

Talk of the *Town*



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FIGHT DENGUE

**A 20¢-sized drop of water is
all mozzies need to breed.**

Remove stagnant water at home. Do the Mozzie Wipeout.



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FIGHTING DENGUE HAND IN HAND

All it takes is a 20-cent sized drop of stagnant water for mosquitoes to breed in.

The number of dengue fever cases recorded islandwide has been alarming to say the least, with 3,541 dengue cases being reported so far in 2019. This is more than three times than the 993 cases reported in the corresponding period of 2018.

While there are no effective treatments for the dengue virus, local scientists and researchers have recently mapped out the structures of the dengue (and also Zika) virus strains that will go a long way in the development of treatments for these diseases. We can take comfort in this knowledge, but more can be done to nip mosquito breeding in the bud - starting from home.

To increase residents' awareness of the steps that can be taken to safeguard their homes against mozzie breeding, Dr Teo Ho Pin together with Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Mr Amrin

Amin, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Home Affairs & Health launched the dengue prevention campaign in April 2019, ahead of the peak dengue period from June to October.

The Town Council has been working together with the National Environment Agency and Residents' Committees during outreach initiatives and programmes to promote ownership in dengue prevention. Everyone can play their part, let us continue to work together to keep our estates safe.



Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Dr Teo Ho Pin and Mr Amrin Amin distributing Mozzie Wipeout booklets and insect repellents to residents during the National Dengue Prevention Launch on 7 April 2019

IT'S ALL ABOUT PREVENTION 5 STEPS TO FIGHT DENGUE:



Turn the pail

1



Tip the vase

2



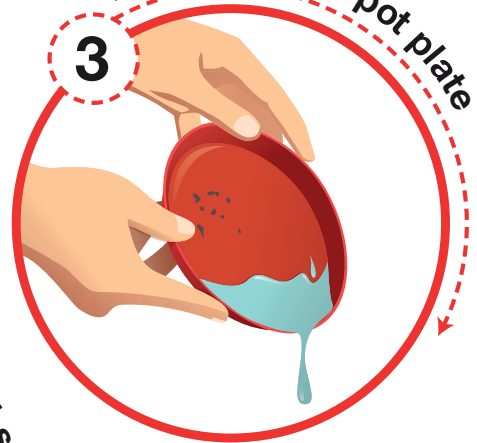
Clear the roof gutter
and place Bti insecticide

5



Flip the flowerpot plate

3



Loosen the hardened soil

4





GREEN LIVING WITH COMMUNITY GARDENS

Beginning of 2019, gardening enthusiasts around Block 542 Jelapang Road received a new year surprise. Winning one of the 20 bids for an allocated plot at the new Cashew N5 Park Community Garden is husband and wife team, Mr Qhing Hock and Mdm Shirley Goh. They have been maintaining their plot over the last few months happily, investing much of their time and money in this flourishing patch that will keep them occupied.



The couple and other plot caretakers get to plant as they wish, including crops like tomatoes, pandan leaves, red amaranth and other vegetables of their choice. They also share greens like Brazilian spinach, kangkong, mint, basil and mulberry leaves with their neighbours.

"Nobody has green hands, it's having the interest that is important. Not being afraid of the rain or sun helps too," said Mdm Goh. Wanting to learn more about gardening tips and share her own knowledge with others as well, Mdm Goh joined Facebook group 'Urban Farmers SG' to connect with fellow community garden enthusiasts around Singapore.

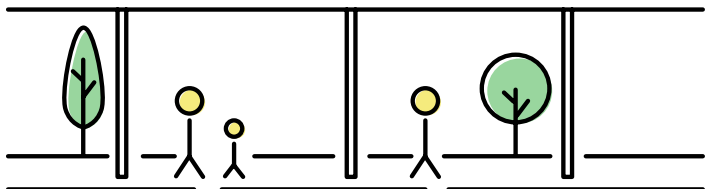
"It is my husband's daily routine to visit the plot for an hour before he goes to work and when he returns in the evening. In between, it will be my turn, and since that is mostly day time I get to see the neighbours passing by to look at the garden," said Mdm Goh who has hopes of continuing her work at the garden even after their two-year stint is up.

Collective gardening has nurtured neighbourliness and fostered bonding. By caring for plants together, neighbours develop affection for one another as they get in touch with nature. While plot caretakers are

the main patrons of their respective gardens, community gardens are open to all. Anyone is welcome to visit, help, and can even look forward to vegetable giveaways from the caretakers.

As Mdm Goh shared, interest is key to keep the hobby going. For those who have an interest in gardening and are keen to meet other like-minded people, joining community garden activities can be your answer to active and healthy living. Cashew Zone 4 Residents' Committee welcomes you to take part so bigger community gardens can be created and maintained for a greener neighbourhood!

COMPLETED LINKWAY AT BLOCK 234 BUKIT PANJANG RING ROAD



KEEP CLEAN & GO GREEN

When disposing of large and heavy items such as sofas, refrigerators, and washing machines, residents can reach out to Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council (TC) for help and have them cleared via the complimentary bulky item removal service (limited to three free items per month).

Previously, whatever that ends up at the refuse centres get sent to waste-to-energy plants. Starting 1 April this year, instead of making their way straight to the incinerator, all bulky waste collected from residents will be broken down and recycled as part of the TC's continuous commitment to a greener community.

With this new initiative, bulky waste that ends up at any of the 12 refuse centres within the GRC will be dismantled, sorted according to materials (e.g. copper, plastic, wood), and later sent for recycling to ensure minimum wastage. Given Singapore's limited landfill space, this method of waste management benefits the environment in so many ways! For example, the wood collected from items

like old bed frames and cabinets will be shredded into wood chips, compressed, and later sold off to horticultural companies to make plant fertilisers.

As we seek to implement more sustainable practices within the town, we invite all residents to join us and give us your feedback on how they can be improved.



REDUCING ELECTRONIC WASTE: DO YOUR PART!

Singapore generates more than 60,000 tonnes of e-waste a year! Instead of throwing electronics away when you do not need them anymore, why not...

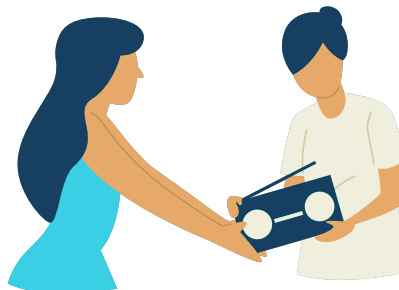
1 REPAIR IT

Send the faulty electrical appliance for fixing, or bring out the handyman in you and learn to fix it yourself!



2 DONATE IT

One man's junk is another man's treasure. Pass your items on to others who are in need of them:
<https://bit.ly/2Ytfmzz>



3 RECYCLE IT

Drop off your e-waste at these designated recycling points:
<https://bit.ly/2yLxwxx>



Bulky removal service

- Call us at 1800 766 9100 (Mon-Fri) between 8am and 5pm to make an appointment
- The service is carried out from 2pm to 5pm, Mon to Sat (except PHs)
- Each appointment is limited to three (3) movable items per month
- Only applicable to HDB residents residing within Holland-Bukit Timah GRC and Bukit Panjang SMC

This service DOES NOT include:

- Dismantling of items
- Shifting of house
- Clearing of renovation debris
- Built-in fixtures (e.g. cabinets, beds, doors, cupboards & drawers etc.)
- Fish tank, glassware and other fragile items
- Piano/Big musical instrument
- Fitness Equipment/Gym Set
- Safe Deposit Box
- Any other item that has to be managed by more than 2 conservancy workers

S&CC REBATES

The Service and Conservancy Charges (S&CC) are monthly payments made towards the maintenance and upkeep of common areas within Holland-Bukit Panjang town. To help with household expenses, the S&CC rebate to offset between 1.5 and 3.5 months of S&CC from April 2019 to March 2020 was announced during Budget 2019. All eligible households have also received a letter with details pertaining to the disbursement of the rebate.

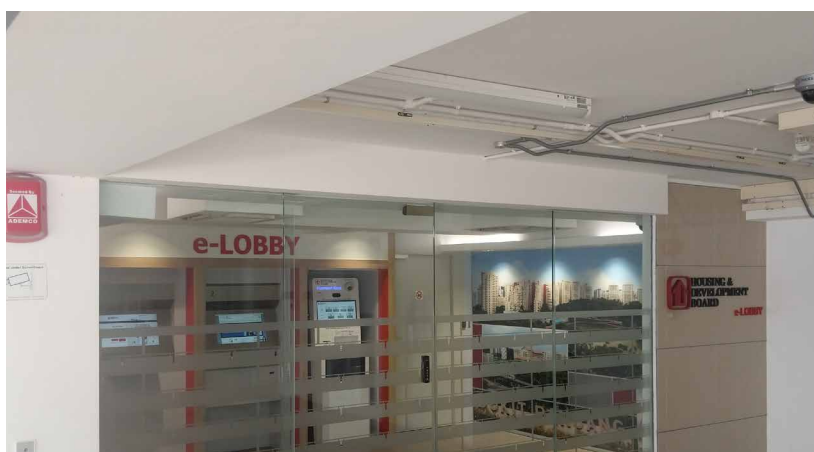
HDB Flat Type	FY2019 S&CC Rebate (no. of months)				
	April 2019	July 2019	October 2019	January 2020	Total for FY2019
1- and 2-room	1	1	1	0.5	3.5
3- and 4-room	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.5
5-room	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2
Executive/ Multi-Generation	0.5	0.5	0.5	-	1.5

You can continue to make the S&CC payment via Interbank GIRO or the Recurring Credit Card Scheme (RCCS). Other modes of payment also include NETS, credit card and cash at Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council offices, or via Housing & Development Board (HDB) Cash Payment kiosks, AXS and SAM payment stations.

HDB BRANCH OFFICES

While the Town Council provides maintenance of common areas, booking of facilities and collection of S&CC payment services, the Housing & Development Board (HDB) Branch Offices manage the estate and provide flat maintenance services as well as housing administration.

Visit the Branch Offices located around Bukit Panjang to use the e-kiosks for transactions. For further assistance, you can also contact your nearest Branch Office (by appointment only).



Need that BBQ pit for your gathering with loved ones? Contact the Town Council for bookings. Please note that the HDB Branch Offices do not accept booking of facilities.



REJOINING THE WORKFORCE

Mr Leong Yew Wah, a resident of Holland-Bukit Timah GRC, was let go when his position was no longer needed in his then company. But he continued to remain positive and found his way back into the working world

Mr Leong Yew Wah is someone who looks at life with optimism. He believes that staying positive in the midst of crisis is important to move ahead. But even for him, being asked to leave a job that he held for 13 years made him apprehensive. So when the then 55-year-old found out his role as a Business Intelligence Analyst was no longer needed in his previous firm's Singapore operations, he knew he had to keep looking forward. But it was tough to accept, especially when his daughter was still in school. "Initially, my family tried to help me see if there was any way to salvage the situation, like ask for an alternative role," he recalls.

"But the main reason I was made redundant is because my role can be shifted to another region." As such, the responsibility of main income provider had to be borne by his wife. He admits there were some cutbacks on certain luxuries like eating out and travelling. During his unemployment, he continued to make the most of the situation, undertaking the Professional Conversion Programme (PCP) by Workforce Singapore (WSG) for 12 months while searching for available opportunities.

After almost 18 months, with the help of WSG's appointed Career Matching Provider MAXIMUS Asia, he joined Modern Beauty Wellness, an SME in the beauty and wellness sector, as Management Operations Officer. Having worked in MNCs his whole career, the transition to a smaller company was challenging but with PCP, he learnt how to better adapt to a different company culture and industry.

Leong is enjoying his new role now, where he has room to hone his data analytic skills,

while gaining experience in operations and facility management. "At my previous job, I was required to travel because it was a regional role," he shares. "Now operations are based here mostly so I don't have to go out of the country." He says with a smile: "Now my wife and I are making plans to retire comfortably."

Find out more about the Professional Conversion Programme and explore available roles at bit.ly/HBPTC-PCP.



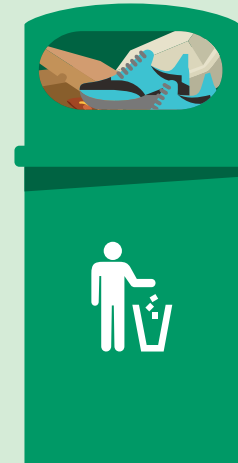
AT YOUR DISPOSAL

Can be recycled



Paper, Glass, Plastic, Metal, Clothes

Cannot be recycled



Paper contaminated with food waste, shoes, used styrofoam containers

Have you been binning your recyclables correctly?

The blue receptacles placed at the centralised bin centre of each HDB block by the National Environment Agency serve as a collection point for clean recyclables. Remember to separate recyclables from waste, clean out, rinse, and place them into a used plastic bag or cardboard box before depositing them into the blue recycling bins.

To dispose of other waste, please use the green trash bins found at void decks or tie them up neatly before dropping them into the centralised refuse chute.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



Scan me!



Take part in Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council's Residents' Satisfaction Survey to share your feedback on estate cleanliness, maintenance and services rendered by the Town Council.

Visit us at <https://urlzs.com/iwM38> to participate.