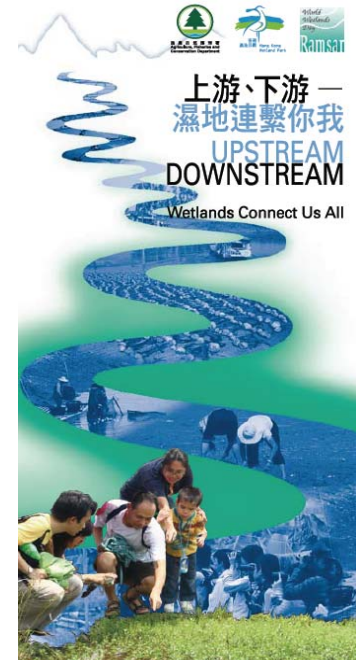




Hong Kong Wetland Park, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department 漁農自然護理署香港濕地公園

“World Wetlands Day 2009” Hong Kong Celebration Programme

To promote the theme for “World Wetlands Day 2009”, i.e. Upstream - Downstream: Wetlands Connect Us All 上游、下游—濕地連繫你我, the Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) organised a series of educational activities from October 2008 to February 2009 to arouse public awareness on wetland conservation. HKWP also took advantages of this opportunity to promote the Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) on wise use of wetland resources.



WWD 2009 Hong Kong Celebration Programme

A. Wetland Kaleidoscope

Every visit to HKWP is fascinating. Visitors could encounter different wonders of wetlands through joining the “Wetland Kaleidoscope” which marked the start of the “World Wetlands Day 2009 Hong Kong Celebration Programme”. By means of different educational and promotional events, we encourage the public to take part in watching and recording wildlife, joining eco-tours, taking pictures, as well as drawing pictures to learn about our wetland environment.

The “Wetland Kaleidoscope” education activities were divided into three categories:

- I. Public participation - regular activities available for public everyday;
 - (a) “Enjoy our Wetlands” Guided Tour for the Communities
 - (b) Experience Wetland Ecology and Culture: Yuen Long Suburb Delights
 - (c) Experience Wetland Ecology and Culture: MTR-Wetland Park Double Offers
 - (d) “Snap Shot” at Wetland
 - (e) Wetland Gallery
 - (f) Wetland Animal Star of the Month
 - (g) “Exploring Wetland Wildlife” Treasure Hunt Game



- II. Field Observation - thematic activities, including record of insects and birds and display their record;
 - (h) “Wetlands in My Eyes” News Reporting Contest
 - (i) The 9th Inter-school Bird Race
- III. Lively Wetlands - using drama and role-play as a medium to encourage parents to join the activities with their kids
 - (j) The 3rd Storytelling Competition - “If Wetland Animals and Plants can speak”

The “Wetland Kaleidoscope” programme was supported by a number of organisations, including government departments, NGOs, press media, schools and universities institutes.



B. Details of the WWD 2009 Programme

A WWD 2009 website namely “Wetland Kaleidoscope” was established to provide the latest information of the WWD 2009 celebration programmes, photos, posters and education material, as well as news-clippings. The URL is:

<http://www.wetlandpark.com/wwd2009>



(a) “Enjoy our Wetlands” - Guided Tour for the Communities

From October 2008, HKWP launched the “Enjoy our Wetlands” guided tour which was designed for charity, non-profit organisation and social services organisations. Up to January 2009, a total of 88 guided tours have been arranged for 1,500 people. This activity will be continued after the WWD programme to benefit more people from the community.



(b) Guided Tour on Wetland Ecology and Local Culture: Yuen Long Suburb Delights

HKWP supported Yuen Long District Council to organised “Yuen Long - Suburb Delights” by providing fix-point interpretation activities on bird watching at Nam Sang Wai, on 8 consecutive Sundays from 30 November 2008 to 18 January 2009. The activity has attracted a total of 1,200 participants.



(c) Guided Tour on Wetland Ecology and Local Culture: MTR - HKWP Double Offers

HKWP and MTR organised a “MTR-HKWP Double Offers” from 18 October 2008 to 15 March 2009. Passengers travelling on MTR with an Octopus card to Tin Shui Wai Station could get a “10% Wetland Park discount coupon”. Passengers with the discount coupon could redeem a “Light Rail / MTR Bus 1-Day Travel Pass”, upon purchase of admission ticket at HKWP.



(d) “Snap Shot” at Wetland

To encourage visitors to enjoy observation of wetland habitats, and animals and plants therein, HKWP organised a photography activity “Snap Shot” at Wetland. Visitor could submit their best “snap shot” soft-copy. Until now a total of 3,000 visitors have submitted their photos, and 400 outstanding photos were selected for an exhibition namely “Wetland Art Gallery” in February 2009.



(e) Wetland Gallery

We encouraged visitors to observe and present their impression of wetland environment, landscape, animals and plants in different art form, such as painting and sketching, at the “Wetland Gallery” drawing workshops. A total of 3,000 children joined the workshops. We have selected 400 outstanding pictures for an exhibition namely “Wetland Art Gallery” organised in February 2009.





Wetland Gallery



Snap Shot at Wetlands



Wetland Art Gallery displayed 800 photos and pictures contributed by the public

(f) Star of the Month

“Wetland Animal Star of the Month” was organised in winter (November 2008) and spring (February 2009), which featured Crocodile “Pui Pui” and endangered Black-faced Spoonbill.



Visitor could take pictures together with mascots, as well as to get a souvenir when they come to HKWP during Chinese New Year.

(g) “Exploring Wetland Wildlife” Treasure Hunt Game

Visitors could join the activity by following the “treasure hunt” instruction on the guide map collected from the Information Counter, followed by going to find six “Treasure Checkpoints”, answer all the question and then redeem a souvenir.



(h) “Wetlands in My Eyes” Inter-school News Reporting Contest

The programme encourages students to dig deep into the exciting and diversified world of wetlands. Students would report life of wetlands to the public, investigate the relationship between wetlands and human, and more importantly, to show the public their feeling of wetlands through observation. A total of 400 students from 80 teams joined the news reporting contest. Winning masterpieces would be displayed at HKWP, and be published at the local newspapers.



Articles published at local newspapers.

(i) The 9th Inter-school Bird Race

The Bird Race consisted of training sessions and field practices in 4 consecutive Saturdays in December 2008. A total of 120 students and teachers from 30 teams joined the bird race, and the winning team recorded 70 species of birds within 4.5 hours, which was also the highest record over the last 5 years.



6.3. Lively Wetlands

(j) The 3rd Storytelling Competition - “If Wetland Animals and Plants can speak”

The storytelling competition aimed to encourage students to express their knowledge on wetland conservation in an innovative way and to read more and to enhance their understanding of wetland conservation. A total of 30 teams participated in the competition on 17 January 2009. Outstanding teams were invited to perform their story on “Wetland Kids Performance” as a part of the “World Wetlands Day Hong Kong Celebration Programme”.



C. Cultural Festival

Cultural Festival aimed to enhance peoples’ knowledge on the theme of World Wetlands Day 2009 “Upstream – Downstream: Wetlands Connects Us All”. Long time ago, human have been living along rivers to obtain freshwater for farming. In this seven-day Cultural Festival, visitors could understand the multicultural traditional, explore the relationship with wetlands, and enjoy an enriched wetland journey. There were three sub-themes in the Cultural Festival: From the 1st to 3rd day of Chinese New Year was “Multi-cultural Day”; from the 4th to 6th day was “Wetland Cultural Day”, and on the 7th day was “World Wetlands Day Hong Kong Celebration Programme”. The 7-days Cultural Festival event has attracted more than 30,000 visitors.



A booth demonstrated culture of Nepal



Cultural performance showing the use of wetlands and respect to god

D. World Wetlands Day Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony: 1 February 2009

The World Wetlands Day Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony was organised on 1 February 2009 at the Theatre of Hong Kong Wetland Park. Prizes were presented to participants of competition, supporting organisations and volunteers, to thank for their effort and conservation on wetland conservation.

Apart from the presentation ceremony, visitors could enjoy exhibition stalls as apart of the “Cultural Festival”, performance on drama, “hand-bell” and “Oliver Twist” (excerpt) by students from the kindergarten, primary schools and secondary schools.



Backdrop for the World Wetlands Day Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony



The launch of World Wetlands Day 2009 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony by officiating guests



HKWP Volunteers received “Outstanding Volunteer Award”



Performance by students



Presentation to winners of storytelling Competition



Storytelling session by students



"Hand-bell" performance



"Oliver" performance by students of Queen Elizabeth School Old Student Association Tong Kwok Wah Secondary School.



Students of Hong Kong Baptist University designed a game to demonstrate visitors that wetlands provide us food.



Exhibition on "Upstream - Downstream: Wetlands Connect Us All"



Exhibition on "Cultural Festival"

Appendix 1 :

"Wetland Kaleidoscope" was organised from mid-October 2008 to mid-March 2009. The Hong Kong Wetland Park collaborated with a number of departments, nature conservation organisations and schools, for a series of education and publicity programmes.

Activities	Date	Target Audience
Public Engagement		
Cultural Festival	26 January to 1 February 2009	Public
"Wetland Kaleidoscope" Kick-off Ceremony	18 October 2008	Invited guests
Wetland Fair	18-19 October 2008	Public
"Enjoy our Wetlands" Guided Tour for the Communities	18 October 2008 to End of February 2009 Everyday (except Tuesdays)	Reserved Groups
Experience Wetland Ecology and Culture: Yuen Long - Suburb Delights	30 November 2008 to 18 January 2009 (8 consecutive Sundays)	Public
Experience Wetland Ecology and Culture: MTR — Wetland Park Double Offers	18 October 2008 to 15 March 2009	Public
"Snap Shot" at Wetland	18 October 2008 to End of February 2009 Every Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday	Public
Wetland Gallery	18 October 2008 to End of February 2009 Every Saturday, Sunday	Public
Wetland Animal Star of the Month	November 2008 and February 2009	Public
"Exploring Wetland Wildlife" Treasure Hunt Game	18 October 2008 to 28 February 2009	Public
TVB "Wild China" Screening	18 October 2008	Invited Groups
Field Observation		
"Wetlands in My Eyes" Inter-school News Reporting Contest	October 2008 to 12 December 2008	Secondary School Students
The 9 th Inter-school Bird Race	Workshop, Mock Race and Field Practical Visits 29 November 2008 6, 13, and 20 December 2008 Bird Race 3 January 2009	Secondary School Students
Exhibition on Winning Masterpieces of "The Insect Play" Photo Competition at Hong Kong Wetland Park	13 September 2008 to End of December 2008	Public
Lively Wetlands		
The 3 rd Storytelling Competition – "If Wetland Plants and Animals Can Speak"	Workshop 8 November 2008 Competition Day 17 January 2009	Kindergarten and Primary School Students
World Wetlands Day 2009 Hong Kong Celebration Ceremony	1 February 2009	Public
Wetland Show		Public