

**Sabah Wetlands
Conservation
Society (SWCS) /
Pertubuhan
Pemuliharaan
Tanah Lembap
Sabah was
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.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2014

On the 7th of June 2014, we joined forces with key organizer, Talisman Energy, to celebrate World Environment Day through a day-long activity for Universiti Malaysia Sabah students from the Engineering School. The ceremony, held at Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort, Tuaran was officiated by Datuk Pang Yuk Ming, representing YB Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment.

SWCS led the afternoon portion of the celebration, leading the UMS students and invited guests to our planting site in Sulaman Lake Forest Reserve. Through the efforts of the students and sponsorship from Talisman, 180 mangrove seedlings were planted.

Pledge on sustainable growth

Larissa Lumandan
TUARAN: Growth must be both inclusive and environmentally sound to reduce poverty and build a shared prosperity.

In stating this here Saturday, Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Masidi Manjun reiterated the Government's commitment to sustainable development.

He said it had been part of their effort in meeting the needs of future generations.

Therefore, he explained that the ministry along with its agencies had offered recognition to those who strive to protect, manage or restore natural heritage.

Masidi said this in his speech delivered by Assistant Minister Datuk Pang Yuk Ming during the Environmental Forum and Mangrove Tree Planting Project sponsored by Talisman Malaysia Limited in conjunction with World Environment Day 2014 at Shangri-la's Rasa Ria Resort, here.

He hoped Talisman Malaysia would also consider initiating recognition for innovative and outstanding environment programmes to complement the award programmes that are already in place.

The programme was attended by 160 engineering students from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

Masidi later urged the undergraduates to embrace the concept of sustainable development.

"I find it most appropriate that this forum is targeted at engineering undergraduates as they will soon be in the forefront of project developments in their respective careers," he said.



Pang (third from left) pictured signing the plaque.

According to him, students who acquired environmental awareness would have the capability to personalise environmental issues.

It would not only make others realise their responsibilities but also their power to become agents of change in support of sustainable and equitable development, he said.

Earlier, he expressed his satisfaction towards Talisman Malaysia for taking the leading role on World Environment Day.

Talisman Malaysia's, Kinabalu Asset

Manager, Duncan Smart, said they had covered much ground since their arrival in Sabah two years ago.

"We are passionate about helping local communities in which we do business," he said, adding that their focus is on the environment, education and health.

The forum, he said, represented the extension of their commitment in sharing different approaches and knowledge on sustainable development to students who will pursue their careers in various industries.



Invited guests (above) and students from the local university (below) plant their seedlings.



VISIT TO THE TYT

Our committee, led by President Datuk Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa, paid a courtesy call to our Tuan Yang Terutama Di Pertua Negeri Sabah, on 27th May 2014 to highlight our work in wetlands conservation in Sabah. Datuk Zainie invited the TYT to our fundraising events being planned in September, comprising a fundraising dinner, golf tournament, and international symposium.

For more information about these events, visit www.sabahwetlands.org.



SWCS committee members with Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Juhar Mahiruddin.



Detectives needed! Look out for water pollution!



This project continues efforts to determine the water quality at KK Wetlands, enhancing the Wetlands Rangers Programs targeting youths and the community for effective monitoring over a long period. Effective water quality monitoring requires the implementation of this community based program for the next 2 years.

The first workshop was held on 3rd May with seventeen participants from SM All Saints, SM Shan Tao and SM Tun Fuad Stephens.



Above: Clean up by participants along the coastal highway.
Below: Water ways and drainage mapping.



MANGROVE CONSERVATION CORNER

Mangrove restoration is the regeneration of mangrove forest ecosystems in areas where they have previously existed. The practice of mangrove restoration is grounded in the discipline of restoration ecology, which aims to assist the recovery of resilience and adaptive capacity of ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, or destroyed". Since environmental impacts are an ongoing threat, to successfully restore an ecosystem implies not merely to recreate its former condition, but to strengthen its capacity to adapt to change over time.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mangrove_restoration

VOLUNTARY WORK AT KK WETLANDS

On the 7th and 11th of June, 56 student volunteers from Semporna, **SMK Abdullah II, SMK Bugaya II, SMK Kunak Jaya** and 90 students from **Universiti Malaysia Sabah**, ventured to our mangrove planting site at Sulaman Lake Forest Reserve. With their help, 500 seedlings were planted, partly funded by Talisman (Malaysia).



On the 21st of June, a voluntary work program was organised for 30 students from **Alma Crest International College Kota Kinabalu**. Divided into 3 groups, they were assigned to clean up the mangroves and fill polybags in preparation for new mangrove seedlings.

The finalists of **Miss Earth Sabah 2014** participated in greening activities at KK Wetlands where they were given the opportunity to learn about mangroves and the importance of its conservation. The local beauties had many questions to ask, and spent hours working on site. Of course, lots of photos were also taken!

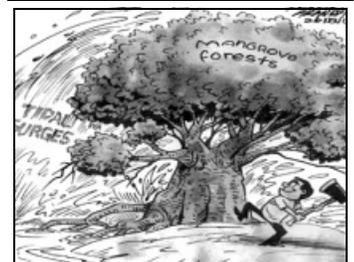


On the 3rd & 4th of June, **Karan, Arthur, Refael and Aslan** from Singapore spent their school break volunteering at KK Wetlands.

IMPORTANCE OF MANGROVES

Coastal protection:

The dense root systems of mangrove forests trap sediments flowing down rivers and off the land. This helps stabilize the coastline and prevents erosion from waves and storms. In areas where mangroves have been cleared, coastal damage from hurricanes and typhoons is much more severe. By filtering out sediments, the forests also protect coral reefs and seagrass meadows from being smothered in sediment.



http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/blue_planet/coasts/mangroves
<http://movingimages.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/cartoon-in-the-philippine-star-26-nov-2013.gif>

ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION CORNER

Environmental education (EE) refers to organized efforts to teach about how natural environments function and, particularly, how human beings can manage their behavior and ecosystems in order to live sustainably. The term is often used to imply education within the school system, from primary to post-secondary. However, it is sometimes used more broadly to include all efforts to educate the public and other audiences, including print materials, websites, media campaigns, etc. Related disciplines include outdoor education and experiential education. Environmental education is a learning process that increases people's knowledge and awareness about the environment and associated challenges, develops the necessary skills and expertise to address the challenges, and fosters attitudes, motivations, and commitments to make informed decisions and take responsible action.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_education

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

MANGROVE TOUR



23 students, aged 8-11, from **Kinabalu International School (KIS)** explored KK Wetlands on 12th of June. Armed with spirit and eagerness, they set out to learn more about the mangrove flora and fauna, learning about the importance of mangrove forests and its inhabitants.

PAPER MAKING WORKSHOP

On 16th May 2014, SWCS together with the other SEEN members organized booth exhibitions during the Karnival Belia Sempena Hari Belia Negeri Sabah 2014 at Ranau Sport Complex. We carried out a paper making demonstration to promote to everybody, especially the youths, to reduce waste paper by recycling their own used papers. By recycling, we can even make our own products such as bookmarks, notebooks, photo frames, greeting cards and more!



Our Environmental Education Officer, Jane Joimin, shows a demonstration to visitors.



Jane, with other members of SEEN (Sabah Environmental Education Network) with the carnival mascot.

Paper + Education

- Recycling has a lots of benefits that can help people and save the environmental as well. One of the benefits is:

Recycling Saves The Earth

- Recycling different product will help the environment. For example, we know that paper comes from trees and many trees are being cut down just to produce paper.
- By recycling paper, we can help lessen the number of tree that are cut down. Products made from raw materials that came from our natural resources should be recycled so that we can help preserve the environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOCUS:

- Awareness and sensitivity about the environment and environmental challenges;
- Knowledge and understanding about the environment and environmental challenges;
- Attitude concern for the environment and help to maintain environmental quality;
- Skills to mitigate the environmental problems;
- Participation for exercising existing knowledge and environmental related programs.

FAUNA AT KOTA KINABALU WETLANDS



White-breasted Waterhen
(*Amaurornis Phoenicurus*)
Local name: Burong Keruak

>> White face and breast and dark back and wings make this species unmistakable. Commonly seen in rank vegetation, overgrown drains and along roadsides in rural areas, sometimes flying up when disturbed.

>> Adults may be accompanied by several half-grown fluffy black chicks, the pale breast plumage gradually appearing as they grow.

>> Monotonous single piping note endlessly repeated, or chorus of grating and gurgling notes in which both the male and female participate, competing with neighboring pairs.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN RECYCLED PAPER

TOOLS TO BE USED :

- 1> Blender
- 2> A4 size frame
- 3> Mold with wire mesh attached
- 4> Water bucket, water, sponge
- 5> Cloth, screen, paper for recycling and dead leaves



STEP 1

Tear paper into small pieces and put it in a blender



STEP 2

Add some leaves / grass into the blender



STEP 3

Fill the blender about 2/3 full with water



STEP 4

Assemble the mold:



STEP 5

Blend the mixture of leaves and papers



STEP 6

Place the mold into a basin filled with water



STEP 7

Pour the mixture into the mold evenly



STEP 8

Pull the mold upwards



STEP 9

Add another screen & use a sponge to press out the excess water



STEP 10

Change the screens with pieces of cloths



STEP 11

Let the paper dry under the sun. Or, you can just iron it



STEP 12

Decorate your paper!



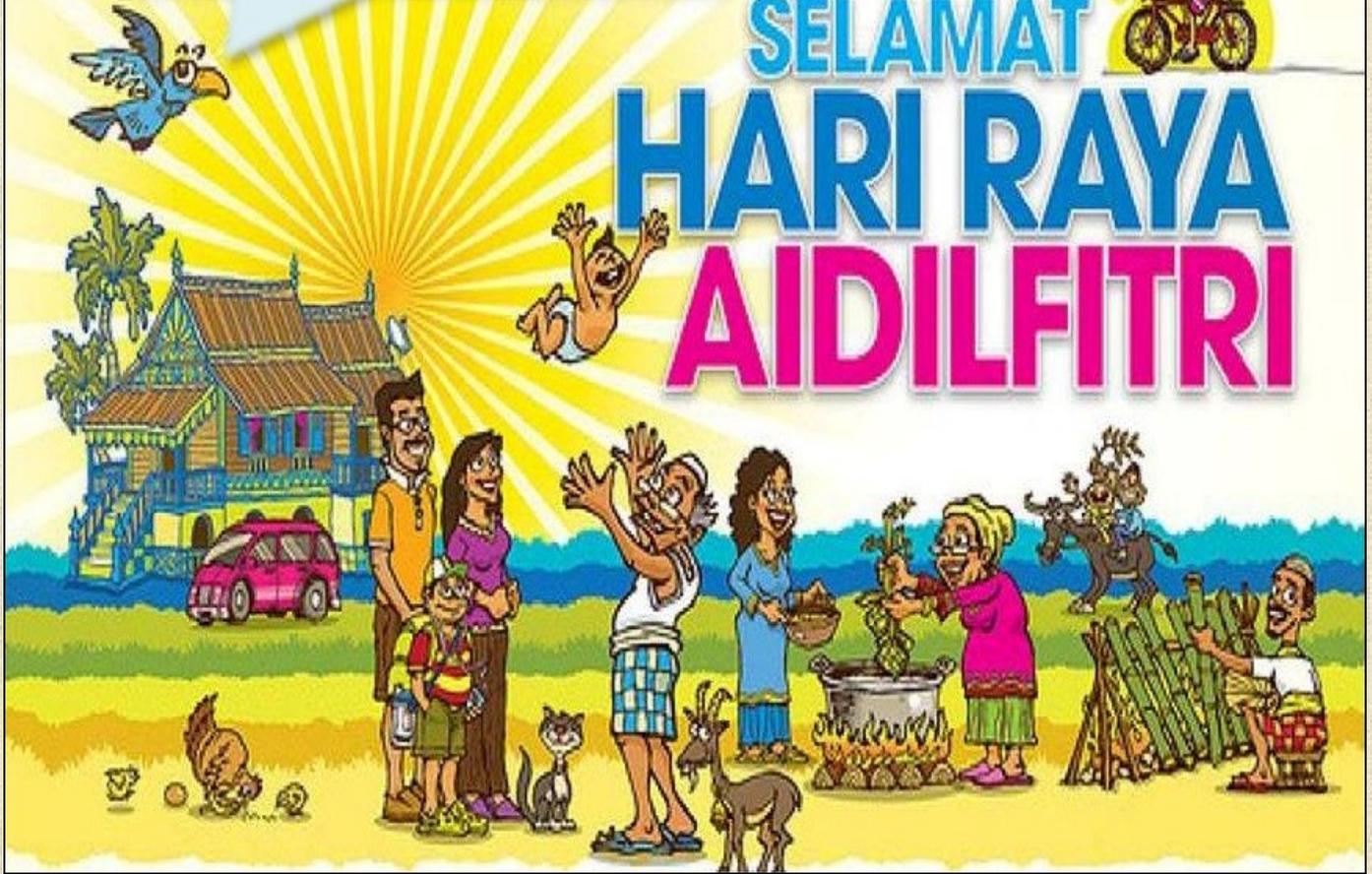
This is the sample of one done by a student from SMK Bahang during their paper making workshop held at KK Wetlands.

Maaf Zahir & Batin

Selamat
Balik
Kampung!



SELAMAT HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI



Tangan dihulur maaf dipinta,
Erat hubungan sesama kita,
Semoga gembira di hari yang mulia ini,
Salah dan silap harap dimaaf,
Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Maaf Zahir dan Batin dari Kami Warga Kota Kinabalu Wetlands

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