



MAR 09 2009

DepED MEMORANDUM  
No. **81**, s. 2009

**2009 NATIONAL SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE AND ECO-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS**

To: Undersecretaries  
Assistant Secretaries  
Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division/City Superintendents  
Heads, Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in cooperation with the Department of Education (DepED) with the assistance of SMART Communications, Inc., will conduct the "National Search for Sustainable and Eco-Friendly Schools for 2009" (A Recognition of Awards for Sustainable and Eco-Friendly Schools).
2. The search aims to:
  - a. encourage schools/academic institutions to become more actively involved in environmental issues at a practical and local level; and
  - b. develop skills and understanding among the students, faculty and school administrators in initiating active responses and increasing community awareness and participation on environmental concerns.
3. The search is open to all public and private elementary and secondary schools nationwide. The contest mechanics and other relevant information including the application forms are found in the enclosures.
4. For inquiries, please contact the Secretariat at the Environmental Education and Information Division, EMB-DENR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HRD Bldg., DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, telefax no. 928-4674/920-2251 or e-mail: [ecofriendlyschools@gmail.com](mailto:ecofriendlyschools@gmail.com).
5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

  
**JESLI A. LAPUS**  
Secretary

Encl.: As stated

Reference: None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index

AWARDS  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
SEARCH  
SCHOOLS

Sally: search for sustainable eco-friendly schools  
February 20, 2009

**NATIONAL SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE AND ECO-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS**  
*(A Recognition Awards for Sustainable and Eco-Friendly Schools)*

**Rationale:**

"Overcoming poverty, gender equality, health promotion, environmental conservation and protection, rural transformation, human rights, intercultural understanding and peace, sustainable production and consumption, cultural diversity, and information and communication technologies – these are the key themes under the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD) that has been declared for the years 2005-2014.

Education for sustainable development centers on awareness of sustainable development issues, enhancing knowledge, influencing values and attitudes, and encouraging responsive behavior and learning that leads to action. Information is a major component of education and a continuous campaign for massive environmental awareness is indeed necessary. Under the country's local response to the UNDESD, included in the National Environmental Education Action Plan for Sustainable Development is a national program that would encourage schools to establish sustainable and eco-friendly schools.

The school system is a vital part of our basic learning and is seen as a powerful vehicle for change. The school population, comprising of the students, teaching and non-teaching personnel, constitute a sizeable percentage of the national population. As such, any program focused on advocacy and other multi-faceted program of activities done within the school system especially relating to environmental concerns needs to be documented, encouraged, and recognized.

Sustainable and Eco-Friendly schools may be described as environment-friendly schools that have initiated and integrated in their instruction, research, extension and/or administration, programs which are environment-related.

A wide variety of environmental initiatives on the following areas can be adopted in pursuit of sustainable eco-friendly schools:

- developing environmental policies for the school
- physical cleanliness, orderliness and beautification of the school
- energy conservation and demand management
- water conservation/water management (maintenance of potable water)
- paper conservation/paper recycling
- waste reduction, waste segregation, recycling and composting
- air, water and soil pollution control
- seedling production/vegetable gardening and marketing
- reforestation and/or nursery establishment
- establishment of a botanical garden
- herbarium
- establishment of bio-park
- environmental audits of school's operations and facilities
- integration of environmental themes into the school curriculum
- conduct of in-service environmental training for faculty members
- development of environmental support instructional materials
- offering of environmental degrees/certificate programs
- environment and natural resource-related research works and studies
- linkages and exchanges on the environment with the following sectors: national government agencies, non-government organizations, religious organizations, local government units, business and industry sector, among others
- environmental awareness and community education
  - holding of green fairs and environmental exhibits/sale of green products
  - holding of seminars and/or conferences/symposia

- holding of eco-tours or ecological destinations
- healthy lifestyle campaigns

Some of these programs can take the form of: litter watch; beach eco-watch; tap watch; bantay-ulan; bantay-dagat; bantay-gubat; land care, and the like.

#### Objectives:

1. To encourage schools/academic institutions to become more actively involved in environmental issues at a practical and local level; and
2. To develop skills and understanding among the students, faculty and school administrators in initiating active responses and increasing community awareness and participation on environmental concerns.

#### Mechanics:

1. **ELIGIBILITY.** The search shall be open to both the public and private schools nationwide, in the following categories: elementary, high school, and tertiary school levels. Where a school has more than one level of education, the school shall be eligible for only one entry.

2. **CRITERIA FOR JUDGING.** Entries for all categories shall be rated based on:

##### 2.1 Environment-related Aspects of the School's Policy (20 points)

- The vision/mission statement of the school incorporates an environmental thrust. (4 pts)
- Environmental Policy of the school is existent, via school memorandum or order. (4 pts)
- The Environmental Policy of the school is communicated to constituents in the school (students, academic and non-academic staff, and parent-teachers' association). (4 pts)
- There are implementing rules and regulations to the Environmental Policy of the school. (4 pts)
- A person or a committee is assigned to implement environmental programs and projects for the school. (4 pts)

##### 2.2 Environment-friendly School Operations and Presence of Environmental Programs (30 points)

- Waste management program (e.g. waste segregation, recycling, composting, presence of Materials Recovery Facility/System, sale of crafts, compost and other items from waste recycling, etc.) (4 pts)
- Electricity conservation program (e.g. replacement of incandescent lamp with compact fluorescent lamps, turning off of machine when not in use, etc) (4 pts)
- Paper conservation program (e.g. efficient consumption of paper, presence of paper conservation trays, etc.) (4 pts)
- Water conservation program (e.g. repair of leaking faucets, signages, etc.) (4 pts)
- Pollution prevention program (e.g. air and water pollution prevention program, ban on entry of smoke belching vehicles on the campus, presence of signages, etc.) (4 pts)
- Greening program (e.g. presence of plants, trees, mini-gardens etc) (4 pts)
- Environmental awards received (from 2005-2009) (2 pts)
- Other environmental and natural resources management program/s not mentioned above (e.g. biodiversity conservation program, etc) (4 pts)

### 2.3 Environment-related Features of the School Curriculum (30 points)

#### 2.3.1. (for elementary and high school education level)

- Integration of environmental themes into the curriculum (10 pts)
- Presence of in-service environmental training for faculty members (10 pts)
- Presence of environmental support instructional materials for use by teachers and students (10 pts)

#### 2.3.2. (for tertiary level)

- Integration of environmental themes into the curriculum (5 pts)
- Presence of in-service environmental training for faculty members (10 pts)
- Presence of environmental support instructional materials for use by teachers and students (10 pts)
- Presence of environmental degree/certificate programs being offered by the school (5 pts)

### 2.4 Presence of Vibrant Eco Organizations in Campus (10 points)

- presence of a functioning eco-club among the students with at least one eco project per school year over the past two years (4 pts)
- presence of support eco club or committee among the parents, teachers and other non-student sector in campus (3 pts)
- allocation of financial and logistical support by the school to the student eco club (3 pts)

### 2.5 Presence of Partners and Linkages in Environment Programs/Projects (10 points)

- Linkages with Local Agencies (e.g. DENR or other agencies, LGUs, etc.) (5 pts)
- Linkages with International Agencies (e.g. UN Environment Programme, UN Development Programme, UNESCO) (5 pts)

### 3. REQUIREMENTS. Participating schools are required to submit the following documents in THREE (3) sets:

3.1 Official Contest Entry Form (See attached entry form for reference)

3.2 Supporting Documents (Consist of all the supporting material that show evidence of the school's environment efforts and programs. They can include the following.

- memoranda, circulars, special orders
- photos of environmental programs of the school
- videos of school's environment activities (limit to 5 minutes)
- publications and design work
- copies of certificates, merit awards for environment programs

Be selective with the supporting documents. Pick work samples that best represent the school entry, rather than sending every item.

3.3 Digital Entry – Save digital copies of the Official Contest Entry Form and the Supporting Documents on a CD-ROM. Label properly.

Assemble your school entry (Official Entry Form and Supporting Documents) in a folder and label with **“Sustainable and Eco-friendly Initiatives of (NAME OF SCHOOL)”**

4 **SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES**

- 4.1 For elementary and high school categories. Entries should be submitted directly to their respective DepEd Division Offices.
- 4.2 For the college category. Entries should be submitted to the nearest EMB Regional Office.
- 4.3 Deadline of submission. The deadline for the submission of entries is on April 30, 2009.

5 **SCREENING OF ENTRIES.** Selected entries from the elementary and high school will then be submitted to the EMB Regional Offices by the DepEd Division Offices by June 8, 2009. Entries will be screened by a core group consisting of representatives from EMB, DepEd, CHED, SMART and/or other partners at the regional level. The core group will also handle actual assessment and other documentation for the schools that will be shortlisted. Representatives from the core group may also check the veracity of documentation submitted.

6 **BOARD OF JUDGES.** The decision of the Board of Judges, to be composed of noted individuals in the areas of environmental education, coming from the government, private sector and civil society at the regional and national levels, shall be final and irrevocable.

7 **AWARDS AND PRIZES**

- Regional Level. There will be one regional finalist per category. Each will be awarded a Certificate of Recognition Award and a P5,000 cash prize.
- National Level. Regional finalists shall compete at the National Level. Judging will be held at the EMB Central Office.
  
- Prizes for the competition, at the national level, are the following:

**College Category**

First Prize	P50,000.00
Second Prize	P40,000.00
Third Prize	P30,000.00

**High School Category**

First Prize	P50,000.00
Second Prize	P40,000.00
Third Prize	P30,000.00

**Elementary School Category**

First Prize	P50,000.00
Second Prize	P40,000.00
Third Prize	P30,000.00

- Winners shall be notified by the EMB Central Office by October 2009 thru phone, fax, mail or e-mail.

8 **EXHIBITION OF WINNING ENTRIES.** Regional finalists should submit exhibit-ready materials of their entry by August 11, 2009 following the format below:

- Material: Tarpaulin. Dimensions: 2 feet wide x 5 feet high tarpaulin, with eyelets at the four edges
- Content: Tarp design should feature the environment efforts and programs of the school. Design should include the title **"Sustainable and Eco-friendly Initiatives of (NAME OF SCHOOL)"**.

**NATIONAL SEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE & ECO-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS**  
*(A Recognition Awards for Sustainable & Eco-Friendly Schools)*

**ENTRY FORM**

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Region \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person/s \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number/s \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (pls. write legibly) \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Brief Description of the Environmental Projects or Programs of the school ( not to exceed 200 words)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**II. Please check for appropriateness. Please attach corresponding documents/evidence to the items checked. These documents can be photos, or text or videos.**

**1. Environment-related Aspects of the School's Policy (20 points)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Vision/mission statement of the school (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Policy (school memorandum or order) (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Implementing rules and regulations to the environmental policy of the school. (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Designation of person or a committee to implement environmental programs and projects for the school. (memorandum or order) ( 4 pts)

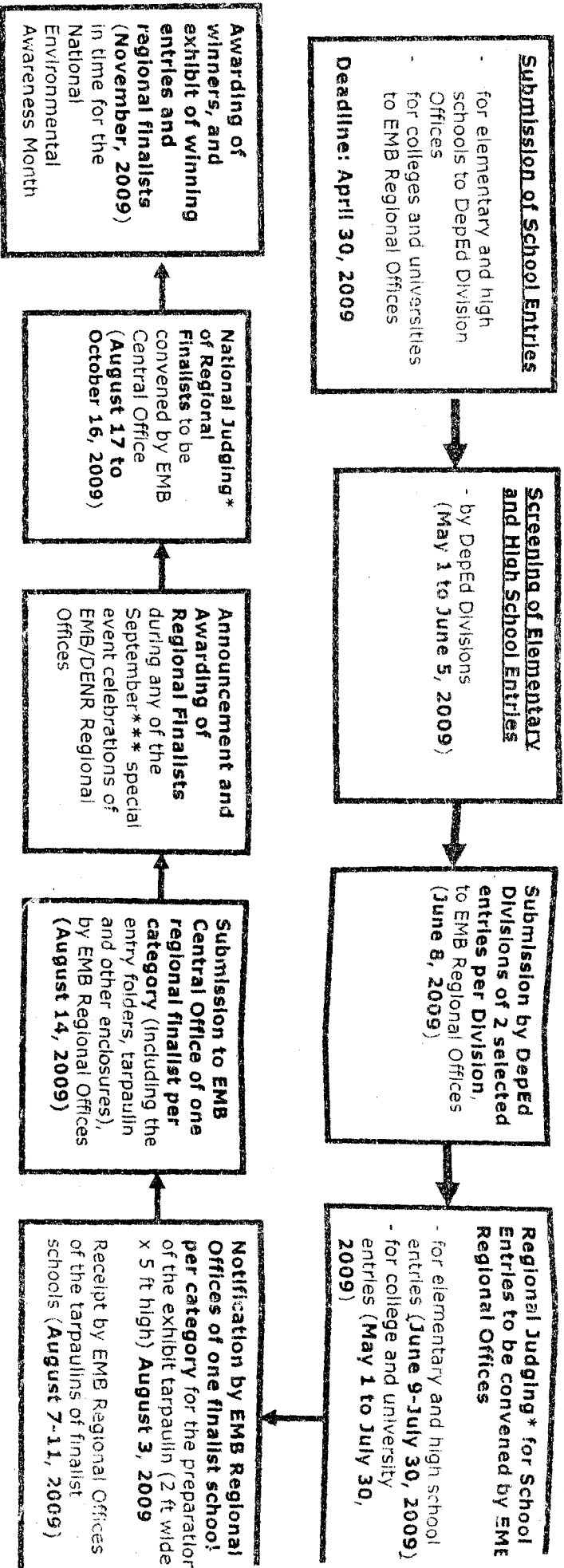
**2. Environment-Friendly School Operations and Presence of Environmental Programs (30 points)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Waste management program (e.g. waste segregation, recycling, composting, presence of Materials Recovery Facility/ System, sale of crafts, compost and other forms of waste recycling, etc.) (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Electricity conservation program (e.g. replacement of incandescent lamp with compact fluorescent lamps, turning off of machine when not in use, etc) (4pts )
- \_\_\_\_\_ Paper conservation program (e.g. efficient consumption of paper, presence of paper conservation trays, etc.) (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Water conservation program (e.g. repair of leaking faucets, signages, etc) (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pollution prevention program (e.g. air and water pollution prevention, program, ban on entry of smoke-belching vehicles in the campus, presence of signages,etc.) (4 pts)

9. **AWARDING CEREMONIES.** All winning entries for each of the three categories, together with selected entries, will be displayed during the national awarding ceremonies to be held in November 2009, in time for the National Environmental Awareness Month celebration.
10. **CONTEST WEBSITE.** A contest website containing the contest mechanics and important information will be launched. URL to be announced via the EMB website ([www.emb.gov.ph](http://www.emb.gov.ph)) An online entry form will also be available at the contest website.
11. **CONTACT INFORMATION.** For inquiries, please contact the Secretariat at the Environmental Education and Information Division, EMB-DENR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HRD Bldg., DENR Compound, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City, telefax nos. 928-46-74 or 920-22-51 or via email at [ecofriendlyschoools@gmail.com](mailto:ecofriendlyschoools@gmail.com).



## National Search for Sustainable and Eco-friendly Schools



\* Regional/National Judging team may, at the minimum, \*\* comprise of representatives from: EMB, DepEd and SMART Communications for elementary and high school entries; EMB, CHED and SMART Communications for college and university entries

\*\* Civil Society members may also be invited, depending on EMB Regional/Central Offices, and at an odd-numbered Team Composition

\*\*\* September as National Clean Up Month, National Ozone Protection Month, September 16 as International Ozone Day, Third weekend of September as International Coastal Clean Up Weekend

**Environment-related Features of the School Curriculum (30 points)**

i. (for elementary and high school education level)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Integration of environmental themes into the curriculum (10 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presence of in-service environmental training for faculty members (10 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presence of environmental support instructional materials for use by teachers and students (10 pts)

ii. (for tertiary level)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Integration of environmental themes into the curriculum (5 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presence of in-service environmental training for faculty members (10 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presence of environmental support instructional materials for use by teachers and students (10 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presence of environmental degree/certificate programs being offered by the school (5 pts)

**4. Presence of Vibrant Eco-Organizations in Campus (10 points)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ presence of a functioning eco-club among the students with at least one eco project per school year over the past 2 years (4 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ presence of a support eco club or committee among the parents, teachers and other non-student sector in campus (3 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ allocation of financial and logistical support by the school to the student eco-club (3 pts)

**5. Presence of Partners and Linkages in Environment Programs/Projects (10 points)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Linkages with Local Agencies (e.g. DENR or other agencies, LGUs, etc.) (5 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Linkages with International Agencies ( e.g. UN Environment Programme, UN Development Programme, UNESCO) (5 pts)

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature over Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Institution

Certified Correct by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature over Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Institution