

# NEWSLETTER

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY



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## RRC-EA PROGRAMME

The Ramsar Regional Centre-East Asia (RRC-EA) supports the implementation of wetland conservation projects through its Wetland Fund. The RRC-EA Wetland Fund is a grant program that provides complementary support to ongoing and planned national wetland initiatives as a contribution of participating Contracting Parties to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention. The program provides grants for research studies that can influence policy development and grants for national, subnational and site level measures related to wetland management, conservation and restoration.

*More details at <http://rrcea.org>*

## SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

A Non-Governmental Organization working on Conservation of Wetlands in Sabah

Established on 22 August 2005

## OBJECTIVES

To promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and the variety of plants, birds and other kinds of organisms found in them.

To raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands and public involvement in protecting wetlands.

To manage Kota Kinabalu Wetlands (KKW) as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.

## "Spreading Wetland Conservation and Awareness Through Hands-On Environmental Education"

Being the only wetland educational centre in Kota Kinabalu City, Kota Kinabalu wetland Ramsar Site offers the public to learn about wetlands conservation and awareness in a non-formal education system.

A total of 80 students from 6 different institutions; Almacrest International College, Asia Metropolitan College, SIDMA College, Kiara College, Cosmopoint College and University College Sabah Foundation have participated this programme. Among activities that have been arranged were;

### i) Mangrove clean-up

The participants are needed to set a weight target for their rubbish collection.



Mangrove Clean - up



Recycling Education

### ii) Recycling education

The participant learned on how to tackle the solid waste problem and while enjoying themselves playing the "The Garbage Game".



Water Quality monitoring

### iii) Water Quality Experiment

Provided with a basic water quality monitoring kit, they were required to do the monitoring at different sites around KKWRS.

### iv) Handcrafting Activity

The participants explored the wise use of mangrove by making charcoal using the trees.



Wise Use of Mangrove

## The Closing Activity

The closing ceremony was held on 30th April 2019 at Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site. All participants from 6 institutions gathered for the last time for the final programme. Among the activities were the fashionista show (using the old newspaper) and handcrafting product from mangrove trees and used materials. We were very delighted that these students were very supportive throughout the programmes. Raising awareness of the importance of wetlands has always been the top priority of SWCS. These young blood are the future - in taking the stewardship of conservation, therefore grooming them from the buds become the all-important missions to undertake. Thank you RRC-EA for making this possible.





## What's Happening

### Courtesy Call at Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment Sabah



Courtesy call with the Assistant Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment, YB Assalfal P. Alian, on 10th April 2019 to submit the nomination proposal for Klias Peninsula as the 3rd RAMSAR site in Sabah.

## Renewable Energy

In our daily life, we often need the energy to generate electricity for our daily use. There are two (2) types of energy source; renewable energy and non-renewable energy. The common forms of renewable energy are wind energy, solar, energy, hydropower, biomass and geothermal energy. While, the common sources of non-renewable energy are: fossil fuels, coal, crude oil, natural gas (petroleum) and uranium (nuclear energy). Nowadays, many countries use renewable energy sources to generate most of the electricity in their country. So, what is renewable energy?



*Wind Turbines and Solar panel*  
Credit: [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)

Renewable energy is a source of energy that can be used and replenished naturally in a relatively short period of time. However, renewable energy does not necessarily mean that the energy is permanent and sustainable. As an example, biomass is renewable energy but if it were to deplete faster than it can be replenished then it could possibly for it to run out. Also, renewable energy such as wind power, solar power and geothermal power can be inconsistent energy sources as these energies depend on the time of year and locations. Even though renewable energies are often depicted as a green energy source which are not polluting the environment, it is actually depending on how the energy is harness and use. As an example using geothermal heat of a hot spring is usually a pollution-free process,-

but drilling for geothermal heat can release hazardous gases, such as hydrogen sulphide, into the environment.

Malaysia is a country that has many sources of energy both non-renewable and renewable energies. Malaysia has set sustainable development and diversification of energy sources, as the economy's main energy policy goals. The renewable energies in Malaysia are in the form of biomass and solar energies.

On December 2018, Malaysia largest solar project has been completed in Sepang, Selangor by Tenaga Nasional Bhd(TNB), a Malaysian electricity utility company. The large scale solar project uses 230,000 solar panels installed on 98 hectares of land in Mukim Tanjung 12, Sepang. This project would increase TNB's renewable energy capacity to the national grid to 73.2MW, reaching its commercial operation due date with an initial generation of 2.4MW in October.

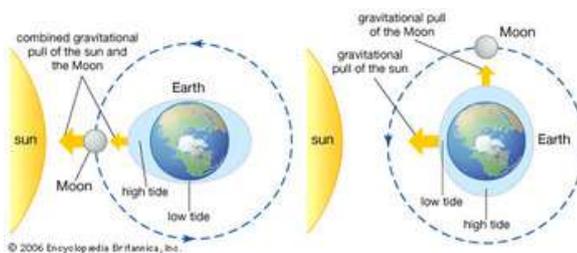


*Malaysian Solar Project*  
Credit: [IUCN.org](http://IUCN.org)

Biomass resources have been identified as the sustainable sources of energies in Malaysia, intensive use of biomass energies and other renewable energies could help reduce in the dependency on fossil fuel and the significant advantage lies in the reduction of net carbon dioxide emission to atmosphere leading to less greenhouse effect. The government of Malaysia has set a target of 20% of the country's electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2030, an increase from 2%.

## What are Tides

An ocean tide refers to the cyclic rise and fall of seawater. Tides are very long-period waves that move across the ocean. They are caused by the gravitational forces exerted on the earth by the moon and the sun. Tide tables can be used for any given locale to find the predicted times and tidal range which is the height difference between high tide and low tide. The predictions are influenced by many factors including the alignment of the sun and moon, the pattern of tides in the deep ocean and the shape of the coastline and near shore. They are however only predictions, the actual time and height of the tide are affected by the wind and the atmospheric pressure. Many shoreline experience two nearly equal high and low tides each day which also known as semi-diurnal tides.



Credit: [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com)

High and low tides are caused by the moon. Moon gravitational pull the generates which called as the tidal force. The tidal force caused by the Earth and water, it is to rise it out on the side closest to the moon and the side farthest from the moon. As the earth rotates, the part of the earth passes through the rising up level of seawater each day. Hence, the daily tides are referred all about gravity and it is the moon's gravity which is the main cause of the occurrence low and high tides.

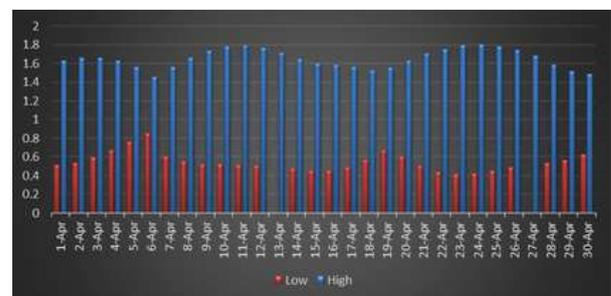
High tide is the tide at its highest level and comes furthest up the beach or the bank while the low tide is the tide when it is at its lowest level. The Bay of Fundy, which touches the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, has one of the highest tidal ranges in the world. This time-lapse, captured at Hall's Harbour, Nova Scotia, show the tide shifting from 46 feet at high tide to around two feet at low tide.



*The Bay of Fundy The Highest Tide in the World*

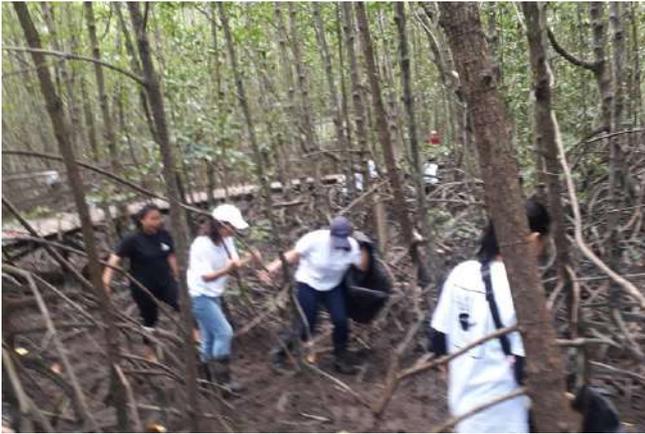
Credit: [www.wolfville.ca](http://www.wolfville.ca)

Tides are one of the most reliable phenomena in the world. The rise and fall of the tides play an important role in the natural world and can have a marked effect on maritime-related activities which is important for fishing and navigation. The tidal force can also be used as a source for generating electricity which is already applied in France and Japan.



Based on this graph, on 24th April which is the highest we are having high tides and on 23rd April we had the lowest low tides along last month which is April.

Article references:  
<https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/tides.html>  
<https://scijinks.gov/tides/>



6th April 2019. Environmental Education Programme with students from SM Lok Yuk Kota Kinabalu



11th April 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with student from Universiti Tun Hussien Onn Malaysia



11th April 2019. RRC-EA Project with students from Cosmopoint Kota Kinabalu



14th March 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with students from Universiti Putra Malaysia



20th April 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with member of Rotaract Club UMS.



20th April 2019. RRC-EA project with student from Kolej Kiara Kota Kinabalu



21st April 2019. Outreach (Earth Day) at Tanjung Lipat Kota Kinabalu organised by DOE



24th April 2019. Environmental Education Programme with students from Nakajima Jr. High School Japan



26th April 2019. RRCEA project with students from Sidma college



26th April 2019. Outreach to SMK Sri Nangka Tuaran



27th April 2019. Environmental Education Programme & Mangrove Tree Planting with student from UITM Kota Kinabalu



30th April 2019. RRC-EA project with students from University College Sabah Foundation

## Guests' comments



Good view and experience.  
-Timothy Fletcher from Canada



Thank you for the good experience.  
- Norihiro and friend from Japan

# Upcoming Events

APRIL

## Environmental Education Programme

- BCCM Menggatal
- Jesselton International School, Kota Kinabalu.

## Environmental Voluntary Work

- TIM Belia St. Francis Kepayan
- EXO Travel
- SM Tshung Shin Kota Kinabalu



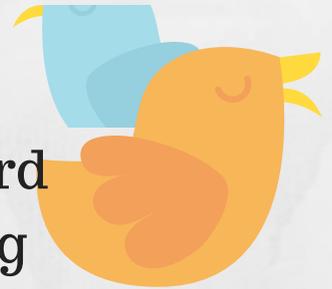
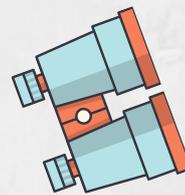
**Volunteer  
Needed**

**01**

**Volunteering is good for your heart**

Volunteering for KK Wetlands Ramsar Site can be a great fun! If you have passion for the environment or just want to gain more outdoor experiences, this is the appropriate channel. Do not miss the chance! Sign up to be a volunteer now or contact us for more information.

**02**



**Monthly Bird Monitoring**



Join our monthly birding activity on every 15th-17th day of the month

*membership*

**03**

**Benefits of being our member**

- As a member, you will be able to participate
- in members' events and enjoy free entry to
- Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Ramsar Site
- Eligible for 50% discount for binoculars rental\*.
- Most importantly, you know you are helping
- this ecosystem to survive and provide
- essential services to it.



**FOR  
MORE  
INFO**

Call us at  
088-246955  
or drop us an email at  
[swcs@sabahwetlands.org](mailto:swcs@sabahwetlands.org)

support us by joining our programmes

**1. Environmental Education Programme**

- i. KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience Programme
- ii. Mangrove Conservation Experience Programme
- iii. Handcrafting from Mangrove

**2. Environmental Voluntary Work**

- i. Nursery Work
- ii. Mangrove Clean-Up

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