

PhTimes

Keep Singapore Clean official newsletter



#Issue 6 (Oct – Dec 2021)



Editor's Note

Happy New Year!

With many best wishes for a better year ahead!

It is hard to believe that another year has passed. Despite it being another challenging year for many of us in many different ways, PHC wound up the last quarter of 2021 on a high note!

With the strong support from our council members and partners, the PHC expanded and launched the quarterly SG Clean Day. Two Estate CleanPods were also officially opened to bring community shared tools closer and more accessible to residents.

We were also heartened by the enthusiasm displayed for the Trashemon Bin Design Competition which drew to a close on 30 November. 340 entries from more than 40 schools were submitted and it was refreshing to see so many of our young creative minds at work.

Many exciting plans are in store for 2022 and we can't wait to share them with you in our upcoming issues. Watch this space!

Cheers to another year towards a truly clean Singapore!

Stay safe and healthy.

Gloria Tan

Executive Director

The Quarter's Top Scoop



Photo: mothership.sg

Keeping our

environment clean

and sustainable during the festive period

Whether you like to clean or not, many others found that there is something magical about making our homes sparkle during this time of the year.

It may have to do with wanting to start the new year on a clean note by decluttering and discarding away the unwanted stuff. This is also the time for all of us to reflect and ask ourselves if we have taken care of our environment and kept our communal spaces clean as we do for our homes.

Whenever we spring clean our homes, there are bound to be plenty of unwanted stuff that we need to clear. For sustainability and frugality, it is only sensible that we sort out these unwanted stuff and repurpose or recycle as much as possible.

Upcycling workshops and programmes organised by grassroots organisations and interest groups are available for everyone to learn how to repurpose our unwanted items and to give them a new lease of life. A good example is the monthly Repair Kopitiam meet-ups where participants get the opportunity to learn how to fix their electrical appliances and broken household items.



Things that are still in good condition could also be given away to the thrift shops that help the less fortunate. This is being frugal. And by reducing the number of things we discard, waste is reduced. Sustainability is also a way for us to give back to the society.

It is not uncommon to see people dumping bulky trash at lift lobbies during this time of the year. What we should be doing is to contact the Town Councils to help us dispose of the bulky trash properly. In fact, the Town Councils provide this service for free to all HDB residents at least once a month.

The new year provides a time for us to reflect on our consumption habits. We should take this opportunity to make it our new year resolution to be conscious of our buying and trashing habits.

Let's keep our environment clean and sustainable from this festive period.

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



Launch of Quarterly SG Clean Day and Estate CleanPod

Launch of quarterly SG Clean Day and Estate CleanPod at Bukit Batok's Fuji Hill Park [From left to right: NParks ACEO Mr Tang Tuck Weng, PAP Town Councils Coordinating Chairman Mr Lim Biow Chuan, SMS Dr Amy Khor, PHC Chairman Mr Edward D'Silva, Advisor to Bukit Batok GROs Mr Murali Pillai.]

The Public Hygiene Council (PHC) partnered NParks and 17 Town Councils islandwide to kick off its quarterly SG Clean Day initiative. This followed an earlier announcement to expand and step-up efforts for SG Clean Day and extend it beyond an annual affair. Sweeping at all 300 public parks, gardens, park connectors, open areas and ground levels of housing estates ceased from 6am to midnight on Sunday, 31

October 2021. Quarterly SG Clean Day also kicked off a month-long of litter picking activities in November. This was in support of the annual Clean & Green Singapore (CGS) campaign. The initiative encouraged the public to play their part to keep our public spaces clean and to recognise the work of our cleaners.



Opening of CleanPod at Beach Road Estate [Front row: NEA DCEO Mr Ng Chun Pin, Minister Grace Fu Middle row: Kampong Glam CCC Vice-Chairman Mr Woo Sui Kee, Central Singapore District Mayor Ms Denise Phua Back row: PHC Chairman Mr Edward D'Silva, PHC Executive Director Ms Gloria Tan

Graced by Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, the launch of quarterly SG Clean Day also coincided with the official opening of the first Estate CleanPod at Bukit Batok Fuji Hill Park. The PHC extended the CleanPod initiative from parks and beaches to residential estates with the aim to further encourage participation and ownership from residents to keep their estates clean. The second Estate CleanPod was opened by Minister Grace Fu at Beach Road on 5 November 2021.

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Pick up litter, bin your trash.

**SG
Clean Day**
Sunday
31 October 2021



More litter picking activations on SG Clean Day



Clean-up at MacPherson and Aljunied Crescent led by MP Tin Pei Ling with residents and volunteers



Residents from Tanjong Rhu Neighbourhood Committee conducting regular litter picking across their neighbourhood.



Adviser Ms Ng Ling Ling teaming up with residents from Ang Mo Kio GRC and volunteers from Ang Mo Kio Town Council to keep the neighbourhood clean and safe for everyone.

Horticulture volunteers from Jurong Central Park and staff from NParks took this opportunity to do litter picking on top of their gardening activities.



Volunteers from Trash Hero Singapore doing an estate clean-up from Blk 123 to 134 Geylang East.



Mayor Denise Phua, Adviser Dr Wan Rizal conducting briefing on clean-up and sharing tips to keep our public spaces clean to residents from Jalan Besar GRC and volunteers from Jalan Besar Town Council.

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



#EastCoastBeachPlan Supports SG Clean Day

Adviser Mr Tan Kiat How with residents from East Coast GRC, volunteers from Stridy (NGO) along with Mr Tang Tuck Weng, NParks Assistant CEO, Mr Edward D'Silva Chairman of PHC and Ms Gloria Tan Executive Director of PHCS doing clean-up at East Coast Park in Squid Game style.

In support of SG Clean Day, #EastCoastBeachPlan organised a clean-up at Parkland Green, East Coast Park on Sunday, 31 October 2021.

Minister of State for National Development, Mr Tan Kiat How joined the volunteers from #EastCoastBeachPlan, National Parks Board (NParks) and the Public Hygiene Council (PHC) in cleaning up the popular picnic spot.



Group photo at the #EastCoastBeachPlan Clean-up

To add a fun element to the clean-up activity, and in true Halloween spirits, the volunteers from #EastCoastBeachPlan also dressed up as characters from the popular Netflix Squid Game show.



The volunteers also made use of the Stridy App to track their clean-up activity. More than 8 kg of trash were cleared from the park!



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

8th RISE.

Networking Meeting

The PHC recently held our 8th RISE Champions Network meeting on 10th November at the Tzu Chi Humanistic Youth Centre. We were joined by 29 other enthusiastic RISE Network members for a fruitful evening of dialogue and discussions. Deputy Chairman of the PHC, Andrew Khng, kicked off the meeting by welcoming fellow Council Members as well as RISE Network members.

The programme for the evening included updates for the KeepSGClean Movement, a tour of the Tzu Chi Eco-Gallery followed by a presentation by Plastic-Lite Singapore. The PHC also updated members on the KeepSGClean Trashemons initiative which was a collaboration with NAFA students to creatively design three Trashemon trash bins. After which, these bins were produced and placed at 15 Town Council locations to ignite interest from the public to take notice and bin their trash properly. It also served to inspire secondary school students who were taking part in the Trashemon Bin Design Competition organised by the PHC and MOE. This competition aimed to educate youths on the importance of keeping Singapore clean and how they could contribute.

As part of the RISE meeting programme, members were also given a tour of the Tzu Chi Eco-Gallery. The tour incorporated interactive exhibits on sustainability, climate change and zero waste. Tzu Chi Foundation updated on their efforts to encourage more Singapore residents to take up a sustainable plant-based diet, adopt a recycling lifestyle and to reduce our carbon footprint as we go about our daily lives.



Group photo with RISE Network attendees.



PHC Deputy Chairman, Andrew Khng provided opening remarks during the session.

Terese Teoh, a volunteer with Plastic-Lite Singapore, introduced her team and shared their focus to reduce generation of trash. They also had a broader goal to encourage a recycling culture for Singaporeans. One of their initiative, the Bounce Bag Outreach programme, allowed the public to contribute excess reusable bags that they had by donating them to the Bounce point for other residents to use for their shopping needs. The programme is ongoing at Heartbeat@Bedok, Our Tampines Hub and Bishan North Shopping Mall. RISE members were then briefed on proposed industries that PHC could engage and develop partnerships with in 2022. Some suggested partners included are the dormitory operators, construction companies and the hospitality sector.



Plastic-Lite SG volunteer, Terese Teoh sharing with RISE Network attendees about her organization's programmes and initiatives.



Public Toilet Cleanliness Campaign

19 Nov

In conjunction with World Toilet Day, PHC rallies more coffeeshop operators to uphold toilet cleanliness and encourage public to use them like their own.

#SGCleanHero



Volunteers recognised, thanked and celebrated SG Clean Heroes with good toilet etiquette

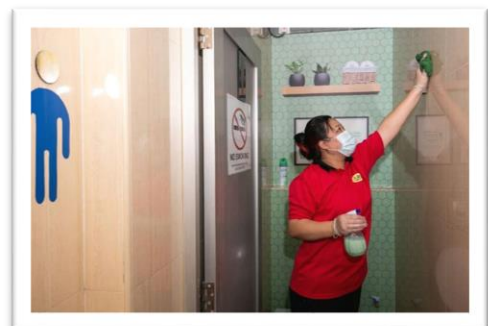
Dr Amy Khor also launched the Public Toilet Cleanliness (PTC) campaign by the National Environment Agency (NEA) to dress up public toilets to look just like the ones at home. By keeping public toilets clean, we are also protecting the community from potential public health threats.

In Singapore, we are fortunate to have full and unfettered access to sanitation facilities. As part of World Toilet Day 2021, the PHC teamed up with volunteers from Lions Club of Singapore (Mandarin), Green & Clean Volunteers Group and Hilti Singapore to recognise and encourage coffeeshop patrons to keep our coffeeshop toilets clean, dry and litter-free. Selected coffee shop toilets around Singapore were decorated with posters, cubicle wraps and wall stickers to make them more "homely and cosy". This was in a bid to encourage users to keep the toilets as clean as the ones they have at home.

Throughout the day starting from 12:30pm till the dinner hours, KeepSGClean Ambassadors were deployed at more than 10 coffeeshop locations across Singapore to engage and recognise patrons who observed good toilet etiquette.

Let us all take a huge salute in appreciation of #KeepSGClean Ambassadors and #SGCleanHeroes efforts!

Senior Minister of State, Sustainability and the Environment, Dr Amy Khor joined our PHC KeepSGClean Ambassadors on this day to recognise, thank and celebrate #SGCleanHeroes who displayed good toilet etiquette like keeping the toilet floor dry after washing their hands and for binning their trash properly.



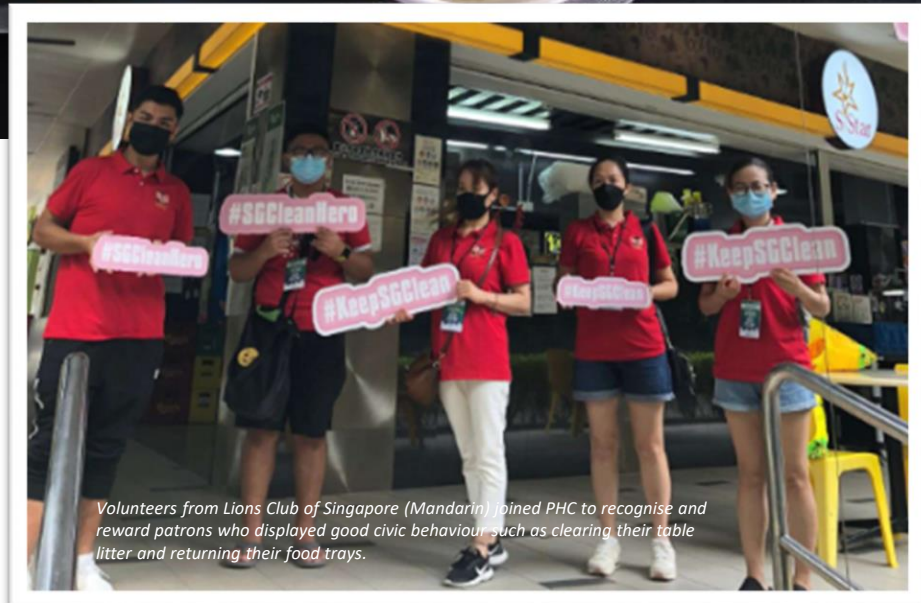
WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

The Public Hygiene Council surprised individuals with good table cleaning and anti-littering habits as

#SGCleanHero

PHC volunteers head out to encourage, recognise and reward Coffeeshop & Food Court patrons

In December, we teamed up with volunteers from Lions Club of Singapore (Mandarin) to thank and encourage coffeeshop patrons in Singapore to keep our coffeeshop tables clean and litter-free. This was ahead of the move to enforce against patrons who leave their litter behind after their meals at coffeeshop and foodcourts. 30 volunteers joined the PHC across 3 weekends in December at selected coffee shops around Singapore to recognise, reward and remind patrons to properly bin their trash, clear their tables after they were done eating and to return their food trays to the tray return station.



Volunteers from Lions Club of Singapore (Mandarin) joined PHC to recognise and reward patrons who displayed good civic behaviour such as clearing their table litter and returning their food trays.

Keeping the tables clean not only give everyone a comfortable dining environment, it is also a responsible and gracious gesture to the subsequent diners. By clearing our own tables and preventing birds and pests from congregating and picking at the table scraps, we are protecting the community from potential public health threats.

Throughout the morning breakfast hours till afternoon lunch, our KeepSGClean Ambassadors fanned out to more than 15 coffeeshop locations across Singapore to engage and recognise patrons who observed good civic behaviour such as clearing their own table litter and returning their food trays. Let us all give a round of applause in appreciation of #KeepSGClean Ambassadors and #SGCleanHeroes efforts!

15 Locations. More than **120** man-hours
Supported by **30** volunteers. **1,050** tissue packs distributed.
735 #SGCleanHeroes spotted

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

#KeepSGClean Challenge



Clean-up at Nee Soon Link was led by Adviser Derrick Goh. Residents and grassroots volunteers conducted tree planting and litter picking to commemorate Clean and Green Singapore.



During the month of November, we were heartened that our RISE Champions Network and Sustainable Bright Spot partners supported the KeepSGClean Challenge by doing clean-ups in our community areas and housing estates. This was also in support of NEA's Clean & Green Singapore activities in the month of November. Volunteers from Trash Hero Singapore, Stridy, One Planet (Singapore) and Resident Networks fanned out across our island and cleaned up trash and plastic waste from our beaches, parks, void decks and playgrounds to make our beloved home cleaner and safer for one and all.



Families and volunteers taking part in the Block Walk



As a closure to the month-long KeepSGClean Challenge, the PHC partnered with fellow RISE Network partner, Habitat for Humanity Singapore to organise Block Walk on 27 November 2021. We were excited to e-meet over 150 groups of participants, including families with young children conducting clean-up all over Singapore through Zoom and felt encouraged to hear their experiences and lending support to one another.



The Mura family has been conducting monthly clean-up with their children and they were glad that the children were able to experience for themselves the importance of keeping public spaces clean and learn about consequences of not doing so. It teaches them to be socially responsible individuals. Some participants shared that they received more positive reactions from passer-bys who saw them picking up the litter and this encouraged them to continue doing clean-ups for the benefit of our community.

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

The Public Hygiene Council (PHC) continues to engage the school uniformed groups to explore new partnership in 2022.

The dialogues with Red Cross Youth and Singapore Scout Association were held on 7 and 21 December 2021 respectively. To align with PHC's 2022 strategic thrust on youth engagement, PHC aims to partner all the school uniformed groups and co-develop programmes to inculcate civic-mindedness and personal ownership to keep public spaces clean and hygienic. PHC will also explore capacity building programme to groom champions and catalysts who will advocate for a clean Singapore among their families and friends.

Engagement with the School Uniformed Groups



Three cub scouts from the Phoenix Scout Group participated in the litter-free outreach at National Day Parade 2019.



SINGAPORE

Dialogue with the Red Cross Youth to strengthen youth engagement in keeping Singapore clean.

KEEP SINGAPORE CLEAN

New Publicity Materials Sustainable Bright Spot

The Public Hygiene Council (PHC) refreshed publicity materials for the SBS partners as a continual support and constant reminder to residents to keep public spaces clean. Positive messaging is incorporated to rally Singaporeans to move towards a zero-litter nation.

Residents are encouraged to do 3 simple actions to keep Singapore clean:

- **Return your tray**
- **Bin your trash**
- **No high-rise littering**

Through raising personal hygiene standards and cleanliness levels of public spaces with the commitment and ownership of Singaporeans, we can then move towards a truly clean Singapore. Because we are better without litter!

Do keep a lookout of the banners and posters in the 36 neighbourhood estates listed on www.publichygienecouncil.sg



KEEP SINGAPORE CLEAN

Spot the Trashemons!



PHC's 3 Trashemons: Timmy TumTrash, Claire ClawTrash and Eddy EyeTrash have been 'well fed' with their favourite food aka trash 15 locations across Singapore. Through the colourful and visually attractive Trashemons, the Public Hygiene Council (PHC) aims to encourage Singaporeans to bin their trash and keep public spaces clean.

Visit the following locations to spot the Trashemons:



Near Toa Payoh Public Library



Beside Tampines Round Market & Food Centre



At Sembawang Town Council Office



At Sengkang Town Council Office



Near Blk 89 Bedok North Ave 4



At Jalan Besar Town Council Office



Near Blk 539 Bedok North



Near Blk 256 Bangkit Road



Beside Bukit Batok Bus Interchange



At Blk 34 Marine Crescent



At Blk 886C Woodlands Drive 50



Near Blk 84 Redhill Lane



In between Blk 527C and Blk 527D Pasir Ris Street 51



Outside of Boon Lay Place Food Centre



At Blk 417 Yishun Ave 11

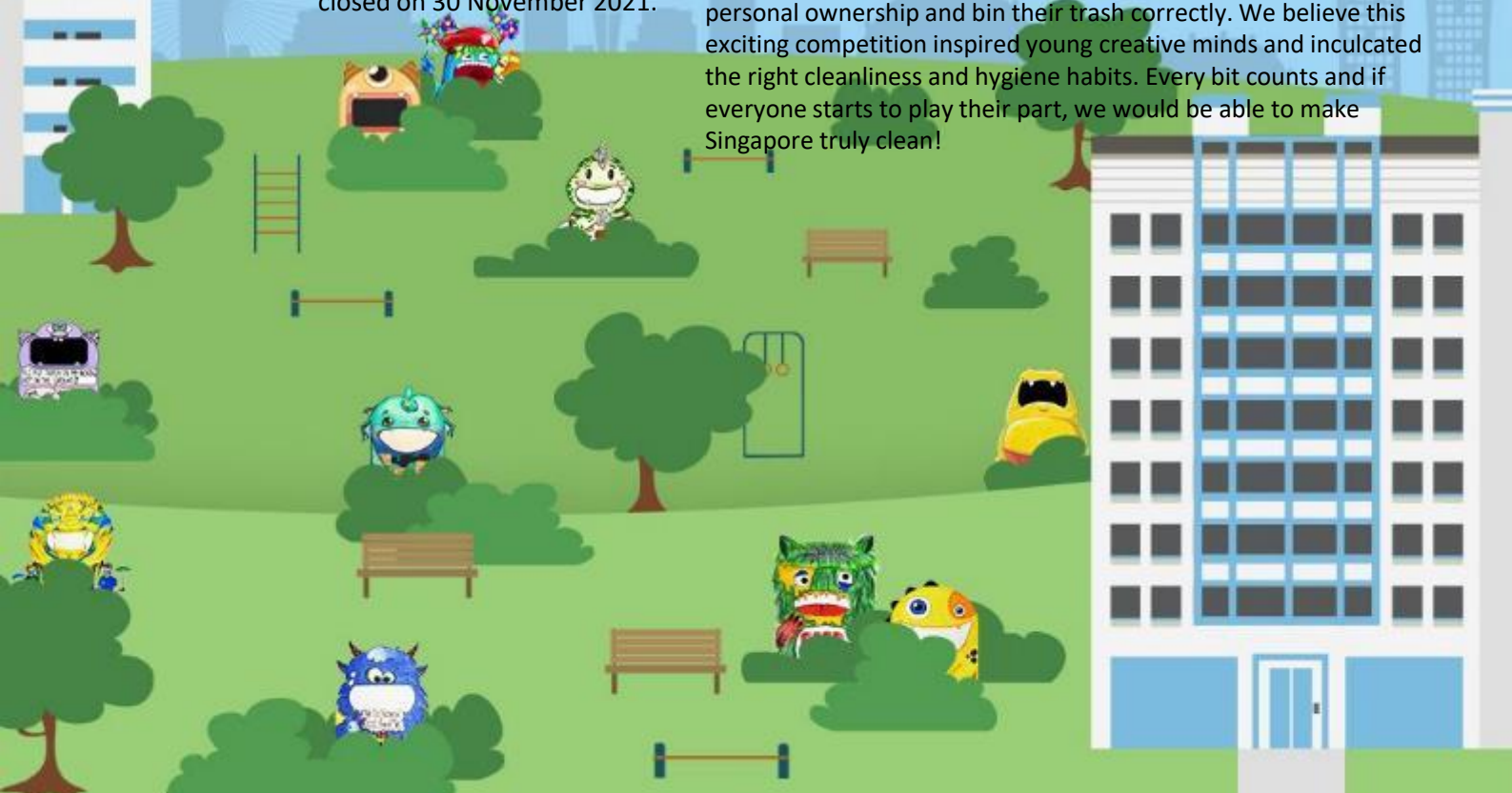
KEEP SINGAPORE CLEAN

More Trashemons are coming your way!

In collaboration with Ministry of Education (MOE), the Public Hygiene Council (PHC) organised the inaugural nationwide “Feed My Trashemon” School Competition. The PHC was encouraged to receive overwhelming responses from 340 secondary students in over 40 schools. This competition commenced on 18 October and closed on 30 November 2021.

Notable representatives from different sectors were invited to join the judging panel to assess the designs that were submitted. They are Mr Edward D’Silva, Chairman of Public Hygiene Council, Mr Low Eng Teong, Deputy Chief Executive (Sector Development) of National Arts Council Singapore, Ms Christabel Teng, Vice Dean for Design & Media of Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Mr Edward Goh, General Manager of Sembcorp and Ms Loh Wee Cheng, Director for Character and Citizenship Education Branch of Ministry of Education.

PHC’s Trashemons aimed to inspire Singapore residents to take personal ownership and bin their trash correctly. We believe this exciting competition inspired young creative minds and inculcated the right cleanliness and hygiene habits. Every bit counts and if everyone starts to play their part, we would be able to make Singapore truly clean!



Our heartiest congratulations to the top 3 winners and 7 finalists! These designs will be showcased at PHC’s annual flagship event, Keep Clean, Singapore! 2022.



1st Prize Winner
Gan Jing Wen
Jurong West
Secondary School



2nd Prize Winner
Chong Kai wen
Nan Chiau High School



3rd Prize Winner
Oh Jing Xuan
Nan Chiau High School

KEEP SINGAPORE CLEAN



MPs for Nee Soon GRC participated in a clean-up at Seletar Island.

Keep Clean, Nee Soon!

Transforming from a cleaned to a truly clean town requires picking up after ourselves, as Nee Soon residents discovered on the sunny Sunday of 25 April 2021. In conjunction with the annual SG Clean Day, Nee Soon residents, armed with trash pickers and garbage bags, spread out across Nee Soon to clean up every piece of litter in sight to show their commitment towards keeping the town clean. Cleaners are given a day off annually to ingrain in residents the importance of personal responsibility towards cleanliness of shared spaces in the community.

In Nee Soon South, siblings Averie, 8, and Nikki Wong, 9, also participated in the litter-picking exercise. **“My teacher said we can help others pick up trash. At school, we also clean our classroom. When I see someone littering, I will ask the person to pick it up and throw it into the rubbish bin,”** Nikki said. Averie mentioned that this was not their first time. Their mother, Jenny, tries to bring them along whenever these exercises occur. **“Litter picking is a good habit. I want them to know that taking care of the environment is very important.”**



*Article
contributed by*

Away from the Nee Soon mainland, the five MPs for Nee Soon GRC, together with a group of volunteers, also embarked on their day of cleanup. On Seletar Island, 381kg of trash was picked up in just one hour. Plastic bottles, ropes, toys and even an air-conditioning unit littered the shoreline and waters, some clearly there for a long time. Seletar Island is known to be a kayaking hotspot, which MP Carrie Tan describes as “idyllic”.

The Public Hygiene Council (PHC) is in discussions with town councils to make SG Clean Day a more regular affair.

It's not my Trash,
but it's my Planet



(L-R): One Planet Singapore volunteers Georgia, Riann and Narumi during their regular clean-ups held around the island.



INSPIRING ANECDOTE

One Planet Singapore volunteers Georgia, doing clean-up.

RISE

One Planet Singapore is a proud member of the RISE Champions Network. The founder, Georgia welcome more members in her group and it is a great way to meet more people, get some exercise, and at the same time, to do something good for Singapore and the environment.

Join Georgia and the team at One Planet (Singapore) via their Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OnePlanetSingapore>

Ms. Georgia Mor started One Planet Singapore with friend Rachel Guest when she moved to Singapore in 2019. "We were shocked by the amount of rubbish on the beaches in countries near Singapore. Suddenly all that ocean plastic we saw in documentaries became very real."

They wanted to do something small about it and started picking up rubbish in their local area but quickly realised it would take a lot of effort for two people to make any impact.

They encouraged others to join and soon found themselves organising small group clean ups at beaches and on the streets. Next thing they had a growing Facebook group, and so One Planet Singapore was born.

What started with two people has grown to over 580 members, mainly expat women from all over the world.

One Planet Singapore have collected more than 1,300 kg of rubbish from the streets and 4,900 kg from the beaches of Singapore - more than 6 tonnes! They have collaborated with Singaporean organisations on clean ups and hope to engage more with the local community when COVID restrictions lift.

WHAT'S NEXT?

9th RISE Meeting – 15 March 2022, 7pm

Join us as PHC and RISE partners share their exciting plans for 2022!



Upcoming Partners Dialogue 2022, Jan – Mar

- Dialogue with Cleaning Operators & NCID: 24 Feb, 2PM
- Dialogue with Hotel Operators: 8 March, 2.30PM



#KeepSGClean - Public Hygiene Council 2021

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Youtube.com/publichygienecouncil

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