

CEPA Activity Highlights at Diyasaru Park

16 March

Guided nature tour for Kids from Gateway College

Grade 01 students of Gateway College, Rajagiriya visited Diyasaru park on March 16, 2022, for a nature tour. Altogether 142 students and staff joined for the program. Kids were made aware on wetland animals, plants, water quality, urban agriculture and wetland ecosystem while walking through the park. Kids were engaged also in a scavenger hunt activity.



23 April

Wetlands and Water Wetland Weekend Program

අවුරුදු 15ට අඩු ළමුන් විසිදෙනෙකුගේ සහභාගීත්වයෙන් පැවැති මස තෝරාගත් සහ අන්ත වැඩසටහන තෝරාගත් සහ ජලය තෝරාගත් සාර්ථකව පැවැත්විය.



23 April

Venue Partner of Green Con'22

Green Con is a green life initiative that was newly introduced by the Interact District for the first time in 2020 concerning the avenue of green life. Green Con' 22 was organized by the Interact District along with the Interact Clubs of St. Peter's College, Gothami Balika Vidyalaya, Horizon College International, Asian Grammar International School, Maliyadeva Balika Vidyalaya based on the theme of "Sustainability into Reality" providing the youth with a platform to practice sustainable living and zero waste managing lifestyle.

Diyasaru Park joined hands with Interact Movement as a venue partner for Green Con'22 on April 23, 2022.

21 May

Art of Urban Home Gardening Wetland Weekend Program

Wetland Weekend May program was held to raise the awareness on wetland based urban home gardening to support the urban food security.



23 April

Luisa Charles is partnered with IWMI, Darwin project, and the University of Moratuwa to create a low-cost, USV kit for community-driven water quality monitoring. The project aims to empower communities living around the wetlands to collect data about the quality of the water in the environments they are living in. It does this through a USV (unmanned surface vehicle) kit. Insight-gaining workshops, skill sharing, and testing workshops will be conducted with the aim of gaining design insights directly from the people who the technology is designed to be used by, to share basic skills in programming, electronics, and fabrication, and to test out the devices in a real-world setting. The very first workshop was held at Diyasaru Park on April 23, 2022. SLLDC, being a partner of the Darwin Project facilitated the meeting and provides technical support for the project implementation.

26 June

Butterflies in Diyasaru Park Wetland Weekend Program



Identification of butterflies in Diyasaru Park was held as the June Wetland Weekend Program with participation of fifteen participants in various age categories interested for butterflies.



29 June

Seed Collection Campaign

One of the most important structural components of wetland ecosystems is the seed bank. Seed banks are present in nearly all ecosystems; however, it is important to maintain a seed bank with diverse native seed varieties mainly to use in wetland restoration. It will act as a storage medium for plants that might otherwise not survive through stressful conditions.

Lack of native wetland plants is one of the major limitations in wetland restoration. Since most of the urban wetlands are invaded by Alien Invasive Plants; it is difficult to find natural seed banks of native wetland plants.

Therefore, Diyasaru Park initiated to conduct wetland seed collection campaigns to collect, grow and maintain such plant species at our nursery.

Accordingly, the first seed collection campaign was held on June 29, 2022 to collect seeds and seedlings of more than 200 Ceylon Ironwood plants (Naa) from the vicinity around the parliament.



28 July

Guided nature tour for Kids from Gateway College



Grade 02 students of Gateway College, Rajagiriya visited Diyasaru park on July 28, 2022 for a nature tour. Altogether 140 students and staff joined for the program. Kids were made aware on wetland animals, plants, water quality, urban agriculture and wetland ecosystem while walking through the park.

CEPA Activity Highlights at Diyasaru Park

07 August

Wetland Plants: To Know & to Grow!
Wetland Weekend Program

Wetland Weekend Program - July

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වෙත්විම් ශාක
Wetland Plants

To know & To grow

Age limit
Below 12 yrs

Date - 07th August 2022
Time - 9.00 AM
Venue - Diyasaru Park, Thalawatugoda

වෙතක්වීම :
සෑහීම සඳහා
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SCAN HERE

Entrance Free

Organized By : Diyasaru Park in collaboration with Wetland Link-Asia and Ramsar Regional Center-East Asia.

For more details contact : 071 - 2418 128 | 071-728 3423



July Wetland Weekend Program was held on August 07, 2022 at Diyasaru Park with the participation of eleven kids. Characteristics of wetland plants and flowers, aquatic plants, seed dispersal methods etc were taught with field sessions to experience the same. Activities such as word puzzles and picture puzzles, drawing were done to improve the knowledge of kids on wetland plants. The program was conducted by Ms Ranoshi Siripala, Ecologist, Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC).

11 August

Special Education Program on “Butterfly Behavior Studies”

A Special Education Program on “Butterfly behavior Studies” was conducted by Butterfly Conservation & Research Group-Sri Lanka on August 11, 2022 at Diyasaru Park. This program was useful for butterfly lovers to improve their knowledge on butterflies as an indicator of a healthy environment, their behaviors, host plants, and nectar plants to attract butterflies, features of a butterfly garden, etc. Mr. Hiran Wijesinghe, Chairman of BCRG-SL conducted the program.



CEPA Activity Highlights at Diyasaru Park

17 August

Visit of Environmental Pioneers

The National Environmental Pioneer Programme is being implemented by the Central Environmental Authority in the schools with the objective of bequeathing the environmental heritage of the motherland to future generations. Under this scheme, there are five stages; Environmental Pioneer, Green, Silver, and Gold medals, and the Presidential Medal. On August 17, 2022 twenty-five Silver medal-expecting environmental pioneers visited Diyasaru Park. They were made aware on urban wetland ecosystem through a guided nature trail. An Art Competition was also conducted by the CEA.

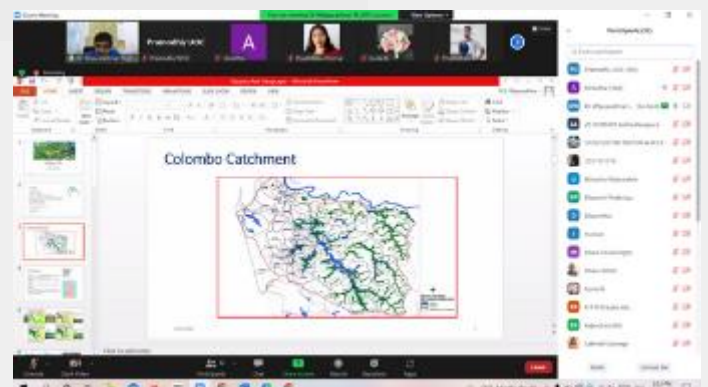
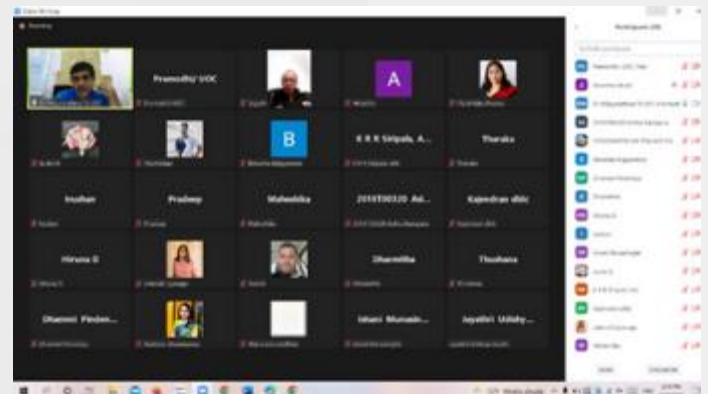


20 August

Diyasaru Talks Wetland Weekend Program



ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පළමු නාගරික තෙත්බිම් උද්‍යානය වන දියසරු උද්‍යානයේ විකාශනය, සමාජීය හා පාරිසරික වැදගත්කම පිළිබඳ දැනුවත් කිරීම අරමුණු කරගනිමින් “දියසරු කතිකාවත” අගෝස්තු මස 20 වන දින ප.ව. 2.00 සිට ප.ව. 4.00 දක්වා මාර්ගගතව පැවැත්විණි. මේ සඳහා තෙත්බිම් පිළිබඳ උනන්දුවක් දක්වන 50කට ආසන්න පිරිසක් සහභාගී විය. ශ්‍රී ලංකා ඉඩම් සංවර්ධනය කිරීමේ සංස්ථාවේ තෙත්බිම් අංශයේ නියෝජ්‍ය සාමාන්‍යාධිකාරී ආචාර්ය එන්. එස්. විජයරත්න මහතා විසින් දේශනය පැවැත්වූ අතර දියසරු උද්‍යානයේ සහකාර ඉංජිනේරු හිරන්ත ද සිල්වා මහතා විසින් දියසරු කතිකාවත මෙහෙයවන ලදී.



17 & 18 September

Diyasaru Summer Camp 2022



The Covid-19 pandemic led to physical school closures and a transition to online learning over the past two years. School children were stressed without having any opportunity to go outside &

merge with nature. However, it is a knowing fact that Nature experience increases children's emotional affinity towards nature, their ecological beliefs, and willingness to display ecological behavior. Therefore, the Diyasaru Summer camp was held from 17th to 18th August 2022 at Diyasaru Park with the objective of improving soft skills of kids while make them closer to nature. Twenty-two kids of the age group 9-15 were participated enthusiastically for the event.

At the beginning of the event, kids were made aware on Diyasaru Park and safety measures by SL Navy. The importance of skills in communication, leadership, time management, , teamwork, creativity & imagination, etc. were convinced to kids through several activities conducted by Scouts of Lumbini College - Mr.Ruwan Nanayakkara (Incharge) and his team. All the camping tents were placed by kids with the guidance of the Scout team.



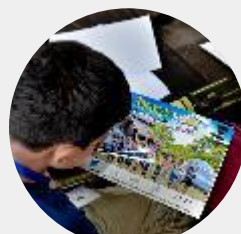
Two sessions on wetland animals were conducted in the evening. The session on Reptiles was conducted by young reptile enthusiasts Bineth Nethmika and Chanul Siriwardhana and a session on Fishing Cats was conducted by Anya Rathnayaka and the Urban Fishing Cat Conservation Project. team.



The Camp fire - started around 7.30p.m and lasted till midnight, was guided by the Scouts. All the kids were enjoyed with the activities designed to create connections and build bonds. Sunday morning was started with a nature trail and bird watching guided by Narmada Dangampola, Park Manager, Beddagana Wetland Park. An Animal poop analysis field session was conducted by urban Fishing Cat Conservation Project followed by the lecture on Mindfulness "Joy-inside out" conducted by Dr.Dhananjaya Dharmarathna (Deputy General Manger (S&S), Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation.



The summer camp was closed around 11.00 a.m by awarding certificates to the participants. A printed snap of the summer camp team was also gifted to kids as a souvenir. The interns attached to SLLDC (Jayathri Udishya, Kajendran Indirakularasa, Ranshika Pramodi, Thuthishan Kanesamoorthy from the University of Colombo, Nethmi Ranasinghe, Sihara de Zoysa from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sajani Gamage from Ocean University) assisted the organizing and conducting the summer camp 2022.



CEPA Activity Highlights at Diyasaru Park

14 October

Awareness session for SL Navy officers

About 50 officers from Sri Lanka Navy visited Diyasaru Park on October 14, 2022, with the guidance of Emeritus Prof. Sarath Kotagama. They were made aware on Colombo wetlands by Dr. N.S Wijayarathna (DGM (WM)) and on Diyasaru Park by Mr. Hirantha de Silva (EA) of SLLDC. Lectures on wetland ecosystems, bird identification, and many other wetland-related topics were conducted by Emeritus Prof. Sarath Kotagama.



10 November

Steiner College visits Diyasaru Park for Zoology practical lessons



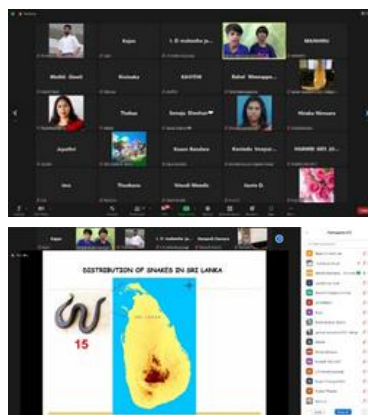
About 25 Students and teachers of Steiner College, Battaramulla visited Diyasaru Park on November 10, 2022 to conduct selected practical lessons of their Zoology curriculum at the Park. These students were made aware on the importance of wetland ecosystems, Colombo wetland city, features of Diyasaru Park, and reptiles, and site surveys were conducted searching habitats of nocturnal animals.

19

Fresh Water Fish
Wetland Weekend Program

29 October

Talk with snakes
Wetland Weekend Program



October Wetland Weekend Program on "Talk with Snakes" was held on October 29, 2022 via Zoom platform. Junior reptile enthusiasts Gagana Wickramasinghe and Amatha Wickramasinghe were the resource persons. Snakes in Sri Lanka, their special characteristics, habitats, threats to snakes were discussed. About 60 participants joined the program actively. The session was moderated by Thuthishan Kanesamoorthy, Intern of SLLDC.



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ආරාධිත දේශක, සංරක්ෂණ ජීව විද්‍යාඥ රක්ෂා මහතා විසින් දේශනය පැවැත්වූ අතර එහිදී මිරිදිය මත්ස්‍යයන් හඳුනා ගැනීම, ආහාර රටා , සංවරණ ක්‍රම, ශ්වසන කරන ආකාර, සංවේදන ක්‍රම සහ මිරිදිය මත්ස්‍යයන්ට පවතින තර්ජන පිළිබඳව ද වටිනා කරුණු රාශියක් ප්‍රචලිත විස්තර කරන ලදී. මේ සඳහා තෙත්බිම් පිළිබඳ උනන්දුවක් දක්වන 70කට ආසන්න පිරිසක් සහභාගී වූ අතර ශ්‍රී ලංකා ඉඩම් සංවර්ධනය කිරීමේ සංස්ථාවේ, සීමාවාසික පුහුණු, ජී.එම්.රංශිකා ප්‍රමේදී විසින් වැඩසටහන මෙහෙයවන ලදී .