

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY 2009 - PUBLIC SEMINAR "CROSSING THE LINE - ILLEGAL AND UNWARRANTED ALIENS IN SINGAPORE"

As part of NParks' celebrations of IDB 2009 and in line with this year's theme, we invited Professor Peter Ng to give a public seminar titled "Crossing the Line - Illegal and Unwarranted Aliens in Singapore". He shared on the different IAS that can be found in Singapore, their potential impact and what each of us can do to reduce this. The public seminar was well received and attended by about 60 participants from the public, NGOs and staff.



Posters on Singapore Biodiversity



Prof Peter Ng showing an invasive Alien species

RIDING THE GREEN WAVE 2009

This year, 17 schools in Singapore participated in *The Green Wave*. Schools were encouraged to organize their own events and activities in celebration of IDB, such as exhibitions, skits and outdoor learning. Kranji Secondary School, which is very strong in environmental education, was one of the participating schools and also took the opportunity to hold a 'graduation ceremony' for students who completed the Young Arborist Programme (YAP), a programme designed by NParks to inspire budding 'tree doctors'. Mr Simon Longman, Director/Streetscape, NParks, presented the YAP certificates to the students and delighted them with his nuggets of witty wisdom. He planted a tree together with the students and alumni of Kranji Secondary School as part of their celebrations for *The Green Wave*.



Mr Simon Longman, Director of Streetscape, NParks
planting a *Kopsia fruticosa* with
Mdm Maureen Lee, principal of Kranji Secondary School



Students, alumni and staff with their newly planted tree

CONSERVATION IN THE HEARTLANDS

To commemorate International Day of Biological Diversity on 22 May 2009, NParks, through the various branches of Conservation Division (Central Nature Reserve, National Biodiversity Centre, Pulau Ubin and Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve) collaborated with various NGOs to present on Singapore's Biodiversity Trail at this year's Envirofest, held at Toa Payoh HDB Hub last weekend from 23-24 May 09.

The Biodiversity Trail is divided into 4 segments – rainforest habitat, coastal forest habitat, mangrove habitat and marine habitat. NParks created aspects of these habitats and showcased the types of flora and fauna that can be found in the various habitats. The NGOs, in turn, presented issues and actions that individual can take to help protect Singapore's natural heritage. The joint collaboration between NParks and the NGOs was the first; with many more collaborations at various levels to come. It was indeed encouraging to see many people enquiring about Singapore's natural heritage over the weekend.



Bringing Nature to the Heartlands

Clockwise (top left): Photographs of marine life by National Biodiversity Centre; storyboards on coastal forest by Pulau Ubin; backdrop of the tropical rainforest's structure by Central Nature Reserve and booth on marine habitat set up by National Biodiversity Centre.



Fun with Nature

Clockwise (top left): Mr. Wong, our origami expert, patiently teaching children on how to fold a frog; Fun at the board game booth by Pulau Ubin with Azlin and Jeremy; Big smiles at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve's interactive booth; Vanessa briefing volunteers on the specimens from the tropical rainforest.

Young Environmental Thoughts

Examples of finger painting and origami done by children.