



#LOOKINGBEYONDPLASTIC
Imagine a future free of plastic pollution

#THROWBACK PLASTIC CAMPAIGNS IN BENGALURU PART 1

Timeline: 2015 (SUP Ban, National Day), 2016 (Ban on carry bags, Ban on cutlery), 2017 (Plastic Free Karnataka), 2018 (BYOC ban, Zero waste shopping), 2019 (Ban on plastic, Green Awards)

FIRST & FOREMOST...

It's an undeniable fact that it's difficult to envision a world without plastic. Plastic exists everywhere. It has even entered our bodies. To mitigate this damage, bans, clean-ups and recycling initiatives have been growing in popularity. But still, why do we continue to remain surrounded by plastic?

SWMRT recently launched a campaign titled "Looking Beyond Plastic" which is designed to assist individuals gain insights into the complex world of plastic. The campaign attempts to lay bare how the plastic menace intersects with other issues.

Launched in tandem with Plastic Free July—a global movement to raise awareness on the effects of plastic—"Looking Beyond Plastic" offers a holistic view into the past campaigns, a vision to imagine a future free of plastic pollution in line with other local, national and international campaigns.

Join us as we try to put together various pieces of the puzzle that make up the plastic pollution solution. To learn more, follow @swmrtbengaluru on Instagram.

WTE WRAP-UP



Whyburnwaste shared two films to show that large amounts of recyclable waste is being burnt in the UK even though it is segregated. The films revealed how countries often handle disproportionately large portions of their total waste via WTE.

Even countries like Sweden which claim 90% recycling rates, incinerate almost 50% of their waste collected. This film lays bare what is happening in Sweden in the name of recycling.

A must-watch for those who believe that a circular economy is the way forward and how WTE cannot be a one-stop solution to all our waste woes. Connect with us on FB, Insta, Twitter, LinkedIn though the SWMRT handles or the whyburnwaste Insta handle.

(This is a monthly summary of the Whyburnwaste campaign being carried out by SWMRT to disseminate information on WTE plants so as to enable citizens, policy-makers and administrators to make informed decisions.)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

We are all aware of the ill-effects of plastic on the environment, animals and humans. On the occasion of Plastic-Free July, our SGKK staff member D Balaji has written interesting articles illuminating the effects of plastic on animals. The three pieces focus on plastic pollution in India and how it affects wildlife and the natural world around. He talks about the actions each one of us can take to reduce plastic consumption and rid India of plastic menace.

SPIRITUALITY & SUSTAINABILITY

A sense of spirituality is necessary for us to lead a sustainable lifestyle while acknowledging the universe's vitality and Mother Nature's resilience. Architect, design researcher, classical musician lyricist, painter and storyteller, Vinay Varanasi conducted a workshop at SGKK on July 30.

Vinay discussed how spirituality and sustainability can coexist. SWMRT member Vani Murthy gave a session on composting and sustainable living. Participants were urged to embark on this path and reap its spiritual rewards. Over 70 people showed up for the workshop.



ಮಾಂಸವನ್ನು ತಡೆಗಟ್ಟುವವರಾರು?

ನೋಡಿ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ನಾನಿದೇವರು ತಿರ್ಗ ಎಲೈ ಪೋಂದರ ಅಲೈ ಬಿರಾಮುದೇ ವ್ಯಾಸ್ತಿಕ ಬುಕೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಈ ತರಾ ಬಿರಾದಿದರ ಎನ ಆರುತೆ ಅಂಕಾ ಯೋಜನೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಈ ಜನಗು ತೇಗ ಅಂಥ ಕೆಲಸ ಮುಗಿದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅದನ್ನು ಯಾವ ರೀತಿ ವಿಂಗಡಣೆ ಮಾಡಿ ತಮ್ಮ ತಮ್ಮ ವ್ಯಾಸ್ತಿಯ ಪಂಚಾಯತಸ್ಥರಣೆಪೆನೇರಣೆಕೆಬಿಡಿಎಂಪಿ ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊಡಬೇಕು ಅಂತ ಯೋಜನೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಸಮಿತಿ ಎಲ್ಲೆಡೆಲ್ಲೆ ಉಂಕಂಪಂ ಮಾಡಿ ಅದು ದೊಡ್ಡದಾಗಿ ಹರಡುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈ ರೀತಿ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಭಾರತ ದೇಶ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಬರಲು ತೇಗ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಲೋಚಿಸಿ!

- D. Balaji, **ಚಿತ್ರಾ ಚಿತ್ರಣ**

A THANK-YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



In July, SWMRT ran two fundraising campaigns. The campaign was initiated as part of our ideology to promote the inclusion of waste workers. The first one was aimed at helping Shamala, a waste sorter at a Dry Waste Collection Centre, to educate her daughters. We were able to raise over Rs 40,000 to support Monika and Monisha's education.

Gowri and Lakshmi, the two desi cows contribute to the resilient and holistic ecosystem at SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra. We were able to raise over Rs 30,000 for their health and wellbeing. A heartfelt thank-you to all our supporters who believe in our work and continue to support us in more ways than one.

BRAINSTORM



On July 27, 10 employees from the CSA participated in a hands-on workshop at SGKK. The workshop, led by Anuradha Govind and Vasuki Iyengar covered various aspects of waste management. The event began with a tour of SGKK. Concepts such as landfills, the 2bin1bag system, zero-waste homes, waste-pickers' role in dry waste management, and composting solutions.

The workshop left participants more conscious of their consumption habits and motivated them to make positive changes.

Reach us at info@swmrt.com to conduct a workshop with us.

THE HEARTBEAT

THE MONTH THAT WAS

- Community Volunteering Day: Special mention to the volunteers from GiftAble and Smitam | July 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23.
- Workshop: Carbon and Waste Circularity by Pinky Chandran at Science Gallery, Bengaluru | July 1.
- Expert talks: Sustainable menstruation by Dr Meenakshi Bharath at BMS college, Bengaluru | July 10.
- Expert Talks: Sustainable Living workshop by Vani Murthy at Kurnool for Inner Wheel District 316, Ayushman, The XXXIX District Assemble | July 13.
- Panel discussion on 'Facilitating Partnerships and Engaging with Youth Led Climate Initiatives by Restless Development' with Pinky Chandran | July 14.
- Instagram Live: Book reading by Pinky Chandran and Shreya Gurung | July 14.
- Community Garden at SGKK: Volunteers contributed to setting up the banana circle permaculture pond | July 15.
- SGKK workshop: Three-hour hands-on workshop on composting and gardening with CSA | July 27.
- SGKK visitor update: BMS College students visit SGKK to learn about composting | July 127.
- Panel discussion: 'A Sustainable Lifestyle in the Anthropocene - Is it even possible?' with Vani Murthy by Nature in Focus | July 29.
- Expert talks: National Webinar on zero-waste living by Vani Murthy for Inner Wheel | July 28.
- Interactive webinar: Waste to Wonder through Sustainable Living by Shalini Khanna Charles for Rotaract Club of Mount Carmel College | July 28.
- Expert talks: Beat Plastic Pollution by Anuradha Govind for VEMBARK programme inauguration at Vibgyor High | June 29.
- SGKK Workshop: Sustainability and spirituality by Vinay Varanashi and 5 steps to composting by Vani Murthy | July 30.



(From top) 1. Waste to Wonder workshop conducted by Shalini Charles. 2. Community Volunteering Day at SGKK. 3. Vani Murthy smiles after a zero-waste workshop in Kurnool. 4. Sustainable living workshop by Dr Meenakshi Bharath 5. Instagram live with Pinky Chandran and Shreya Gurung.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & INSTAGRAM FOR INFO ON OUR UPCOMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & A LOT MORE.