

DENR-EMB, PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS CELEBRATE 17th ZERO WASTE MONTH



Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, urges the adoption of a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological solid waste management program to ensure the protection of public health and environment, utilization of environmentally-sound methods to utilize and conserve resources, and setting guidelines and targets for the reduction of solid waste, among others.

January of every year is also declared as Zero Waste Month.

The Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) is one of the implementing agencies of the said act, by serving as Secretariat to the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), a Commission composed of 14 member-institutions from the government sector, and three members from the private sector.

The NSWMC's tasks include the preparation of the National Solid Waste Management Framework, review of the implementation of local solid waste management plans, development and improvement of processes related to the issuance of clearance and permits, and formulating information, education, and communication campaigns, among others.

The EMB, through its Director, also heads the National Ecology Center (NEC), in ex-officio capacity. The NEC is composed of a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary team members from the academe, youth, investors, business, industry and other sectors. Team members of the NEC work hand in hand with local government units and the academe, especially in disseminating information and best practices related to solid waste management.

This year, the DENR-EMB once again leads the celebration of Zero Waste Month through the 3rd Ecological Solid Waste Management Exhibition and Environmental Summit, in partnership with the Quezon City Government and Climate Change Commission. The activity,

which will be held on January 26-29 2017, at the Quezon Memorial Circle, will highlight the importance of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), as well as waste segregation at source.

DENR Sec. Gina Lopez is expected to lead the event, with Sen. Loren Legarda, Sen. Cynthia Villar, who are also expected to grace the event. Organizers and exhibitors include the EMB Central Office, EMB Regional Offices (NCR, Reg. 3 and Reg 4-A), Quezon City Government, the NSWMC, Climate Change Commission, Ecowaste Coalition, Gawad Kalinga Foundation, and Ecowaste Coalition, among others.

Other activities include a bike run, interactive exhibits, Zero Waste Fair, stage play, and an environmental concert. ###