



News Release

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RAISING ECO-AWARENESS AMONG THE YOUTH ON EARTH DAY

As Singapore's leading green property developer, City Developments Limited (CDL)'s environmental initiatives go beyond building eco-friendly developments and managing them in a more sustainable way. CDL's extensive environmental outreach initiatives are also targeted at the community at large, including the youth, as part of its continued commitment in Corporate Social Responsibility.

CDL celebrates this Earth Day with the sponsorship of two innovative green initiatives; namely the Rainwater Harvesting System by Catholic High School (Primary) as well as the iPledge Card by CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary), two of its six "adopted" schools under the National Environment Agency (NEA)'s Corporate and School Partnership Programme. These two schools were "adopted" in 2005 and 2007 respectively.

The support of the schools' Earth Day initiatives is part of CDL's on-going active engagement of the youth in Singapore, recognising the importance of raising the level of eco-awareness among the youth and developing youth leadership through creative green outreach programmes.

"CDL's affirmative programmes in environmental sustainability naturally extend to our youth as they represent the movers and shakers of the next generation. We believe that such synergistic engagement with schools will bring about more meaningful and effective projects. It is our hope that the small seeds of green interest sown today can grow into a mammoth tree of knowledge tomorrow," said Ms Esther An, Head, CSR, CDL.

On the school's green education, Mr Lee Hak Boon, Principal of Catholic High School (Primary) shared, "At Catholic High School, it is a priority to inculcate in our students the right attitude towards environmental conservation. Our participation in the NEA's CASP programme allows the students to be creative and explore different ways they can contribute to combating global warming. We are glad to have the support of our corporate partner, CDL, since 2005. Their commitment towards the environment is an encouragement to the teachers and students. We certainly look forward to more synergistic collaborations in the future."

From Rain to Potable Water – Catholic High School (Primary) makes it possible with Singapore's first Rainwater Harvesting System

Catholic High School (Primary) students from the Environmental Club have embarked on an innovative environmental programme to harvest rainwater as an alternative water source for drinking, washing and watering the plants.

In what is believed to be a first in Singapore, a rainwater harvesting structure has been set up within the school compound to collect rainwater which will be processed to be of drinking quality standard. The structure measures about 6 ft by 6 ft wide and 2-storey tall and is made out of acrylic plastic with steel structures for support. The piping and water container for collection of water will be food-grade plastic – which is of better quality and for storage of food for safe consumption.

The rainwater will flow from original source into the water structure and the piping will bring the collected water into a collecting point in which a Hyflux membrane will filter dirt/impurities and render water to be drinkable. Drinkable water is then collected in water containers. The project has been successfully carried out in Cambodia and Vietnam for human consumption for about a year through the Hemispheres Foundation.

The Rainwater Harvesting System was launched in conjunction with the school's Earth Day celebrations today. Through the Rainwater Harvesting System, the students will learn how the collected water source can be 'recycled' into usable and drinking water and to appreciate the importance of clean water and impact of pollution on clean water. They will also learn to maintain the rainwater harvest system as well as promote and educate the importance of quality drinking water and water conservation to the other schoolmates. Over the course of the next few months, the students will also be running various environmental experiments including testing the quality of the water, the volume the system is able to collect and reviewing the system for further improvements.

The school's Earth Day celebrations also included a drama performance and an 'Amazing Green Race' which required students to visit five different stations and complete five activities made up of recycled materials.

CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary) says "NO" to plastic bags with iPledge Cards

In an effort to highlight the importance to reduce waste by saying "No" to plastic bags, CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary) will be launching a special iPledge card programme during its Earth Day Fair to their students who will track the number of bags they have saved in a one month period by refusing plastic bags whenever they make purchases.

For this "hands on" iPledge Card programme, students will be required to log information such as the date, the merchant's name and location as well as the number of plastic bags they save each time they make a purchase. What makes the initiative more meaningful is that students will have to pen their thoughts on their participation to complete the submission. 600 cards will be issued during the Earth Day Fair.

Top entries will be selected based on the total number of plastic bags refused and their penned reflections. Prizes for winning entries include movie tickets, \$10 Popular gift vouchers and \$20 Takashimaya vouchers.

The Earth Day Fair, held from 21 to 22 April, is organised for both the Primary and Secondary school students and will also showcase an exhibition to promote the 3Rs.

CDL was also a sponsor of Catholic High School (Primary)'s previous projects submitted to the Environment Project Competition for NEA's Schools' Carnival. The school emerged winner in the Primary School category in 2007 for their "Earthworm" project and second place last year for their "Mosquito Breeding" project. Similarly, CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary) emerged third in the Open Category in the same competition in 2008. CDL's other "adopted" schools include Catholic High School (Secondary), CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Primary) and Maris Stella High School (Primary and Secondary).

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