

## Newsletter Al Sidreh



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www.epda.rak.ae

#### EPDA achieved No 1 SSPGE Excellence award for 2014

EPDA has been declared as No 1, outstanding Government department (small entities) in RAK Emirate under the SSPGE program for 2014 also achieved 1st place in the "Best Environmental Practices initiatives". The Department of Research and Policy Department" of EPDA was declared as the best department of RAK Emirate.

The individual employees of EPDA were also awarded like Eng Yousef Jawabreh as an extra distinguished employee, Miss Eman Naqbi as the 1st runner e-suggestions system and Mr Ali Al Baloshi achieved 2nd outstanding award for the field officer.



Under the Patronage of

#### His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi

Supreme Council Member and Ruler Of Ras Al Khaimah

The Environment Protection Development Authority-Ras Al Khaimah cordially Invites you to attend our

3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference

#### **Global Warming: Food Security**

May 5-7, 2015 at 9:00 am in Al Hamra Convention Centre, Ras Al Khaimah

Please confirm your attendance by filling up the Registration form online www.gwrak.com before April 29,2015



#### **EPDA** Vision:

Protection of the environment and the sustainability of its resources.

### EPDA Message:

Excellence in providing, monitoring and environmental awareness services and promote the concept of environmental citizenship, through the application of environmental laws and regulations and investment in relationship with our partners and conduct studies and research that contribute to the protection of our natural resources.

#### **Environmental Event**

World Water Day .. 22 MARCH 2015

Water is health: "Clean hands can save your life".

Water is essential to human health. The human body can last weeks without food, but only days without water. Water is essential to our survival. Regular hand washing, is for example one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others. Up to one trillion germs can live in one gram of poop. As for the human body, in average it is made of 50-65% water. Babies have the highest percentage of water; newborns are 78% water. Every day, every person needs access to water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. Water is essential for sanitation facilities that do not compromise health. The World Health Organization recommends 7.5 liters per capita per day will meet the requirements of most people under most conditions. A higher quantity of about 20 liters per capita per day will take care of basic hygiene needs and basic food hygiene. Despite impressive gains made over the last decade, 748 million people do not have access to an improved source of drinking water and 2.5 billion do not use an improved sanitation facility. Investments in water and sanitation services result in substantial economic gains. The return on investment of attaining universal access to improved sanitation has been estimated at 5.5 to 1, whereas for universal access of improved drinking-water sources the ratio is estimated to be 2 to 1. To cover every person worldwide with safe water and sanitation is estimated to cost US\$ 107 billion a year over a five-year period.





#### Water pollution

The introduction of any material or energy in the aquatic environment, whether intentionally or unintentionally, directly or indirectly result in damage to the living or non-living or threaten human health or hinder the water activities including fishing and tourism activities or spoil the suitability for use or detract from the enjoyment or alter resources of properties.

Source: www.epda.rak.ae

## How to be an environment friendly?

- 1. Get e-tickets for the movies through apps or get e-tickets and boarding passes when traveling.
- 2. Planting trees in the garden of your home.
- 3. Change your light: If every household in the UAE would replace one regular light bulb with one of those new compact fluorescent bulbs, the pollution reduction would be equivalent to removing one million cars from the road.

4. Wrap creatively for the gift: You can reuse gift bags and paper, but you can also make something unique by using old maps, cloth or even newspapers.

#### **Earth Hour**

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community or at work - in your own way. A simple event can be just



turning off all non-essential lights from 8.30pm-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet for the rest of this year. To celebrate, you can have a candle lit dinner, talk to your neighbors, go camping, play board games, have a concert, screen an environmental documentary post the hour, create or join a community event.

#### A Reason to Drink Green Tea

It targets belly fat. Research at Tufts University indicates that green tea, like other catechism, activate fat-burning genes in the abdomen to speed weight loss by 77 percent.

#### **EPDA's Best Performance Award 2014**



EPDA has initiated to Award Federal / Local Government offices, organizations and Institution for the Best Performance regarding Environmental Conservation and Management for the year 2014. A committee has evaluated the departments/organizations and announced the following winners for 2014: 1st place: Emirates Identity Authority UAE Federal Organization and RAK Free Zone Authority as a local Organization. 2nd place: General Command of RAK Police as Federal Organization and RAK E-Govt. Authority as a local Organization Others partners: The Ministry of Public Works and Services Department, The Cove Rotana and RAK Mall. Dr. Saif M. Al Ghais told the audience during the ceremony held on March 12, 2015 at Banyan Tree Al Wadi, Ras Al Khiamh that EPDA's Best Performance Initiative aimed at consolidating the broad concept of Environmental Management among the stakeholders of RAK Emirate. He pointed out that the objective of the initiative is to encourage the stakeholders for environmental activities and creating awareness regarding the environment and will also create a sense of competitions among them. He stressed that the initiative included the activities and events by the participant organization was the contribution towards the "green areas" within and outside the entities, reduction of paper, changing their workplace as an environment friendly site by raising community awareness regarding reduction of energy consumption, waste management, healthy hygiene and rationalization of water consumption. At the end Dr. Saif M. Al Ghais awarded the shields to the winners.

#### Earth Hour March 28, 2015

EPDA along with the RAK Human Resources Department, RAK Tourism Department, Cove Rotana, Sparkis Family Entertainment, RAK Hospital, Saraya Restaurant and Takatoof Volunteers team has celebrated the "Earth Hour Event" on March 28, 2015 at Corniche Al Qawasim. The brochures were distributed to educate the community regarding the importance of the Earth Hour. A board was displayed for the signatures from the people visiting for the pledge to "Save Energy". The ladies and gents visiting the event site have signed with the intention of energy conservation. Dr. Saif M. Al Ghais, Executive director of EPDA said that the event was designed to create awareness among the community and organizations regarding the importance of electricity in our lives, rationalization of energy consumption in order to reduce the harmful effects on the atmosphere. He stressed that we have to maintain the healthy environment and conserve the natural resources as it is the responsibility of each individual of the society, so we must cooperate in protection of the environment from carbon emissions that is threatening the safety of the environment that is a dire need for our future generations.





#### Waste Disposal in Ras Al Khaimah

Government of Ras Al Khaimah, Regulation No. 1 of 2001, Pertaining to public hygiene in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah:

#### Article 2:

It is prohibited to throw, lay, leave, dispose of or pour in the squares, roads, streets, paths, alleys, sidewalks, empty spaces, building roofs, walls, balconies and skylights of houses and other places, whether public or private any of the following materials or things:

- 1. Garbage such as manure, waste, rubbish, trash, waste paper, sewage, bathing and cleaning water and water of sewage pits and sinks and generally the wastes that includes all kinds of waste and garbage.
- 2. Everything, weather movable, animal, material or thing that may obstruct the traffic or pedestrian, occupy the public road, deform the public and aesthetic view of the city and the building fronts and balconies or beach the requirements of public health and the maintenance of cleanliness. Areas and places excluded from the above provisions shall be in accordance with the required conditions, specifications and licenses as determined by the Municipality.
- 3. Water leak from air conditions of houses, apartments, shops, commercial establishments, offices and companies".

## **Environmental Logislation**

Article 7, UAE Law #24 (1999) for PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Owners of projects or establishments approved by license shall undertake regular analysis of wastes and monitor the properties of discharge and pollutants generated from such projects including degradable materials and keeping monitoring records and sending reports with the results to the Agency and the Competent Authorities.



#### Million and One Tree Initiative

Green Ras Al Khaimah" by Planting "Million and One Tree" Initiative by Environment Protection and Development Authority Govt of Ras Al Khimah to make "RAK Green"

# Zayed University extinguish their lights to celebrate "Earth Hour"

Zayed University for actively celebrated the "Earth Hour" aimed at energy conservation and the reduction of negative environmental impacts through the unnecessary lights in the campuses of University in Abu Dhabi and Dubai for an hour, starting at 8:30 pm . Zayed University announce to achieve advanced results in reducing electricity consumption during "Earth Hour", and saved  $1680\,\mathrm{kW}/\mathrm{h}$  of electricity, and 1.5 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, a decrease of 46% from the normal average.

