# [***Philippines : Mangrove Ecopark, opened in the city of Batangas***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:66PH-P2S1-JBYT-H307-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

The blessing and inauguration of the Batangas City ***Mangrove*** Conservation Ecopark located in Sitio 3, Brgy. Malitam in this city on the 11th of October.?

Led by Mayor Beverley Rose Dimacuha and 5th District Rep. Marvey Marino is this project of the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (City ENRO) that aims to preserve and protect nature to prevent any adverse effects of calamities such as flooding, landslides and others.?

According to City Environment Officer Oliver Gonzales, ***mangroves*** help absorb water while its leaves filter pollution. He said, ***mangroves*** store 10 times more carbon than forests. ??

The ***mangrove*** root acts as a ***blue carbon*** sink, it absorbs carbon dioxide from the air and stores it in its roots, branches and soil, said Gonzales.

This ***mangrove*** ecopark has an area of ??6,500 square meters, and there is a 500 meter long eco trail (bamboo walk) here. It has seven (7) types of ***mangroves***, such as Bakauan-babae, Bakauan lalaki, Pototan, Busain, Bungalon, Bakhaw-bato and Pagatpat, and 12 types or species of birds have been identified here, including the Eurasian tree sparrow , Scaly-breasted munia, Chestnut munia, Olive-backed sunbird, Golden-bellied gerygone, Black-naped oriole and others.

Mayor Dimacuha said that the said ***mangrove*** ecopark is an eco-tourism site that will provide many economic activities in the area.

I hope you can protect and keep it clean, dont litter it and instead expand the ***mangrove*** area, Mayor Dimacuha asked the residents.

He said, even now there are many people who want to visit here, so the residents should have entrepreneurial skills to earn money. According to Cong. Mario, ***mangroves*** are very important because fish spawn here.

This is a proof that despite the continuous entry of industrial investment into the city, it continues to protect our nature. The construction of the dike that can serve as a tourist attraction in the area and the rehabilitation plan of the Calumpang River to become a full-fledged tourist destination are also continuing, said Marino. (MDC/PIA-Batangas with report from PIO Batangas City)

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