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NORTH WEST ECO TRAILS BRING SINGAPORE'S GREEN LUNGS CLOSER TO RESIDENTS

10 different eco trails nestled in the North West District to enhance appreciation of urban greenery

Covering close to 30 kilometres across the North West District, North West Eco Trails will feature 10 different scenic routes for residents to explore thriving flora and fauna in the wilderness of Singapore's green lungs. Organised by North West Community Development Council (CDC) and in partnership with Singapore Environment Council (SEC), the **Launch of North West Eco Trails** will be graced by Guest-of-Honour Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District, on **Sunday, 15 May 2016** at **Dairy Farm Nature Park. Media arrival** is at **7.15am**.

2 **Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District**, says, "Even as Singapore progresses economically, we must not neglect the importance of biodiversity appreciation, which can be easily incorporated as a healthy element in everyday lives. North West Eco Trails aims to help residents find pockets of tranquillity in this fast-paced society and at the same time, connect the communities to green lungs of Singapore, discovering a range of unique flora and fauna in the North West District."

3 **Mr Edwin Seah, Executive Director of Singapore Environment Council (SEC)**, says, "The North West District is home to a significant portion of Singapore's green lungs. However, not many people are aware of their existence, much less visit these trails. We are pleased that through the North West Eco Trails, residents can now explore these green spaces with ease, improve their health and learn to appreciate and conserve Singapore's biodiversity at the same time."

4 North West Eco Trails encompasses 10 different trails in the North West District:

- a) Admiralty Park
- b) Dairy Farm Nature Park
- c) Green Corridor (From Rail Mall to Bukit Timah Railway Station)
- d) Hindhede Nature Park
- e) Lower Peirce Reservoir Park
- f) Lower Seletar Reservoir Park
- g) Sembawang Park
- h) Springleaf Nature Park
- i) Yishun Park & Pond
- j) Zhenghua Park

5 Kicking off the launch of North West Eco Trails is Dairy Farm Nature Park with its splendid view of the iconic Singapore Quarry. Residents can look forward to an exciting line-up of 9 other trails which will be unveiled over the next few months.

6 Alongside magnificent diversity of flora such as the unique family of rainforest trees (Singapore's First Dipterocarp Arboretum) at Yishun Park, critically endangered wildlife like the Banded Leaf Monkey and Oriental Pied Hornbill can be spotted across the different scenic routes.

7 In line with North West CDC's vision of a Healthy North West District, organized tours will be coordinated by the Grassroots Organisations and Singapore Environment Council for 6 selected trails for North West Brisk Walking Club members. The remaining 4 trails are self-led and can be easily explored without guides. More information of the eco trails can be found in [Annex C](#).

	Trails	Trail Distance	Highlights
1	Admiralty Park	2km	The largest nature area within an urban park in Singapore, Admiralty Park is home to more than 100 species of flora and fauna, all residing amongst its array of habitats: secondary forest, mangroves, riverine and open land. As one moves away from the tarmac paths and walks deeper along Sungei Cina, the park will charm visitors with its naturalistic side of the forest. Catch the macaques swimming in the river, wonder at the amazing adaptations of the mangrove trees and the increasingly rare hedgehog rattan by the mangrove!
2	Dairy Farm Nature Park	5km	An important green buffer zone for Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, the Dairy Farm trail leads one to both the iconic Singapore Quarry as well as the Wallace Education Centre where visitors can discover more about Singapore's natural heritage. Once visitors set foot on the trail, they will be flanked by a multitude of bird species like Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Common Tailorbird, Collared Kingfisher, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler and more, all residing amongst its secondary forest of flora like the durian trees, rubber trees and fig trees.

	Trails	Trail Distance	Highlights
3	Green Corridor (From Rail Mall to Bukit Timah Railway Station)	3km	A popular route for many walkers, the Green Corridor is more than just for exercise. The entire stretch of corridor is important for the preservation of nature as it helps facilitate movement of fauna and flora across our island, connecting 6 main green areas in Singapore. At this particular sector, the corridor will bring visitors on an excursion lined with multiple flora species like the African Tulip Trees with its striking orange flowers, the Rain Tree-like Albizia, Star Fruit Trees and Fig Trees. The many mature fruiting trees also play host to a wide array of bird species like the Olive-winged Bulbul, Long-tailed Parakeet, Black-naped Oriole and Olive-backed Sunbird.
4	Hindhede Nature Park	1.5km	Located next to the Bukit Timah Hill Nature Reserve, Hindhede Nature Park, named after the prominent Danish businessman Jens Hindhede, leads to one of the most scenic places, the Hindhede Quarry. It is also excellent for wildlife spotting like the Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Banded Woodpecker, Clouded Monitor Lizard and Plantain Squirrel. Leading up to the quarry, visitors will see magnificent trees like the Jelutong, Albizia, Common Pulai and one of our heritages tree, Brazil Nut Tree. One might also spot a Malayan Colugo clinging silently to one of the many giant trees, looking like a piece of lichen-covered stump.

	Trails	Trail Distance	Highlights
5	Lower Peirce Reservoir Park	3km	As Singapore's second oldest reservoir, Lower Peirce Reservoir is home to many exciting species. The board walk will take visitors through age-old lianas, Sea Apple trees, Nibong and Oil Palms, Rubber trees and the Common Mahang. Keep an eye out on the tree tops and one might just spot a Gold-ringed Cat Snake lazing there or a Plantain Squirrel scampering along the forest highway of branches and lianas. Visitors may also spot the critically endangered Banded Leaf Monkeys foraging atop the tree canopy if they are lucky enough. Upon breaking out of the secondary forest area, the scenic views of the reservoir will take one's breath away.
6	Lower Seletar Reservoir Park	1.7km	The third reservoir to be built in Singapore, Seletar Reservoir plays a prominent role in Singapore's Water Story. The Lower Seletar Reservoir underwent a makeover in 2010 under the PUB's ABC Waters Programme, now boasting a heritage deck that showcases its rich history, a water play area and a multi-purpose stage. It is home to a variety of birds, mammals and insects that live off the waters, like the White-bellied Sea Eagle, Little Heron, Collared Kingfisher and White barred Duskhawk dragonfly. This 2km stretch of water channel is also one of the best places to learn about Singapore's water story, as well as to explore a multitude of flora species which makes it an ideal place for outdoor learning.

	Trails	Trail Distance	Highlights
7	Sembawang Park	2km	Away from the hustle and bustle, Sembawang Park gives a glimpse of Singapore's naval heritage with relics like the Beaulieu House and remains of the 1920s Seletar pier. Facing the Johor Straits in the North, its tranquillity, beachfront and park trees will showcase nature's best. The park's abundant fruiting and flowering trees is also home to many bird species like Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Collared Kingfisher, Common Iora, Olivied-backed Sunbird and more! Lucky visitors may also spot the nationally endangered Oriental Pied Hornbills, which have made this beach park home.
8	Springleaf Nature Park	3km	Springleaf Nature Park is a bird-watching haven. Formerly part of the Chan Chu Kang village and encompassing the Lower Seletar Reservoir, it is home to more than 80 species of resident and migratory birds, including the White-throated Kingfisher, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Stork-billed Kingfisher and Long-tailed Parakeet.

	Trails	Trail Distance	Highlights
9	Yishun Park & Pond	2.4km	Previously a rubber estate, Yishun Park will surprise visitors with its range of fruit trees like the Breadfruit, Starfruit, Jackfruit, Durian, Rambutan, Rambai and Mangosteen trees. It is also Singapore's first Dipterocarp Arboretum, which showcases living specimens of Southeast Asia rainforest tree species. These trees can live up to a thousand years, growing up to 80 metres. Look carefully and one may spot the Common Flameback Woodpecker, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and many more of such beauties residing amongst our tree giants. Across the overhead bridge lies Yishun Pond, which houses aquatic birds and raptors like Little Heron, Grey Heron, Egrets and White-bellied Sea Eagle at its wetland habitat.
10	Zhenghua Park	3km	Connected to Dairy Farm Nature Park and bounded by the Bukit Timah Expressway (BKE), Zhenghua Park hosts different living specimens of Primary Forest trees, also known as Forest Giants due to their ability to grow to great heights. Zhenghua Park also serves as an eco-link park connecting nature reserves and forested areas in the west, as well as acting as a green buffer for the Central Catchment Nature Reserve. Due to its long profile, its terrain provides an opportunity for participants to enjoy a good hike while being on the lookout for more than 30 species of birds like the Racket-tailed Drongo or Yellow-vented Bulbul that may rest amongst the trees and inside pockets of vegetation. Several bird and butterfly attracting plant species have also been planted to complete this outdoor experience.