

RECREATIONAL SPACES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

1. Singapore offers a wide range of recreational spaces and activities to meet the needs of an active population. Our nature areas, parks and gardens, and beautiful waterways that flow through our residential estates and city provide spaces for residents to relax from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Sporting, cultural and urban recreational facilities are also well-distributed across our island and within towns.
2. While we are not able to conserve every local green space, we have consciously planned and conserved significant and representative examples of our native ecosystems. Extensive efforts are made to protect our natural heritage so that present and future generations can enjoy our forested areas, waterways and coasts. Introducing activities into our green and blue spaces has enhanced our leisure environment and created new and exciting recreational options.
3. Today, we have
 - 4 Nature Reserves
 - 20 Nature Areas
 - More than 350 parks
 - Over 60 ha of skyrise greenery (equivalent to 84 football fields)
 - 22 Active, Beautiful, Clean Waters projects
4. Under the Draft Master Plan 2013, our green spaces including nature areas, nature ways and parks will be expanded. Better accessibility is also in the works for our green spaces, with the expansion of the park connector network, Round Island Route and Rail Corridor. The aim is to have some 90% of our residents living within 400 m of a park.
5. Plans are also in the works for
 - More than 60 km of nature ways that serve as biodiversity links between green areas
 - More than 90% of residents to live within 400 m of a park
 - 360 km of park connectors to link our green spaces
 - A 150 km Round Island Route
 - Opening of 900 ha of reservoirs and 100 km of waterways for recreational activities

Providing nature ways

6. Nature ways help biodiversity thrive by providing links between green spaces where birds and smaller creatures can live and move from one habitat to another.
7. The National Parks Board (NParks) has introduced nature ways at Admiralty, Tampines, Yishun and Kheam Hock to improve connectivity between green spaces.

Taking greenery to greater heights

8. Integrating greenery into developments can provide a more pleasant, green environment. To encourage the greening of our urban spaces, various agencies such as the Housing & Development Board (HDB), NParks, and URA have introduced initiatives and incentives to promote greenery in public and private developments.

9. The Landscaping for Urban Spaces and High Rises (LUSH) programme is one such initiative by URA. It is a package of green initiatives that promote greenery at all levels of a development, be it on the ground level, or at higher elevations in the form of planter boxes, balconies, skyrise and rooftop gardens. Since LUSH was introduced in 2009, over 200 greening projects totalling some 40 ha have been completed.

10. Under the LUSH programme, new developments in areas such as Marina Bay and Jurong Gateway have provided landscaped areas equivalent in size to the development site area. This Landscape Replacement Policy will be extended to more areas so new developments can introduce more greenery to the urban environment.

Healthier communities

11. To promote healthier communities, the Singapore Sports Council's Sports Facilities Master Plan will provide various tiers of sports facilities to cater to different sporting activities at the national, regional, town and neighbourhood level. At the regional and town levels, there are plans for one Town Sports and Recreational Centre in every HDB town. There will also be more common spaces through integrated community sports hub and community playfields for the community to interact and bond through sports. For example, at the neighbourhood level, more school fields will be opened up for public use for longer hours given their convenient locations.

12. By 2030, our sports facilities will comprise
- National: Singapore Sports Hub
 - Regional: Up to 5 Regional Sports Centres
 - Town: 1 Sports and Recreational Facility per town
 - Neighbourhood: Approximately 400 school sports facilities opened up for public use under the Dual Use Scheme (These include school fields and indoor sports halls).

The people's bay

13. Marina Bay will continue to be the people's bay and a vibrant hub of activity all year round. Under the water activities master plan drawn up by URA in collaboration with other agencies, the Bay will be strengthened as a focal point for water-based recreation in the heart of the city. Today, the public can hop on a sail boat and try their hand at sailing around the Bay. A new pontoon beneath the Benjamin Sheares bridge will make it easier for kayakers to paddle to the Bay. The People's Association will have a new Water Venture outlet at Marina Bay next year that will make water activities even more accessible.