

On 17 July 2007, PUB presented the first Watermark Awards to nine individuals and organisations.

In addition, Prof Tommy Koh, Dr Geh Min and the Waterways Watch Society - the three winners of the President's Award for the Environment 2006 - were presented with the Watermark Honorary Award for their exemplary work in the fields of water and the environment.

The inaugural Watermark Award recipients are:

1. Alexandra Hospital

Alexandra Hospital is very active in promoting water conservation on its premises. It reduces water usage by using rain water to water garden plants and by growing drought-resistant plants. The hospital also encourages its industry partners to use the hospital as a test bed for various water-saving devices. Having adopted the Yishun Pond under PUB's Our Waters programme, Alexandra Hospital is planning a mini Active, Beautiful, Clean Waters project, integrating the stormwater collection pond with their new premises in Yishun.

2. City Developments Limited

Property developer City Developments Limited (CDL) promotes water conservation at its construction sites and in its many real estate developments. Some of these efforts include the use of water-efficient fittings such as a waterless urinal, and recycling water for washing and cleaning purposes at construction sites. CDL's projects also feature water-efficient features such as sensor taps, water recycling systems, water-efficient fittings, and automatic flush and dual-flush systems for toilets. Besides water conservation, CDL is also a role model in keeping our waterways clean. It has an impressive programme to ensure that all its project sites implement earth control measures to prevent silty discharge from polluting waterways.

3. Tiong Seng Contractors

Tiong Seng is dedicated to keeping our waterways clean. It implements silt control measures at all its contruction sites to prevent muddy water from flowing into the public drains. It has also shared its good practices with the industry at seminars and site visits. A pioneer in setting up water recycling systems, Tiong Seng treats and processes silt-water into usable water for other construction purposes like tiling, plastering, flushing of toilets, watering of plants and general site cleaning. It has achieved its target of 50% reduction in PUB water usage by collecting and treating rain water and surface run-off water for reuse.

4. Punggol South Civil Defence Executive Committee

The Punggol South Civil Defence Executive Committee launched the Punggol South Riverwatch in October 2003. The Punggol South Riverwatch adopted Sungei Serangoon in August 2005 and cleans the river twice a week. Its members visited 2,064 households and installed water-saving kits for 40% of them. They distributed more than 1600 anti-litter leaflets to residents living near the river, to educate them on the importance of keeping it clean and litter-free.

5. Dunman High School

Dunman High School was named the first Friend of Water in recognition of its efforts for the water cause and for promoting the cause to its students. The school adopted Geylang River and organised activities to keep the waterway clean. Its students, along with those from other schools, worked alongside volunteers from the Waterways Watch Society and PUB staff during the 2006 World Water Monitoring Day exercise.

6. St Andrew's Secondary School

St Andrew's Secondary School (SASS) was the first adopter under PUB's Our Waters Programme launched in August 2005. The school has been conducting regular clean-ups along the Kallang River, which flows through the St Andrew's Village. Through river studies and projects on Kallang River, the school brings learning to a new level. Its aim is to educate students about water as a precious resource, while having fun at the same time. The school is working on a set of educational story boards on the history of Kallang River and SASS, to be installed alongside the river. SASS students have participated in dragon boat races organized by the National Sports Associations since

2006, and the school is planning to hold other water activities such as river crossing, kayaking, flying fox, and water competitions.

7. Temasek Polytechnic

Located next to Bedok Reservoir, Temasek Polytechnic has been using recycled rainwater to irrigate its 30-hectare campus since 1995. It has also installed many water conservation devices like docolmatic water taps, motorised valves, rain and flow sensors. To encourage students become guardians of our waters, the school sent its students to participate in the World Water Monitoring Day exercise. In August 2005, Temasek Polytechnic adopted Bedok Reservoir as part of PUB's Our Waters programme. Its students have been scheduling water activities and conducting many water activities at Bedok Reservoir, adding to life and vibrancy at the reservoir.

8. Mr Albert Phee

Mr Albert Phee's passion in life is to educate everyone around him on the importance of water conservation. He inculcates many good water-saving habits in his family such as taking shorter showers, using tumblers when brushing teeth, washing clothes on a full load, recycling water by using it to water plants and to wash floors, and installing water-saving devices in his home. He also regularly encourages his relatives, neighbours and friends to conserve water by installing thimbles for them. He is always on the lookout for leaking pipes and taps and informs the relevant management offices when he spots any.

9. Mr Tan Jia Sheng

A third-year student at Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Mr Tan Jia Sheng has been enthusiastically promoting water messages to his peers and younger persons. From a young age, Jia Sheng had already shown a keen interest in environment issues, such as the impact of water pollution and the importance of valuing and conserving our waters. This exceptional youth has been an active member in various initiatives such as the Water Volunteers. He played an instrumental role in the adoption of Sungei Ulu Pandan by Ngee Ann Polytechnic.