



- Home
- Quick News
- Singapore
- Asia Pacific
- World
- Business
- Sports
- Technology
- Special Reports
- Analysis
- Finance
- Forum
- Career
- Travel
- Lifestyle
- Video
- TV Shows
- Weather
- About Us

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M | T | W | T | F | S | S

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- Top 20 Programmes
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- Garage Sale
- Handphones
- Property
- Vehicles
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[more »](#)

**Singapore News »**



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Posted: 18 September 2004 1852 hrs

**Teachers take part in coastal cleanup of Punggol Beach**

By Ca-Mie De Souza, Channel NewsAsia

SINGAPORE : Despite the five-day work week, some teachers were up early Saturday for a morning at the beach. They were not there to relax or sunbathe but to participate in the International Coastal Cleanup.

Armed with garbage bags, the teachers from Zhonghua Secondary were bent double to make the Punggol Beach cleaner than it was before.

In the process they made history.

The Raffles Museum of Biodiversity says they are the first group of teachers in Singapore to organise and embark on a coastal cleanup, usually done by students this time of the year.

Eighty of them spent some three hours collecting heaps of rubbish, weighing a total of 233 kilogrammes.

Apart from clearing the beach, they also provided important information to nature groups of the common kinds of rubbish left behind, with plastic water bottles, plastic bags and cigarette butts topping the list.

In all, there were 33 cleanups taking place around the island. - CNA

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