

Watermark Award 2009

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, presented the awards to 10 outstanding organisations and individuals at the Award Ceremony held at the Marina Barrage on 29 September 2009.



The Watermark Award 2009 recipients are:

CapitaLand Limited – Green Way of Giving



Award recipient: Mr Liew Mun Leong, President & CEO

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CapitaLand, one of Asia’s largest real estate companies, believes in protecting the environment for future generations. Comprehensive Green Building Guidelines, developed by its Green Committee, ensure the sustainable development and management of its properties and water conservation is an important aspect. CapitaLand encourages staff to volunteer their time for the environment by granting volunteer service leave. As a show of its commitment to water conservation and keeping Singapore’s waterways clean, CapitaLand adopted Marina Reservoir (Marina Bay and the Singapore River) under PUB’s Our Waters programme.

Hitachi Global Storage Technologies (GST) Singapore Pte Ltd – Innovating to conserve



Award recipient: Mr Kanji Nakao, Managing Director

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Hitachi GST actively looks for innovative ways to cut water consumption in its operations by exploring new technologies. For example, it is exploring a solvent-cleaning technique, so water used to wash machine parts can be conserved. The company also adopted Bedok Reservoir under the Our Waters Programme in August 2008, and has enthusiastically conducted clean-up activities with participation from employees, adopted schools and suppliers. In a collaborative effort with Northwest Community Development Council, employees also visit residents staying in the Chong Pang District to spread water conservation messages.

Housing & Development Board – Leading the way in environmental management



Award recipient: Mr Tay Kim Poh, CEO

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With the aim of promoting and implementing environmentally sound practices, HDB took the lead in forming the Environmental Sustainability Committee of HDB Estates, the ISO14001 committee to look into aspects of environmental management, and the Erosion Control Measures Committee to promote effective erosion control at its worksites. HDB has developed green projects such as the Treelodge@Punggol where water-saving devices are standard features in its design. It has worked with PUB to conduct test-beds for Active, Beautiful, Clean Waters (ABC Waters) Design Features such as bio-swales and rain gardens within HDB developments, and will be incorporating these features at the new Punggol Waterway.

Keppel Club – Fine-living the blue way



Award recipient: Mr Edwin Khew, President

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With a vision is to become the greenest golf club in the region, Keppel Club installs water efficient fittings within its washrooms, and has recycling water ponds to irrigate golf courses and landscape areas. This has earned it recognition as a Water Efficient Buildings. Keppel Club adopted Berlayer Creek under the Our Waters Programme in 2006. Employees and club members have organized regular clean-ups and guided tours for club members, students and the public to increase awareness on the importance of mangrove conservation and keeping the waterways clean.

Elias Park Primary School – Never too young



Award recipient: Mrs Wong Siew Shan, Principal

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Students at Elias Park Primary School have shown that it is never too early to be a part of the water cause. The school jointly adopted Sungei Api Api with Pasir Ris RC Zone 12 under PUB's Our Waters Programme in 2007. A rich and bio-diverse habitat, Sungei Api Api offers a living classroom for the school to conduct experiential lessons on the importance of keeping the waterways clean. Clean-ups by students and Pasir Ris Zone 12 residents are organised regularly as well.

St. Anthony's Primary School – Constantly seeking improvements



Award recipient: Mr Thomas Koh, Principal

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St Anthony's Primary School initiated an EnviRRRo programme to educate students and staff on the environment and water. The programme received the "Champions of the Environment" Award from Merck, Sharpe and Dohme Singapore Limited in 2006, 2008 and 2009. Under this programme, students carry out environmental and water awareness audits and surveys in the school so they can constantly improve the programme. In addition, the school appoints individuals and teams to look into its water consumption and review its water usage practices. As a result of its efforts, St Anthony's Primary School was recognised as a Water Efficient Building in 2008.

Nan Hua High School – Creating a youthful buzz on water issues



Award recipient: Dr Foo Suan Fong, Principal



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Nan Hua High School introduced the School Total Environment Education Programme (STEEP) in 2003 to educate students on the importance of environmental protection and conservation. The programme also reaches out to students of other schools and the community. To engage and educate their students, environmental projects are integrated school-wide and across departments/committees and with various environmental agencies. Students are involved in organising events such as the National Environment Quiz, Nan Hua Water Week and other environmental forums, which encourage them to mingle and exchange views on water and the environment with students from both local and international schools.

Mrs Koh-Leong Swee Ling – Walking the talk



Award recipient: Mrs Koh-Leong Swee Ling



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Senior Maths teacher Mrs Koh-Leong Swee Ling has two diverse loves in her life. Numbers, and the environment - in particular, water issues. As the teacher in-charge of the Dunman High School (DHS) Environment Club, she has been instrumental in spearheading initiatives to raise water awareness amongst students of other schools, including organising the 1st Youth Water Conference in 2007. She also formed and leads the Environmental Education Committee at DHS. Her latest project is the Marina Barrage Art project to engage primary school students on water issues. Mrs Koh recently joined PUB's Volunteer Programme and is also a volunteer with the Waterways Watch Society.

Mr Peter Lo Shui Sung – A voice for water issues



Award recipient: Mr Peter Lo Shui Sung

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Mr Peter Lo is not just a water conservation enthusiast. He has been so passionate about water issues that he is also a voice for such issues, catching the attention of the media. He has been interviewed on radio, featured in My Paper and has even appeared on the television series Saving Gaia. Mr Lo actively recruits and trains volunteers to monitor public areas for leaks and has also mobilized a group of morning walkers, joggers and residents to monitor cleanliness along Sungei Sembawang. He currently spearheads the Water Conservation Assistance Programme in his neighbourhood, an initiative that helps needy families reduce their water bills through the installation of water saving devices.

Mr Frederick Yeo Lye Hock – Keeping an eye on our waters



Award recipient: Mr Frederick Yeo Lye Hock

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Mr Frederick Yeo formed the Punggol South River Watch Group in October 2003. Together with a group of like-minded individuals, he regularly conducts patrols at the Sungei Serangoon River to fish out flotsam. He was instrumental in leading the River Watch Group to adopt Sungei Serangoon under the Our Waters Programme, and formed the anti-littering team to conduct land patrols and to spread anti-littering messages to residents in the area. Mr Yeo has also been enthusiastic about sharing water messages with the community. He has been a member of PUB's Water Volunteer Group since 2006, and helps residents install water-saving devices at monthly house-to-house visits in his neighbourhood.