Council, participating in beach litter picking.

The Paddle for a Purpose event was graced by the presence of Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Heng Swee Keat and other Members of Parliament from the East Coast GRC, including Mr. Tan Kiat How and Ms. Jessica Tan. Led by the respective MPs, the enthusiastic participants embarked on a meaningful journey to not only enjoy the stunning beach but also actively engage in litter picking both on land and at sea. In less than 2 hours, an impressive 238kg of litter was collected, showcasing the collective efforts and commitment to preserving the coastal ecosystem. The event left everyone feeling fulfilled and delighted to have made a positive impact on the environment.



R.I.S.E.

More than 200 participants gathered for the Paddle For A Purpose 2023 event organized by the Ocean Purpose Project (OPP) on Saturday, 2 December 2023 at Pasir Ris Park, adjacent to OPP's Beach Hub within the park. PHC was in attendance to show support for OPP, a proud member of our R.I.S.E. Champions Network. Minister-of-State in the Prime Minister's Office and MP for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC, Mr. Desmond Tan, also graced the event in the evening as the Guest-of-Honour, where he officiated OPP's launch of their locally developed seaweed-based bioplastic bag as part of Paddle For A Purpose 2023.

PHC supports Paddle for a Purpose 2023 by Ocean Purpose Project



(On the right) Guest-of-Honour Minister-of-State Mr. Desmond Tan engaging with participants, accompanied by other dignitaries at the event, (in the center) Ms. Wita Anggi Sitorus, first runner-up Miss Universe Indonesia 2023, advocate for environmental care and marine protection, and (on the left) Ms. Natalie Craig, Managing Director of C&W Services, an event sponsor for Paddle For A Purpose 2023



Group photo with beach cleanup participants taking part in the Paddle For A Purpose event on Saturday, 2 December 2023

Now in its third year, OPP's Paddle For A Purpose event has become a signature annual gathering that enlivens Pasir Ris Beach with a bustling array of activities. This year, with the backing of event partners and sponsors, OPP united the Pasir Ris community for an unforgettable day of sports, music, conservation, and festivity.

In addition to the Paddle For A Purpose kayak activity and morning beach cleanup, the event featured game stations and booths addressing mental health, film screenings focusing on landfill and plastics issues, and live musical performances. Celebrities and ocean advocates from around the world also graced the event, experiencing the allure of Pasir Ris and contributing to its cleanliness through a morning beach cleanup.

Community is all about giving and working together, and in this one event so many aspects of ocean conservation came together in a way that combined family bonding through sports, sustainability and music while mobilising industry to innovate solutions on energy, waste and seaweed- elevating what it means to live, work and play in the sustainable beach town of Pasir Ris. Through our combined efforts, we can truly make a difference in our journey to keep Singapore clean.



Main Partners:



Secondary school students can submit ideas for repurposing of bulky waste through competition

The PHC has taken the initiative to drive and raise youth awareness and attitudes towards tackling the issue of bulky waste, aiming to better understand its environmental impact and promote individual contributions to waste reduction.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and J.O.E (Just One Earth) Eco Alliance, the nationwide Bulky Waste to Wonder Competition 2023 was conducted from August to September 2023 with several objectives in mind:

- Addressing the littering problem at its source
- Encouraging everyone to Rethink, Reuse to Reduce
- Preventing the irresponsible disposal of bulky household items, such as used furniture commonly found at housing estates' void decks and bin centres
- Reducing wastage of bulky waste by redesigning and repurposing used bulky waste items
- Unleashing youth's creativity, imagination, and design skills to inspire and promote the message of maintaining cleanliness in Singapore

Venue Partners:



Supporting Partners:



To prepare students interested in participating in the competition, an in-person workshop was held on Saturday, 26 August 2023. During the workshop, two local furniture designers from JLL Design Solutions and Triple Eyelid shared learnings on transforming post-consumer waste from households, such as unwanted coffee tables, bookshelves, and cabinets, into new functional furniture pieces. The participants also gained knowledge about the impact of color choices on the ergonomics, comfort, user experience, and emotional aspects of using furniture. This workshop provided students with a newfound appreciation for objects, facilitated the exchange of thoughts, and encouraged the sharing of beliefs and attitudes on how they can contribute to reducing bulky waste.

The final event took place in conjunction with the quarterly SG Clean Day on Sunday, 29 October 2023 at the National Gallery Singapore. It featured the collaboration between the top 5 finalists and the design partners who assisted in bringing their ideas to life as functional furniture pieces. These furniture items were auctioned, and the proceeds were donated to the Society of Physically Disabled (SPD).





Guest-of-Honour SMS Dr Amy Khor, flanked by PHC Chairman Andrew Khng together with supporting partners and student winners of the Bulky Waste to Wonder Competition 2023.

Arts & Heritage Venues joins quarterly SG Clean Day (Oct)

On Sunday, 29 October 2023, the PHC extended invitations to Arts and Heritage venues such as Esplanade, Lasalle, NAFA, STPI, and NHB to participate in the quarterly SG Clean Day initiative.

The PHC's RISE Champions Network, comprising 20 volunteers and led by Youth Action Group (YAG) Committee Member, Mr Yasser Amin, conducted a cleanup around Fort Canning Hill Park.

In conjunction with the quarterly SG Clean Day, the finals of the Bulky Waste to Wonder Competition 2023 was held this morning at the National Gallery Singapore. Organised by the PHC, in partnership with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and J.O.E Eco Alliance, this competition aims to unleash creativity and imagination of youths to redesign and repurpose unwanted bulky furniture into functional items. The competition commenced in August 2023, and attracted close to thirty entries from eight secondary schools. To help the participants kickstart their design process, a design workshop was conducted so that the students could learn from industry partners on how to design furniture, the ergonomics, material characteristics and colour psychology.

Participants of five shortlisted entries were subsequently invited to work with industry partners to turn their designs into tangible and functional furniture. A panel of judges then selected the top winners of the competition that morning. These masterpieces was on display at the National Gallery Singapore till Thursday, 2 November 2023, before being roved to other events and locations for exhibition.

Our Guest-of-Honour, Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment, presented the prizes to the winners of the competition.

Furthermore, the 5 furniture pieces were auctioned, and proceeds of nearly \$5,000 were donated to Serving People with Disabilities in Singapore (SPD).



Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment addressing the attendees at the Bulky Waste to Wonder Competition Finals 2023.



Winning entry from Unity Secondary school's Kitchen Trolley



Second Prize from Canberra Secondary School's Space-Savvy Table



Third Prize from Raffles Girls' School's Hallway Furniture



Launch of NEA's Clean Public Toilets Campaign



Mr Andrew Khng, Chairman of PHC putting up a CPT campaign poster



21 November 2023 – Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and the Environment, Mr Baey Yam Keng, launched the National Environment Agency's (NEA) Clean Public Toilets Campaign (CPT) 2023, together with the Public Hygiene Council (PHC), Restroom Association Singapore (RAS), and Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM).

The PHC, a strong supporter of the campaign since 2021, continued its partnership with NEA to promote wider awareness of good toilet hygiene habits through the PHC's channels and network. Mr Andrew Khng, Chairman of PHC, says, "More people should be aware that public toilet cleanliness is a shared responsibility. Premises operators, users and cleaners must put in collective efforts to do their part and keep it clean. So, let's stop pointing to each other and work towards having clean toilets together." To encourage this partnership, the PHC works with different stakeholders through its Neighbourhood Toilet Community Group (NTCG) initiative to drive the message of joint responsibility in keeping public toilets clean. According to some of the participating coffeeshops such as PDSS 318 Food Cafeteria, MEETUP @ 494 and Get Together Coffeeshop. The toilet cleanliness at their premises have shown significant improvement since joining the programme.

The PHC will also pilot a Toilet Cleanliness module as part of the Buddy Clean Workshop in 2024. It is a programme that aims to inculcate positive social values and norms on cleanliness amongst Primary 3 and 4 students. Through the module, students will get to pick up practical skills and knowledge on how to keep public spaces, including public toilets, clean.



NParks Litter Picking at Jurong Lake Gardens

24 Aug 2023

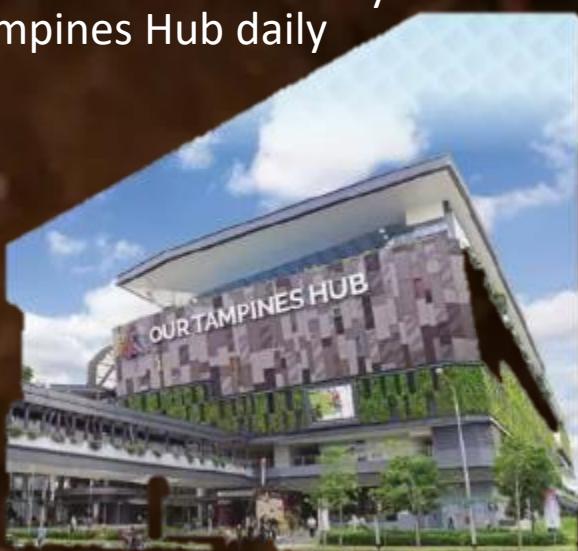
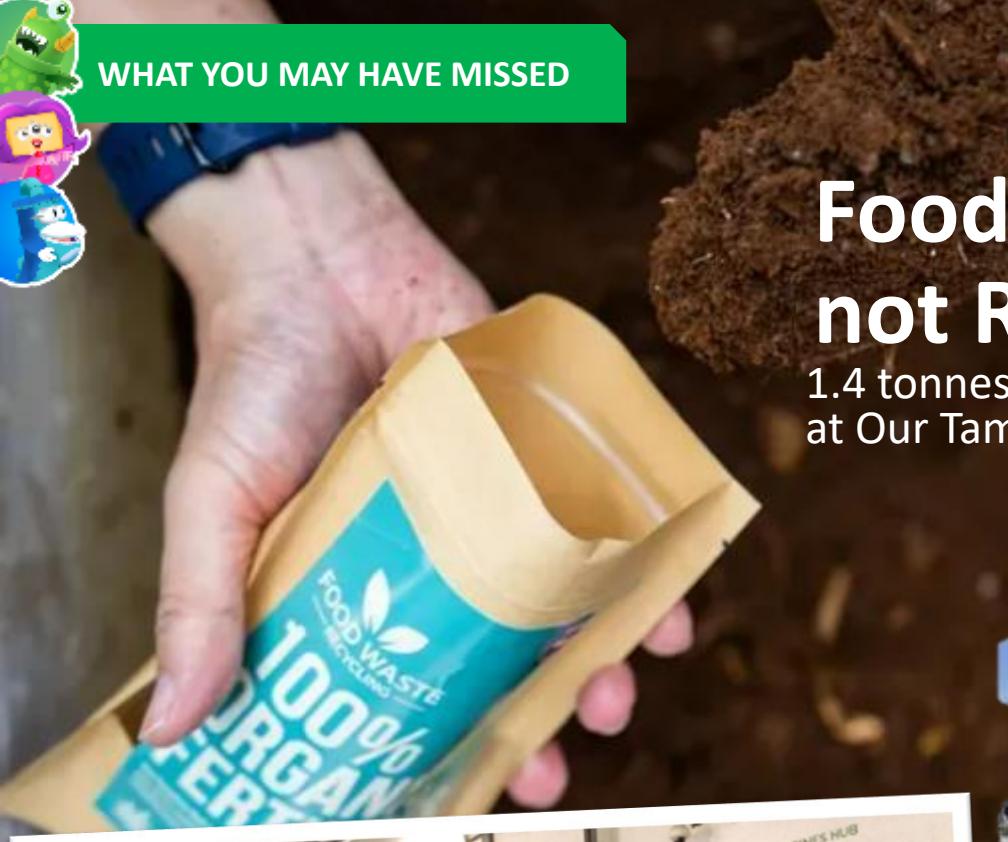
The Park Management & Lifestyle Cluster (PMLC) of NParks gathered at Jurong Lake Gardens (JLG) on Thursday, 24 Aug 2023 for their annual retreat and get-together. The event had been suspended due to COVID-19 in the past few years and staff were looking forward to it. Over 100 staff participated in the event. As part of the event, litter-picking was organised for staff to do their part in keeping Singapore clean while exploring JLG. Although the weather was warm, staff were in high spirits and many went out of their way in looking for litter hidden amongst the grasses. Overall, it was also an excellent event for team bonding.





Food Waste is not Really Waste

1.4 tonnes of food waste recycled at Our Tampines Hub daily



The food waste composting process is fully automatic. The waste just needs to be loaded onto the Eco Digester's conveyor lift and it will be processed within 24 hours.



RISE Learning Journey



The PHC organised an engagement with our RISE Network partners through an evening session conducted on Thursday, 13 July 2023 at Our Tampines Hub (OTH). The session focused on waste reduction and aimed to review the insights gained from the group's visit to the Sembcorp Materials Recovery Facility earlier in the afternoon. During this session, participants toured the food waste eco-digester at OTH, which gathers food waste from all OTH's tenants for conversion into fertilizer. The resulting fertiliser is utilised for in-house planting or distributed to residents.

Participants gained valuable insights into the significance of reducing food waste and its positive impact on the environment. The session commenced with a brief introduction by Mr. Kelvin Thong, Director of Integrated Community Hubs, shedding light on OTH's eco journey over the past few years.

A key takeaway from the session was the importance of proper food waste disposal. The seminar underscored the role that individuals can play in advocating for waste reduction. It emphasized that if businesses and individuals actively contribute to reducing both food and general waste, our environment would significantly improve. By adopting mindful consumption habits, such as ordering only what can be finished when dining out, we can collectively contribute to creating a cleaner and more sustainable world for ourselves and future generations.



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



Group photo of PHC Chairman, Mr Andrew Khng, Executive Director of PHC, Ms Gloria Tan, together with our Tian San hosts, Mr Mark Ko and Mr Nick Chung at the public gate facing Tian San's Operations Depot, a restricted area.

RISE Learning Journey

TSS TIAN SAN SHIPPING
(PRIVATE) LIMITED

Exploring Marine Litter

Wednesday, 23 August 2023

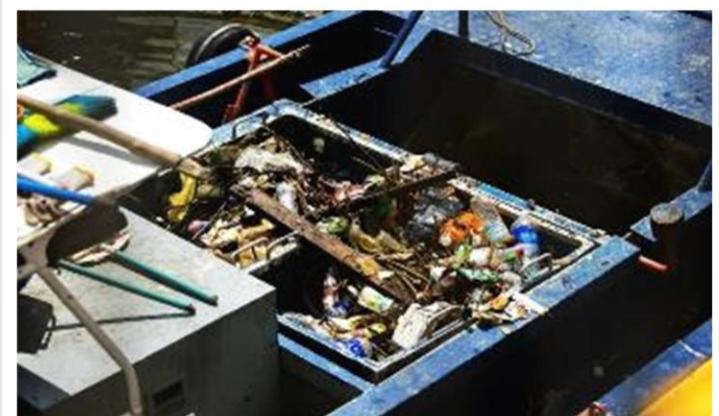
The impact of litter extends beyond our terrestrial environment, affecting our marine ecosystem as well. To gain insights into the efforts to address marine litter in Singaporean waters, the PHC recently toured Tian San Shipping's operations depot to understand the marine litter issue and witness Tian San's contributions to maintaining clean and clear waterways.

During the visit, it was eye-opening to witness the significant presence of plastic wrappers, bags, and indiscriminate litter in our waterways and seas. Equipped with nets and scoops, the Tian San team diligently works to clear our waters daily, regardless of weather conditions. Utilizing automated collectors and manual nets, they strive to ensure that surface litter is efficiently collected, leaving no room for oversight.

By embracing more sustainable habits and responsibly disposing of our waste, we aim to pave the way for cleaner waterways and a healthier environment for future generations of Singapore residents to thrive in.



Tian San Shipping provides door-to-door garbage collection and flotsam clearing services within Singapore Waters.



Quarterly SG Clean Day 2024



Save the dates for the quarterly SG Clean Day events in 2024:

- Sunday, 28 January 2024
- Sunday, 28 April 2024
- Sunday, 28 July 2024
- Sunday, 27 October 2024

Announcements

Get ready to dive into the exciting world of cleanliness and community initiatives with us, the Public Hygiene Council (PHC)!

We will bring timely updates of our events, programmes and initiatives to you, on our Facebook and Instagram pages! It's where the fun begins, and most importantly, the best way to look out for how you can contribute to a truly clean Singapore!

So, don't miss out on the action – follow us and be part of the buzz!
See you online!



#KeepSGClean - Public Hygiene Council

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[Instagram.com/keepsgclean](https://www.instagram.com/keepsgclean)

Tik Tok /keepsgclean

[Youtube.com/publichygienecouncil](https://www.youtube.com/publichygienecouncil)

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