

Green Gazette

A community newsletter supporting sustainability at NIE Issue 2 | Oct/Nov 2018

Recent Green Initiatives at NIE & NTU

NIE

- **NIE Service Learning Club holds "Green Awareness Week"**



To promote sustainability awareness, a group of student teachers sold over 300 reusable bamboo straws at no profit and shared educational materials in the NIE canteen. This event, held between 22 and 26 Oct, was an initiative of the overseas Youth Expedition Project team Project Love Sikkim.

- **NIE outlets plastic bag -free from 1 Nov 2018**
Life with less plastic is fantastic! All F&B and retail outlets in NIE have stopped giving out plastic carrier bags from 1 Nov to align with NTU's initiative to reduce the use of plastic bags on campus.

NTU

- **Campus stores begin plastic bag charge**
From 1 Oct, retailers on campus such as Prime, Giant and 7-11 have rolled out a 20-cent charge for each plastic bag issued.

Know of a campus initiative to feature? Let us know at greenclan@nie.edu.sg!

#OurOnlyPlanet

The NIE/NTU community share their thoughts on caring for #OurOnlyPlanet. In this issue, we chat with Paul Teng



Q: What is the habit you've adopted for sustainability that you're most proud of?

A: Reducing my ecological footprint in two ways — firstly, **reducing the water footprint of my food** by eating less animal protein and more vegetables, and secondly, **by taking public transport to work** at least half the time.

Q: Debunk a myth you often hear about sustainability.

A: One myth is that as an individual, you can't do much to help ensure sustainability! **Everyone has a role to play**, especially with respect to "habits of living", such as zero food waste, not wasting water, walking up stairs instead of taking the elevator, eating more vegetables, using non-disposable drinking utensils, etc.

At NIE, this is particularly important as our values system should be reflected in our concern for a sustainable environment and passed on to future generations.

[Read the full interview with Prof Teng >>](#)

Prof Teng is the Managing Director & Dean of NIE International and Adjunct Professor with Murdoch University, Australia. He recently co-wrote the book [Food Matters: Food Security and the Future of Food](#).

Photograph: June Teng

Green Scene

Your snapshots of eco-conscious efforts around campus



If paper needs to be used, we can still divert it from the landfill! Staff-initiated paper recycling points spotted at NSSE and OER.

Sustainability in the News

- [Conservationists set out Blue Plan to preserve marine landscape](#) (The Straits Times, 14 Oct 2018)
- [World must slash meat consumption to save climate: Study](#) (The Straits Times, 11 Oct 2018)
- [Avoiding climate chaos means 'unprecedented' change: UN report](#) (Channel NewsAsia, 6 Oct 2018)
- [In South Korea, a lesson to be learned from a plastic waste crisis](#) (Channel NewsAsia, 6 Oct 2018)
- [Standard Chartered to stop financing new coal power plants](#) (The Business Times, 26 Sep 2018)



NIE's campus has won multiple awards for energy efficiency.

- 2005: ASEAN Centre for Energy's 'New and Existing Building Category'
- 2005: BCA Energy Efficient Building Award (First Prize)
- 2009: BCA Green Mark Gold^{PLUS}
- 2012 & 2016: NEA Energy Efficiency National Partnership Award
- 2012 & 2017: BCA Green Mark Platinum Award



Share Your Green Initiatives

Tell us how you or your colleagues are promoting the 4Rs (refusing, reducing, reusing, and recycling)! Email greenclan@nie.edu.sg.

About Green Clan

Green Clan was formed in 2017. We are an informal group of research, faculty and admin staff interested in sustainability matters and supporting evidence-informed initiatives for sustainability. [Connect with us](#)