

DENR CELEBRATES ENVIRONMENT MONTH IN JUNE

June will be a busy month for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as it leads the celebration of the Philippine Environment Month.

“We celebrate Environment Month this year with the renewed and strengthened conviction to care for the land we live on, the air we breathe, and the water which gives us life. More than any time in this planet’s history, it is now that we must put our acts together to combat increasing threats to our ecosystems,” said DENR Secretary Ramon J.P. Paje.

With the theme, “*Go Wild for Life, Combat Biodiversity Loss*,” Paje said that the fight against illegal wildlife trade must continue, noting that the extinction of species is irreversible and losses are permanent.”

He added that biodiversity loss has affected the livelihood of many Filipinos especially those in the agricultural and fisheries sector and even causes losses in the economy due to natural calamities.

The month-long celebration begins with a three-day Young Eco-Ambassadors’ Camp that will be held on UP National Engineering Center on June 1 – 3.

Sponsored by the Young EcoAmbassadors Pilipinas, the Department of Education, and DENR’s Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), the camp will bring together successful high school student applicants together with their advisers from all over Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) will host the Philippine Eagle Week celebration in collaboration with Enchanted Kingdom (EK) in Sta. Rosa, Laguna with the theme “*Saving Eagles, Protecting Forests, Securing our Future*” on June 4. A series of fun-filled activities will take place during the celebration, which includes the participation of the winners of the AGILA costume contest, and EK’s Circle of Artists wearing of eagle costumes while parading around the amusement park.

Philippine Eagle Week is observed annually from June 4 – 10.

The EMB, in cooperation with various DENR offices, and organizations from the private sector and civil society, will also hold a multi-media exhibit on combating biodiversity loss and beating climate change at Robinsons Galleria in Ortigas Center, Quezon City, from June 6 to 8.

The EMB’s Climate Change Division will conduct an orientation on ecosystem-based adaptation at its Air Quality Management Training Center (AQMTC) on June 6, while EMB’s Air Quality Management Section (AQMS) will conduct an emission inventory training-workshop for the EMB regional offices from June 6-8.

The EMB’s Environmental Education and Information Division (EEID) will bring together bloggers for the Environmental Bloggers’ Forum to promote the hashtag #GreenEnvironmentGawingForever at the Cocoon Boutique Hotel in Quezon City on June 7.

A General Assembly and Consultation Workshop on the Upland National Implementation Action Plan on June 7 and a workshop on the draft Revised Chemical Control Order for Cyanide and its compounds will be held June 9 at the EMB AQMTC Conference Room.

To showcase an environment-friendly building, the Laguna Lake Development Authority will conduct a “Green Building Tour” of its office on June 8.

The annual Clean Air Forum, which is DENR’s sustaining effort to further improve air quality with the Partnership for Clean Air, and the activity on the Capacity Development of Micro and Small Medium Enterprises in compliance with the Environmental Permitting Requirements are scheduled on June 14 and 15 - 16 respectively, at the DENR Social Hall in Quezon City.

The Capacity Development of Micro and Small Medium Enterprises is a two-day seminar that will be in partnership with EMB-Pollution Adjudication Board, and its Environmental Compliance Assistance Center.

On June 16, the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center Amphitheater in Quezon City with the EMB as lead, will feature the live mural painting by A.G. Saño (painter, advocate for marine conservation, and climate advocate) and the youth artists, as the “Stop Illegal Wildlife Trade Campaign” will be held in General Santos City, spearheaded by BMB-DENR.

The EMB will also hold the 2nd Integrated National Solid Waste Management Summit on SM Megatrade Hall on June 21-24, and the Training on Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Management for Industries in Cebu City on June 23-24. An orientation on the Globally Harmonized System will be held in Davao City on June 24.

The Philippine Arbor Day, a nationwide tree planting activity, will be spearheaded by the Strategic Communication Initiatives Service of DENR at the Upper Marikina Watershed and the Ipo Watershed on June 25.

Other activities that will be spearheaded by the EMB’s Climate Change Division will be training on Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Development Planning on June 27-29 for selected DENR employees.

The EMB- National Capital Region Office will also hold an Environmental Eco-Tour at the Las Piñas Parañaque Critical Habitat on June 29, and EMB Central Office AQMS will hold a National Training-Workshop on Air Quality Monitoring Network on June 27-30.

Simultaneous clean up of adopted esteros nationwide is set on June 25. Meanwhile, tree planting activities, and a bike parade will also be held nationwide during the month-long celebration. ###