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Toilet hygiene is everyone's responsibility

WE REFER to the letter "Ensure minimum hygiene standards for all public toilets" (The New Paper, 3 Jun).

We agree that there is a need for higher standards of hygiene in our public toilets.

The National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Restroom Association of Singapore (RAS) have, over the years, initiated public education programmes such as the "Happy Toilet Rating Programme" and the "Let's Observe Ourselves (LOO) Campaign" to inculcate in all stakeholders the need to keep our toilets clean at all times.

In addition, RAS has introduced the "Happy Toilet School Education Programme" to schools to instil good toilet etiquette among the young.

However, it remains a constant challenge to maintain a high standard of hygiene in our public toilets, as everyone must take responsibility to do their part.

Under the law, operators or building management are required to provide amenities such as hand soap and toilet paper in public toilets. A fine of up to \$1,000 can be levied in the case of non-compliance.

In addition, they also have to ensure that their toilets are clean and fixtures are in good working condition. Failure to do so may result in the operator or management being taken to court, where a fine of up to \$5,000 may be imposed.

The NEA will continue with its enforcement efforts. We thank your reader for his feedback.