

SWARMPlan

NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Solid Waste Reduction Master Plan for Metro Manila

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WASTE WATCH
SWARMPlan
Sectoral
Reports **p2**



MODEL SCHOOLS
Winners of the
Model School
Awards **p3**



SWARM SUMMIT
Recognition
for Schools
and Malls **p4**

SWARMPlan Goes Nationwide

National Summit on Ecological Solid Waste Management Held

A national summit on Ecological Solid Waste Management, otherwise dubbed as the "SWARM Summit: Awards and Launch" was held last November 30-December 1, 2005 at the Le Pavillon, Metropolitan Park, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

The summit was attended by solid waste and information officers from the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), barangay captains in the different regions of the country, some representatives from the non-government organizations, different business establishments in Metro Manila that have established solid waste management programs, and representatives from the Department of Education (DepEd).

The participants to the summit from the DepEd were mostly composed of regional and division supervisors of Science and Araling Panlipunan (Social Studies) and city schools' division coordinators of alternative learning systems or non-formal education teachers.

The summit was highlighted by various paper presentations, culminating to the awarding of SWARMPlan Model Schools and recognitions of business establishments in Metro Manila that have commendably implemented the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 or Republic Act 9003.

The summit sought to (1) equip the participants of the new developments and emerging demands on residual waste management, methodologies and techniques in urban gardening and social enterprise, innovative teaching techniques for ecological solid waste management and updates on Republic Act 9003 compliance options for local government units; (2) give due recognition to outstanding SWARM implementers among commercial establishments and schools; and (3) launch SWARMPlan activities nationwide.

The summit also served as an avenue for various regions to formulate their own Regional SWARMPlans such as preparing information, education and communications plans for each of the SWARM sectors (commercial centers, schools, wet markets, barangays, subdivisions), to include monitoring and evaluation and to form their respective regional SWARM Task Forces in their areas of responsibility.

The summit workshops also aimed at the initialization of various activities, logistics and roles of the different focal persons designated for the newly-created SWARM Task Forces and to set tentative dates for their proposed training and seminars on the SWARMPlan implementation in the regions. *(Continued on page 3)*



From left to right: Dr. Angelina Galang (Executive Director of the Environmental Studies Institute of Miriam College, and SWARMPlan Coordinator), Dr. Fe Hidalgo (Officer-in-Charge of the DepEd) and Atty. Zoilo Andin (DENR Head Executive Assistant and Concurrent Executive Director of the National Solid Waste Management Commission Secretariat) principally address the participants at the opening of SWARM Summit, last 30 November 2005.

SWARMPlan Sector Point Persons Briefly Report on their Respective Sectors

Commercial Centers. Ms. Adel Licos, Ayala Foundation.



Ms. Adel Licos of the Ayala Foundation, and SWARMPlan Point Person for the Commercial Centers Sector, said that “commercial centers, mall administrators have drafted their Ecological Solid Waste Management Program (ESWMP) and guidelines for their respective tenants. This has somehow reduced the volume of wastes collected by waste haulers to an average of 45-50%, without yet including recyclable materials”.

Schools. Ms. Tessa Oliva, Environmental Studies Institute.



Ms. Tessa Oliva of the Environmental Studies Institute of the Miriam College and SWARMPlan Point Person for the Schools Sector, reported that “at present, almost a thousand private and public schools have attended SWARM training. Key to successfully get the private and public schools to attend the one-day training seminars was the partnership with academic organizations and with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)”.

Wet Markets. Mr. Rene Pineda, Jr., Concerned Citizens Against Pollution.



Mr. Rene Pineda of Concerned Citizens Against Pollution, and SWARMPlan Point Person for the Wet Markets Sector, recommends that as “market vendors own the resources that must be recovered from the waste they generate, they (vendors) should be helped to form cooperatives doing solid waste management program for extra income. Apart from getting to earn the income from the recyclables, they should be taught how to do receptacle composting and vegetable gardening (in the absence of space) on the rooftop areas of their respective markets”.

Barangays. Ms. Sonia Mendoza, Mother Earth Foundation.

Ms. Sonia Mendoza of Mother Earth Foundation, and SWARMPlan Point Person for the Barangay Sector, shared that as of March 2005, SWARMPlan has trained 711 barangays or 46.56% of barangays in Metro Manila. Worth mentioning is the ESWMP by Caloocan City in April 2005, upon the initiative of Solid Waste Office in partnership with Mother Earth Foundation. They have established 69 Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) out of the 188 barangays, and 73 out of the 75 schools have MRFs. Their ESWMP is fully supported by Mayor Echiverri.



Subdivisions. Ms. Juanita Abaquin, Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines.



Ms. Juanita Abaquin of the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines (ZWRMP) and SWARMPlan Point Person for the Subdivisions Sector, tackled that assigned 300 subdivisions, the ZWRMP has given seminars to 225 homeowners in subdivisions. One of the successful implementers of R.A. 9003 is the La Vista Subdivision, where a composting area and a vegetable garden were started on a vacant lot in its Purok 8. Other subdivisions, like Lagro Fairview II, and those in Better Living, Paranaque, Las Pinas; Rockville in San Bartolome; Deparo, Amparo Subdivision in Caloocan, have also established their MRFs and are practicing waste segregation at source.

Message

I extend my congratulations to the organizers of the SWARM SUMMIT: Awards and Nationwide Launch.



Everyday, tons of garbage are generated by households, hospitals and clinics, farms, factories, and business establishments. With the amount of trash that we accumulate, it is no wonder that our country is turning into a huge wasteland. Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, was enacted precisely to address and remedy the waste problem. However, to ensure full implementation of this landmark legislation, there is great need to disseminate complete and accurate information and guidance on proper waste management. As Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Co-Chair of the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, I laud our government agencies and partner NGOs behind the SWARMPlan. I believe that this is a step towards achieving our goal of reducing our wastes.

It is my fervent hope that we will all join hands to ensure that our children and the succeeding generations will inherit a living earth with all of its bountiful natural resources and vibrant wildlife. May God Bless our country and our people!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pia S. Cayetano".

SENATOR COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO

* Message given for the "SWARM Summit: Awards and Launch" held last November 30-December 1, 2005 at the Le Pavillon, Metropolitan Park, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

National Summit... (Continued from page 1)

Among the commitments made by the participants present were the conduct of echo and trainers' training in their regions, creation of SWARM Task Forces in their offices and schools, pursuit of various environmental contests, holding of activities to increase the adoption of solid waste management plans by the students inside and outside their classrooms, linking with media and communities, and the like.

The summit was jointly organized by the Environmental Studies Institute of the Miriam College, DepEd, EMB-DENR, Ayala Foundation, Polystyrene Packaging Council of the Philippines, Concerned Citizens Against Pollution, Mother Earth Foundation, and the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines.

SWARMPlan Model School Awardees Bared

The long wait is finally over!

After three months of intensive monitoring, inspection, and deliberation, the Solid Waste Reduction Master Plan for Metro Manila (SWARMPlan) proudly reveals the winners of the first SWARMPlan Model School Awards as follows: Kalayaan Elementary School in Caloocan City, First Place; Silvestre Elementary School in Valenzuela City, Second Place; and Tanza Elementary School in Malabon City, Third Place (Model Elementary Schools); University of Perpetual Help Dalta System High School in Las Piñas City, First Place; Kalayaan National High School in Caloocan City, Second Place; and Malabon National High School, Third Place (Model Secondary Schools).

The model schools were bared at the SWARM Summit: Awards and Nationwide Launch of the SWARMPlan, held last November 30 and December 1, 2005 at the Le Pavillon, Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City.

The six awardees bested over a hundred schools across Metro Manila, all of which were subjected to meticulous inspections conducted by the SWARMPlan School Monitoring Committee composed of representatives from the Environmental Studies Institute - Miriam College, the Department of Education, Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Concerned Citizens Against Pollution, Ayala Foundation, Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines Foundation, Inc., Mother Earth Foundation, and a special participation from the Department of Agriculture.

The schools were judged on their capacity to execute an effective and efficient solid waste management system, in particular, their respective waste segregation, collection and recovery, and composting scheme. Waste reduction efforts, information and education programs, as well as the sustainability of the SWARMPlan Program implemented by the schools, were also given high merits.

The top winners, Kalayaan Elementary School and the University of Perpetual Help Dalta System High School, each received a plaque and a brand new computer while the rest of the school finalists were given Certificates of Recognition.

Other division school grand finalists to the SWARMPlan Model School Awards were the following - Kalayaan Elementary School and Morning Breeze Elementary School in Caloocan City, Tanza Elementary School and Dagat-dagatan Elementary School in Navotas, Pio Valenzuela Elementary School and Silvestre Lazaro Elementary School in Poblacion and Ugong both in Valenzuela City, respectively, Bago Bantay Elementary School in Quezon City, Pembo Elementary School, Maximo Estrella Elementary School and Comembo Elementary School in Makati City, Felixberto Serrano Elementary School and Tambo Elementary School in Parañaque City, San Lorenzo Ruiz Elementary School in Pasig City. For the secondary school level, the finalists were Paref Woodrose School in Muntinlupa City, Don Alejandro Rocas Science and Technology High School in Quezon City, Kalayaan National High School in Caloocan City, Quirino High School in Sta. Mesa, Manila, Our Lady of Perpetual Savior College in Marikina City, Malabon National High School in Malabon City, Canumay National High School and Gen. Tiburcio de Leon High School both in Valenzuela City, and the University of Perpetual Help Dalta System High School in Las Piñas City.

SWARM SUMMIT: Recognizing the Efforts of Schools and Commercial Centers in Implementing Ecological Solid Waste Management

By: Therese Marie Rico – Ayala Foundation

The summit held last November served as a venue to recognize schools and malls with established Ecological Solid Waste Management (ESWM) Programs aside from launching the SWARMPLAN project nationwide. There were about 300 participants from various sectors nationwide that attended the Summit.



Miriam College – Environmental Studies Institute led the search for model elementary and high schools in Metro Manila implementing their Solid Waste Management Programs. The objective of the search was to give recognition to schools that have successfully implemented their ESWM program

and to encourage other schools to participate. The chosen schools have proven to draw together reaping benefits such as increased awareness of students on the importance of the program, proactive parents and empowered community towards environmental protection and proper solid waste management; cleaner surroundings; healthier food source such as vegetables and attractive ornamental plants by using compost; reduction of residual wastes going to dumpsites; and income from sale of recyclable materials.

The Ayala Foundation, on the other hand led the awarding of Certificates of Commendation to 13 Metro Manila malls with exemplary solid waste management systems. These malls include: Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Robinsons Galleria Mall, Greenhills Shopping Center, Farmers Plaza, Ali Mall, Ever Gotesco Commonwealth Mall, Power Plant Mall, Metropoint Mall, and Ayala Center Makati. Also recognized were three newly built malls that have integrated ESWM facilities such as Materials Recovery Facility in the building design: Tiendesitas, Gateway Mall and Market! Market!



(Left to Right) Mr. Juan Goitia of Collier's International, Ms. Erlinda Subang of Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Ms. Adel Licos of Ayala Foundation, Ms. Mona Lauraya of Tiendesitas, and Ms. Velma Lim of EMB-



Perpetual Help Delta System High School, top winner of the SWARMPLAN Model School Awards (Secondary Level), receives a plaque of appreciation and a brand new computer from the Search organizers led by Dr. Teresita Domalanta, NCR Regional Director of the Department of Education during the National Summit on Ecological Solid Waste Management held at the Le Pavillon in Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City last December 1, 2005.

What is SWARMPlan?

SWARMPlan stands for Solid Waste Reduction Master Plan for Metro Manila. It is civil society's integrated response to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's request for a rationalized solid waste management program.

What are its goals?

- 1) to reduce the waste that ends up in dumpsites, landfills, canals, and streets;
- 2) to maximize the return of recyclables to factories and of compostable to soil.

What is its work plan?

- 1) It coordinates the education and training efforts of various NGOs for greater efficiency and effectiveness; and
- 2) It monitors the progress of these coordinated efforts through uniform coordinating scheme.

Who funds SWARMPlan?

The President's Social Development Fund has given P4,000,000 to cover education and training for the entire Metro Manila in two years. However, it raises additional funds from other sources including donations, training fees, and others.

Can any group avail of the education and training services of SWARMPlan?

Definitely yes. You may call over-all Coordinator Nina Galang or Tessa Oliva. You may call the other Task Force members if your group can be clearly classified as a unit in one of the segments mentioned.

What fees are charged for training?

The fees depend on the capability of the beneficiary organization.

Who are involved?

Non-governmental organizations that have been active in solid waste management advocacy compose the Task Force of SWARMPlan. Specific NGOs have been tasked to focus on respective segments of the public.

Government institutions such as the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the Environmental Education and Information Division, and the National Solid Waste Management Commission, EMB-NCR, Department of Education-NCR also help in SWARMPlan's advocacies.

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