

14.15

“My **design inspirations** come from the numerous weekends that I’ve spent with my family at the parks.”

Ng Yuin-Mae
*Senior Landscape Architect
at NParks and a regular
of West Coast Park*



new *playground*

CHAPTER 1

Creating more and better green spaces

NParks constantly refines its approach in park design and development to cater to the diverse needs of park users.

In FY2006, we completed the development and upgrading of 10 parks and park connectors and commenced work on some 46 projects islandwide. These included the on-going park extension works at our flagship Singapore Botanic Gardens which commenced in the previous financial year, as well as the development of Gardens by the Bay.

16.17

3.2 million

– record number of visitors to Singapore Botanic Gardens this year

Singapore Botanic Gardens – Still The One

Singapore Botanic Gardens (SBG) continues to be the nation's favourite green space. The eagerly anticipated Jacob Ballas Children's Garden is on schedule for opening by late 2007. Other developments here will include new gardenscape, horticulture displays and improved visitor amenities. The extension of SBG is scheduled for completion in 2011.

No. Of Awards Won By SBG

32 from Singapore Orchid Show

9 from Asia Pacific Conference, Korea

6 from Orchid Society of South East Asia

3 from Australian Orchid Council, Orchid Society of New South Wales



0.75 ha

– park provision for every 1,000 population

9%

– of Singapore made up of parklands and natural areas

> 300

– parks managed by NParks



– Gardens by the Bay voted the development that most excites Singaporeans (TODAY survey, 9 Aug 06)

Artist's impression of the Cool Dry Conservatory in Gardens by the Bay

Gardens By The Bay

Plans to build 3 landmark waterfront gardens received a strong endorsement from the public after a 3-week exhibition of the designs.

As part of NParks' effort to explore sustainable energy technologies, Gardens by the Bay will be a testbedding site for the Clean Energy Research & Testbedding (CERT) Programme. NParks has also signed an agreement with Tuas Power in March 2007 for an energy research project at the prototype Glasshouses in HortPark.

Site preparation works are underway to develop the iconic Gardens. Phase One is targeted for completion by 2010.

When completed, the Gardens will bring an entirely new experience to Singaporeans and visitors and will entrench Singapore's position as a premier City in a Garden.

200 km

– of park connectors by 2012, longer than the coastline at 193km!

Latest Park Connectors

Bedok Park Connector: Bedok estate to East Coast Park.

Khatib Bongsu Park Connector: Yishun estate to Lower Seletar Reservoir Park.

New Parks On The Horizon

HortPark (23 ha)

A one-stop hub to inspire and cultivate gardening as a lifestyle and to support the growing local landscape and horticulture industry.

Admiralty Park (27 ha)

A park with outdoor amphitheatre and pond linked to forested areas and mangrove habitats.

Sengkang Fruit Park (21 ha)

A fruit park featuring dragon fruit, longan, avocado, pulasan, durian and mandarin orange.

Jurong Central Park (8 ha)

A leisure park with green outdoor stage, game huts and lookout platforms.

A Park For Everyone

NParks' aim is to develop a spectrum of parks and recreational amenities to meet the diverse lifestyle needs of an increasingly sophisticated public.

Fort Canning continues to be a popular venue for evening cultural and musical performances. East Coast Park has developed high-energy sporting zones that cater to the more active. The nature reserves are becoming increasingly popular as outdoor classroom for our city folks to discover and enjoy nature. Neighbourhood parks like Toa Payoh Town Park provide conducive gathering places for community bonding.





Pearl's Hill City Park offers a peaceful respite from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Tranquil Parks

Even within our busy city areas, parks like Pearl's Hill City Park provide green havens for relaxation and quiet contemplation.

22.23

> 2.6 million

– participants of park activities and performances

4,000 Reasons To Enjoy The Great Outdoors

From Ballet Under The Stars to WOMAD at Fort Canning Park and the PLAYing in the Park series, FY2006 saw some 4,000 events organised in our parks.



“I love the way **art**
is being brought to the
public. Keep it up!”

Ms Yvonne Chin

Park user, on PLAYing in the Park





“The first thing that struck me about Singapore is the **expanse of greenery.**”

Jamie Gibbings
*Branch Coordinator,
The British Council*

TREE TALK

159 trees endorsed as Heritage Trees.

74,438 trees planted islandwide.

100,000 trees and plants used during the International Monetary Fund and World Bank meetings.



Greening The City In A Garden

The Streetscape Greenery Masterplan is being implemented to sustain and renew our roadside greenery. Some 165 roads around the island have been planted with trees that give a distinctive layered and clustered feel to the urbanscape.

At the Nursery, some 240,000 plants were propagated for parks, streetscape and various projects undertaken by NParks during the year.

A plant information database was set up in April 2006 to centralise the sourcing, acquisition and systematic assessment of all introduced plants.

240,000

– plants propagated

>200

– potential plant types introduced

Skyrise Greenery On The Rise

NParks continues to promote skyrise greenery through advice and demonstration projects, R&D, and implementing vertical greening in its own buildings.

We work closely with key partners like Housing and Development Board, Building and Construction Authority, Urban Redevelopment Authority, and JTC Corporation to promote the widespread adoption of skyrise greenery by these agencies and the private sector.



Tanglin Core at Singapore Botanic Gardens has Singapore's first pitched green roof and also features a rooftop garden and vertical green wall.

“Singapore has nearly 350 species of birds and this is about 60% of the 568 species listed in Great Britain or 75% of the 467 species found in France.”

Professor Ng Soon Chye,
Asian Geographic, Issue 2/2006


Conservation & Biodiversity

As the scientific authority on nature conservation, NParks monitors and coordinates measures to ensure the health of Singapore's biodiversity.

The National Biodiversity Reference Centre was set up as a one-stop centre for information on the indigenous biodiversity of Singapore.

Singapore's marine and terrestrial site survey locates and records rare plants and animals that will help in land use and management decisions.

The National Biodiversity Reference Centre was established on 22 May to commemorate the International Day for Biological Diversity.



Singapore is home to more than 2,900 plant species, 360 bird species, 270 butterfly species, 120 reptile species, 75 mammal species, 25 amphibian species, 200 hard coral species, and 111 reef fish species.

After more than 50 years of disappearance, the indigenous Oriental Pied Hornbill is nesting in healthy colonies here.

NParks documented 35 new records of plant and animal species in Singapore and rediscovered 7 species previously thought to be locally extinct.

Singapore has 11 out of 23 (50%) seagrass species that can be found in the Indo-Pacific region.