



# JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

**JOINTLY ISSUED BY RAS AND NEA** 

# LAUNCH OF THE PUBLIC TOILET CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN AND 4<sup>th</sup> EDITION OF THE GUIDE TO BETTER PUBLIC TOILET DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE

Singapore, 19 November 2018 – The Restroom Association (Singapore) or RAS and the National Environment Agency (NEA) held a launch ceremony at the Lifelong Learning Institute to commemorate the World Toilet Day and the LOO Awards 2018. Guest-of-Honour Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, graced the event together with RAS Honorary President Mr Ho Chee Kit to launch the Public Toilet Cleanliness Campaign (Annex A) and the 4th edition of the Guide to Better Public Toilet Design and Maintenance (Annex B).

- The Public Toilet Cleanliness campaign aims to encourage users to adopt good toilet habits in consideration for other users. The campaign targets four specific behaviours, namely, flushing the toilet after use, keeping toilet seats clean, keeping floors dry and binning litter. Practising such good toilet habits will result in a better user experience for all. The campaign will kick off with the main event on 19 November, followed by roadshows at participating transport hubs, coffeeshops and hawker centres. As part of the campaign efforts, premises owners will be provided with a clean toilet checklist and guidelines to monitor the state of cleanliness in their toilets. Posters and signages (please refer to **Annex A** for visuals) will also be placed at transport hubs, hawker centres, coffeeshops, community centres and shopping malls to nudge users to observe good toilet habits in the coming months.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of 'A Guide to Better Public Toilet Design and Maintenance' provides Engineers, Architects, and Environmental & Facility Management professionals with information about good toilet design that facilitates proper use and maintenance. The first edition of the Guide was published in 1999 by the Ministry of the Environment. The latest edition, reviewed by RAS with partners including NEA, incorporates smart toilet technology guidelines to encourage toilet owners and operators to adopt technology for effective cleaning and to improve the maintenance of the toilets. More comprehensive information on design for maintainability was also incorporated in the latest edition. The Guide can be downloaded from the RAS website at <a href="https://www.toilet.org.sg">www.toilet.org.sg</a>.

## RAS 20th Anniversary and the LOO (Let's Observe Ourselves) Awards 2018

The LOO Awards recognise efforts made by organisations and individuals in promoting and enhancing the standard of public toilet cleanliness. A total of 55 recipients (**Annex C**) were selected to receive the awards from SMS MEWR, Dr Amy Khor. With the growing number of Happy Toilet at train stations and bus interchanges, a new Best Public Transport Happy Toilet was introduced under the Best Happy Toilet category this year. Recognition awards and vouchers were presented to a record 20 restroom cleaning attendants to mark RAS' 20th anniversary in recognition of their efforts and professionalism.

## Everybody has a part to play in public toilet cleanliness

- NEA works closely with partners on new initiatives to improve toilet management and raise the standards of public toilets such as the partnership with RAS on the Happy Toilet Programme and the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the toilet guide. Another example is the launch of request for proposal (RFP) with four INCUBATE¹ partners Changi Airport Group, City Developments Limited, Marina Bay Sands and Esplanade in May this year for smart and easy-to-clean toilets. Through this RFP, we hope to garner new ideas to transform toilet cleaning by using technology and automation to help reduce routine and laborious tasks, facilitate a shift from frequency-based cleaning to an on-demand cleaning, and to improve the work environment of the cleaners in performing their day-to-day tasks. More information on the award for the proposal will be announced next year.
- Maintaining clean public toilets, especially those with high usage, can be a challenging but not insurmountable task. Some operators have shown how even the busiest toilets can be kept clean through an effective maintenance and inspection regime, as well as ensuring basic toilet amenities, such as toilet paper, liquid soap, hand dryer (or paper towels), are provided, and facilities such as water cisterns, taps and litters bins are kept in good working order. Unsanitary public toilets can lead to increased public health risks and NEA will not hesitate to take enforcement on errant premises owners. For a truly clean Singapore, everyone should embody graciousness and consideration for others by keeping public toilets clean and hygienic, and not overly depend on cleaners to keep them clean.

- End -

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>IN</u>novating and <u>CU</u>rating <u>B</u>etter <u>A</u>utomation and <u>T</u>echnologies for <u>E</u>nvironmental Services (INCUBATE) is a key initiative under the Environmental Services Industry Transformation Map. It embodies the partnership between the technology providers and services providers, premises owners, and the Government, to collectively innovate and curate better technologies, solutions and innovations for the environmental services industry.

## For media queries, please contact:

**Emerson Hee (Mr)** 

Executive Director, RAS

Tel: 6297 9824 Hp: 9113 6786

Email: emerson@toilet.org.sg

Yasmin Lazaroo (Ms)

Assistant Manager, Corporate Communications, NEA

Tel: 6731 9372 / 9791 8149

Email: Yasmin\_lazaroo@nea.gov.sg

## **About Restroom Association (Singapore)**

The vision of the Restroom Association (Singapore) or RAS is A Gracious Society Embracing Excellence in Restroom Culture. Started in 1998 as a non-profit organisation, RAS is dedicated to building an excellent restroom culture by actively engaging owners, the cleaning industry and users to play their part. Some of its programmes or activities – supported by the National Environment Agency (NEA) – initiated and conducted include the Happy Toilet Programme, Happy Toilet School Education programme for Preschools, STAR (Sustaining Toilets As Restrooms) Awards Programme, Eco-Assessor Programme and LOO (Let's Observe Ourselves) Carnival & Awards. RAS is a strategic partner in national community events like Clean & Green Singapore and is also a founding member of the World Toilet Organization and the Keep Singapore Beautiful Movement.

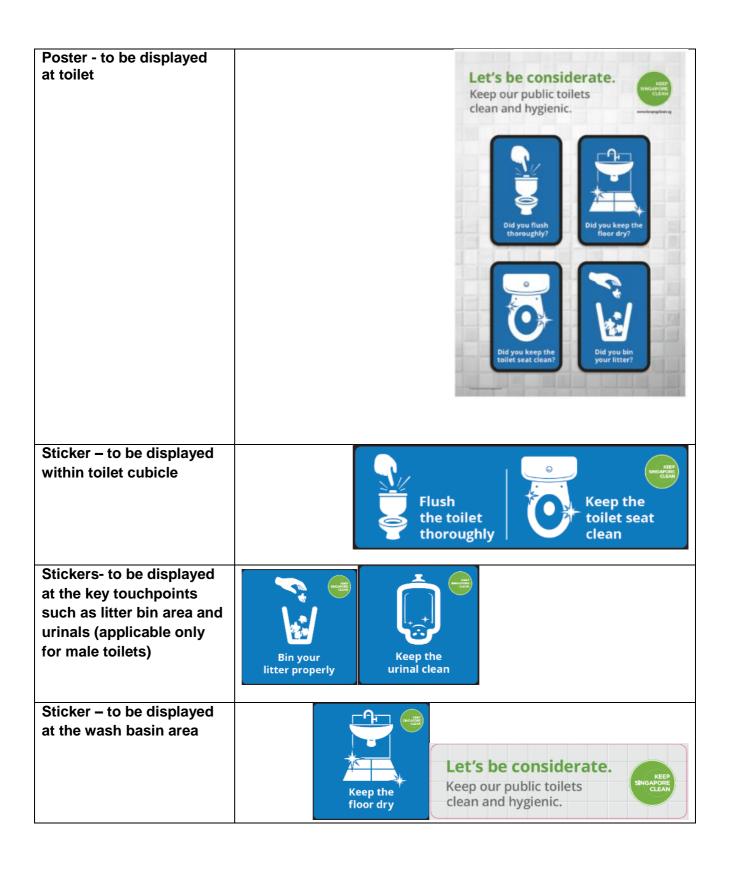
# **About National Environment Agency**

Formed on 1 July 2002, the National Environment Agency (NEA) is the leading public organisation responsible for ensuring a clean and green environment, and the sustainable development of Singapore. Its key roles are to protect Singapore's resources from pollution, maintain a high level of public health and provide timely meteorological information. NEA also develops and spearheads environmental initiatives and programmes through its partnership with the People, Public and Private sectors. It is committed to motivating every individual to care for the environment as a way of life, in order to sustain a quality living environment for present and future generations.

# **Public Toilet Cleanliness Campaign**

Clean Toilet Checklist/Guidelines- for premise owners/cleaners to monitor cleanliness of toilets





#### A Guide to Better Public Toilet Design and Maintenance

#### Background

This guide provides professionals such as Engineers, Architects, and Environmental & Facility Management professionals with information about good design, maintenance and user education. The first edition was published in 1999 by the then Ministry of the Environment. The Restroom Association (Singapore) or RAS, in collaboration with the National Environment Agency (NEA), published the second edition in 2002. The third edition was published in 2013 and launched by then Second Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Ms Grace Fu.

## **Key Features**

Similar to the third edition, the latest edition contains three main sections namely Design, Maintenance and User Education. A new smart toilet technology sub-section were included to the Maintenance section. More comprehensive information on public education was also incorporated.

## **Details**

Updated information on the guide is as follows:

#### 1. DESIGN

- Signage to indicate distance or time to nearest toilet
- Smart lighting sensors
- · Durability of materials
- · Better-designed urinals to facilitate aiming
- Installation of standalone wash basins
- Diaper changing stations in both male and female toilets

#### 2. MAINTENANCE

- NEA's advisory to toilet owners
- Productivity calculator for washroom cleaning
- Smart toilet technology for ease of maintenance

#### 3. USER EDUCATION

- Successful implementation of user education
- Direct and indirect messages
- New means of message placement namely display panels, interactive feedback system and audio messages

#### LOO (Let's Observe Ourselves) Awards

#### Scope

All efforts made by an organisation and individual in promoting and enhancing the standard of restroom cleanliness will be taken into account in the selection of recipients for the awards.

# **Eligibility**

The LOO Awards is open to all organisations and individuals in Singapore.

# **LOO Awards Categories**

There are two (2) LOO Awards categories open for nominations: Cleaning Industry and Individual.

- 1. Cleaning Industry is selected in the following categories:
  - Cleaning Service Provider (1)
  - Restroom Cleaning Attendant (20)
- 2. Individuals are selected in the following categories:
  - Private/Public sector individual
  - Youth (secondary and above)
  - LOO Kidz (primary) (4)

The following categories are not open for nominations.

- 1. Best Happy Toilets are selected in the following categories:
  - Coffee Shop (1)
  - Food Court (1)
  - Market and Food Centre (1)
  - Public Transport (1)
  - Shopping Centre (1)
  - Happy Toilet of the Year (1)
- 2. <u>Preschools and schools</u> are selected under Happy Toilets @ Preschools Programme and STAR (Sustaining Toilets As Restrooms) Awards Programme respectively.

# **CLEANING INDUSTRY (21)**

S/N	Recipient	Туре	Description of Achievements
1	Clean Solutions Pte Ltd	Cleaning Service Provider	<ul> <li>26 hawker centres accredited Happy Toilets – Seven 3-star, eighteen 4-star and one 5-star.</li> <li>Accredited National Environment Agency's Clean Mark Silver Award</li> <li>WSQ Approved Training Organisation</li> </ul>
2	Ms Liew Mee Lieng <a-force maintenance="" pte<br="">Ltd&gt;</a-force>	Restroom Cleaning Attendant	<ul> <li>Close to 5 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 4-star Happy toilets at Circle Line MRT stations</li> <li>Attended five NSRS courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
3	Mdm Lim Keng Hua <chye maintenance<br="" thiam="">Pte Ltd&gt;</chye>		<ul> <li>10 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained toilets at the Esplanade</li> <li>Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
4	Mr Ragunatha Pillai A/L Rajagopal <cleaning express="" ltd="" pte=""></cleaning>		<ul> <li>18 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5-star Happy toilets at Seletar Country Club</li> <li>Attended WSQ washroom cleaning course and two NSRS courses in environmental cleaning</li> </ul>
5	Mrs Phung Bee Huay <pcf preschool<br="" sparkletots="">@ Pioneer Blk 661B&gt;</pcf>		13 years of cleaning experience      Attended on-site training conducted by the Restroom Association (Singapore) and three SHATEC courses in environmental cleaning      Preschool accredited with three thumbs-up accreditation under the Happy Toilets @ Preschools programme
6	Mdm Sophia Binte Ibrahim <pcf preschool<br="" sparkletots="">@ Pioneer Blk 694&gt;</pcf>		<ul> <li>16 years of cleaning experience, training and mentoring new cleaning attendants</li> <li>Attended on-site training conducted by the Restroom Association (Singapore)</li> <li>Preschool accredited with Early Childhood Development Agency's Singapore Preschool Accreditation</li> </ul>

		Restroom Cleaning Attendant	Framework and three thumbs-up accreditation under the Happy Toilets @ Preschools programme
7	Mdm Lee Kim An <pcf 44="" @="" blangah="" blk="" preschool="" sparkletots="" telok=""></pcf>		<ul> <li>16 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Attended on-site training conducted by the Restroom Association (Singapore)</li> <li>Preschool accredited with Early Childhood Development Agency's Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework and Platinum Award under the Happy Toilets @ Preschools programme</li> </ul>
8	Ms Lee Gwek Huang <pu care="" centre="" child="" ti=""></pu>		<ul> <li>25 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Attended on-site training conducted by the Restroom Association (Singapore)</li> <li>Preschool accredited with Early Childhood Development Agency's Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework and three thumbs-up accreditation under the Happy Toilets @ Preschools programme</li> </ul>
9	Mr Ang Thiam Seng <ramky cleantech="" services<br="">Pte Ltd&gt;</ramky>		<ul> <li>15 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained toilets at Changi Airport</li> <li>Attended four NSRS courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
10	Mdm Cheong Wey Keng <ramky cleantech="" services<br="">Pte Ltd&gt;</ramky>		<ul> <li>6 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Attended three WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> <li>Received compliment letters from NTUC Income Centre where she worked</li> </ul>
11	Mrs Patcharee Vattananukan <ramky cleantech="" services<br="">Pte Ltd&gt;</ramky>		<ul> <li>16 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained toilets at Changi Airport and received First Class Service Award</li> <li>Attended two WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including</li> </ul>

			washroom cleaning and four NSRS courses in environmental cleaning
12	Mdm Kew Nyok Moy <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>	Restroom Cleaning Attendant	<ul> <li>2 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended five WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
13	Mdm Khoo Siew Hong <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>10 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
14	Mdm Koh Joo Kee <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>11 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
15	Mdm Lu Ren <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>1 year of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
16	Mr Selamat Bin Ibrahim <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>11 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended five WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
17	Mdm Seramah Binte Ahmad <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>1 year of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> </ul>

			Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning
18	Mdm Sum Lan Heong <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>	Restroom Cleaning Attendant	<ul> <li>22 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended four WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
19	Mdm Tay Meow Lan <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>2.5 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended six WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
20	Mr Zahid Bin Abdul Karim <springmount pte<br="" services="">Ltd&gt;</springmount>		<ul> <li>7.5 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 5 and 6-star Happy toilets at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands</li> <li>Attended five WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>
21	Mr Tay Yewo Hwa <transquest &="" co<br="" supplies="">Pte Ltd &gt;</transquest>		<ul> <li>7 years of cleaning experience</li> <li>Maintained 4-star Happy toilets at Circle Line MRT stations</li> <li>Attended five WSQ courses in environmental cleaning including washroom cleaning</li> </ul>

# INDIVIDUAL (4)

S/N	Recipient	Туре	Occupation / Designation	Description of Achievements
22	Ms Ng Sim Kate, Paige	LOO	Student, Chongfu School	Student leaders who led and motivated their team in restroom decorations and poster designs
23	Ms Ng Sim Leng, Gaile	Kidz	Student, Chongfu School	Conducted recess activities for students to recognise the efforts of restroom cleaning attendants and to write wishes to thank them

			Led in the design of presentation slides to infuse the theme on social etiquette to care for restrooms
	Ms Lim Jia Ying		An active Green Captain in her class to ensure her classmates carried out cleaning routine and spring cleaning
24		Student, 0 of the Ho Jesus ( Kello	y Infant appreciating the cleaning attendants with thank you cards
			Designed a poster to help raise awareness on keeping the toilets clean
25	Ms Kaylea Toh	Student, P	
		Primary School	Conducted a morning assembly talk on good restroom etiquette and showing kindness to cleaning attendants

# **BEST HAPPY TOILET (6)**

The following toilets under the Happy Toilet Programme (HTP) are selected for achieving the highest scores in terms of cleanliness, maintenance, effectiveness, user satisfaction, design and bonus features.

S/N	Recipient	Туре	Star Rating	Score	Remarks
26	21 Street Eating House	Coffee Shop	5-Star	96 / 108	Selected among 30 HTP coffee shops
27	Kopitiam On the Ridge - National University Hospital Level 5	Food Court	5-Star	98 / 108	Selected among 18 HTP food courts
28	Kampung Admiralty Hawker Centre	Market & Food Centre	5-Star	96 / 108	Selected among 33 HTP market & food centres
29	Bukit Panjang Integrated Transport Hub	Public Transport	5-Star	96 / 108	Selected among 83 bus interchanges and MRT stations
30	The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, Zone 4 Level 1	Shopping Centre	6-Star	104 / 108	Selected among 339 Happy Toilets at 36 Shopping Centres
31	The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, Zone 4 Level 1	Shopping Centre	6-Star	104 / 108	Selected among 1,204 Happy Toilets islandwide

# PLATINUM HAPPY TOILET PRESCHOOLS (8) (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

S/ N	Recipient	Remarks
32	abc children's place	Preschools awarded the highest Three Thumbs-up accreditation in three consecutive years under the
33	Between Two Trees Preschool	Happy Toilets @ Preschool Programme for completing all of the following three phases:
34	Cherie Hearts @ Charlton Pte Ltd	Design phase - All toilets meeting     the minimum standard equivalent     to the 3-star rating of the
35	Cherie Hearts Kidz Campus Pte Ltd	commercial Happy Toilet Programme.
36	MindChamps PreSchool @ Bishan Pte Ltd	Maintenance phase - On-site training for caretakers and housekeepers on dos and don'ts of preschool and restroom cleaning
37	My First Skool @ Blk 528 Hougang Ave 6	Education phase - Hygiene talks and activities for preschoolers and
38	PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Pasir Ris East Blk 412	hygiene workshops for teachers or hygiene talks for parents/guardians
39	PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Limbang Blk 567	

# PLATINUM STAR SCHOOLS (3) (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

S/ N	Recipient	Remarks
40	Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus (CHIJ) Kellock	Schools awarded the highest Gold Star accreditation in three consecutive years under the STAR (Sustaining Toilets As Restrooms) Awards Programme for completing all of the following three phases:

41	Frontier Primary School	Education & Awareness -     Assembly talks for students and     workshops for students assigned     to take up any of the following     projects:     - Decorating / enhancing the     washrooms     - Cleaning attendants' appreciation     activities     - Creating educational/awareness     material for an exhibition
		<ul> <li>Conducting surveys or case studies</li> <li>Creating videos or web content</li> <li>Inspecting their own washrooms and providing feedback</li> <li>Holding assembly talks in school or at other establishments</li> </ul>
42	Westwood Primary School	Maintenance & Service - Checking the qualifications and cleaning routines of all cleaning attendants to ensure they are trained and to conduct training for those who are not.
		3. Design & Standards - All toilets meeting the minimum standard equivalent to the 3-star rating of the commercial Happy Toilet Programme.

# GOLD STAR SCHOOLS (13) (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

S/N	Recipient	Remarks
43	Bukit View Primary School	Schools awarded the highest Gold Star
44	Concord Primary School	accreditation under the STAR (Sustaining Toilets As Restrooms) Awards Programme for completing all of the following three phases:
45	Fern Green Primary School	Education & Awareness - Assembly talks for
46	Hai Sing Catholic School	students and workshops for students assigned to take up any of the following projects:
47	Jiemin Primary School	Decorating / enhancing the washrooms     Cleaning attendants' appreciation activities
48	Marsiling Primary School	<ul> <li>Creating educational/awareness material for an exhibition</li> <li>Conducting surveys or case studies</li> </ul>
49	Northland Primary School	Creating videos or web content     Inspecting their own washrooms and
50	Oasis Primary School	providing feedback

51	Park View Primary School	Holding assembly talks in school or at other establishments
52	Qihua Primary School	Maintenance & Service - Checking the qualifications and cleaning routines of all
53	Teck Whye Primary School	cleaning attendants to ensure they are trained and to conduct training for those who are not.
54	Temasek Primary School	3. Design & Standards - All toilets meeting the
55	Waterway Primary School	minimum standard equivalent to the 3-star rating of the commercial Happy Toilet Programme.