

OCTOBER 2022 | BENGALURU



FIRST & FOREMOST...

Like spring, everything in life has a small beginning. We at SWMRT firmly believe that getting the younger generation engaged in holistic and scientific solid waste management activities paves the way for a future where making sustainable choices will not be a conscious undertaking, but will happen by default.

Taking this ethos further, we are partnering with Waste Impact Trust, Omega Tech, Soil and Health and Harmony Rotary to work with public schools on waste awareness programmes.

Over the last month, several workshops, training sessions, hands-on activities and a plogging session by Plog Raj of the Indian Ploggers Army were conducted for the teachers and the students of these schools.

We look forward to this long-term engagement with the schools to impart knowledge on segregation, composting and sustainable alternatives.



WtE WRAP-UP



As waste quantum has been increasing exponentially and also becoming more complex, recycling it all is no small feat. Unfortunately, 'waste to energy' (WtE) is often touted as an easy solution to burn mixed waste. Quite the contrary, WtE is not a magic wand that would turn all our waste into energy. We all must respond with responsibility as it has serious long-term consequences. Hence, SWMRT started an initiative to run an information dissemination campaign on waste burning and WtE and did a run-up of all the information so far in October. We hope all of you are sharing this campaign to ensure that informed decisions are made.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



A guide to composting ft. Vani Murthy

'The Journey of India' is a story of India's journey through the past, present, and future. A documentary where we learn how India has kept up with modernity while remembering its integral traditions and cultures. SWMRT Member Vani Murthy was featured as the #GreenGuardian of the country on Discovery Channel India which premiered on October 17.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING AT SGKK GAINING POPULARITY

A few glimpses of the Community Volunteering Day at SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra organised on October 30, Sunday. Volunteers made brooms from coconut pod sticks, composted banana stems and participated in a composting and gardening workshop conducted by Vani Murthy and Meenakshi Arun. The event was organised by the members of SWMRT and HSR Citizens Forum. A big thank-you to all the 50+ volunteers who showed up and made the event a big success.



COMPOSTING WORKSHOP



On October 8, SWMRT conducted a home composting session for the residents of Palm Meadows, a community in Bengaluru. The workshop attracted over 40 enthusiastic residents to the session to initiate their journey in composting. Aarthi Thoppoe, Anuradha Govind, Siddu Chalawadi, Savita Hiremath and Vasuki Iyengar facilitated the workshop with a composting demonstration, answered questions while stressing on troubleshooting techniques. As part of the session, composting vendors like Daily Dump, Endlessly Green, Soil & Health, StoneSoup.in, Vermi Terra and Orbin Stax displayed their products. If you or your community want to conduct a home composting session, contact us at info@swmrt.com.

BRAINSTORM

In the last week of October, SWMRT Member Savita Hiremath was invited by Guntur Municipal Corporation to discuss suitable solutions to process all the kitchen waste generated in Guntur city which runs into around 100 tonnes per day. A meeting of bulk waste generators was called to help them become familiar with composting and biogas solutions. Savita's presentation dwelt over the importance of waste segregation at source, the basics of composting and available solutions at home, community and ward levels. She also spoke of the need to integrate waste-pickers into the project and the hazards of 24-hour composters.



THE HEARTBEAT



THE MONTH THAT WAS

- Community Volunteering Day: Composting and gardening workshop with Vani Murthy and Meenakshi Arun | SGKK | Oct 30.
- Instagram live: Home composting process and problems with Vasuki Iyengar and Vani Murthy | Oct 20.
- Instagram live: World Food Day | In conversation with Co-founder of Buffalo Back Collective Vishalakshi Padmanabhan, Co-founder of Farm Fresh Bengaluru Nalini Murthy and SWMRT members Vani Murthy and Anuradha Govind | Oct 16.
- Community Volunteering Day: Cooking up a storm on World Food Day | Hands-on training on making fertilizers, bioenzyme, banana compost tea and effective microorganisms | SGKK | Oct 15 & 16.
- Palm Meadows home composting workshops: Facilitated by Vasuki Iyengar, Aarthi Thoppae, Anuradha Govind, Siddu Chalwadi and Savita Hiremath | Oct 8.
- Community Volunteering Day: Festival waste management | SGKK | Oct 8 & 9.
- Expert Talks: Home composting webinar with GE Hydro by Vasuki Iyengar and Anuradha Govind | Oct 7.



(From top) 1. A group photo from Community Volunteering Day on Oct 30. 2. The SGKK team prepares for a community volunteering day. 3. SWMRT member Vani Murthy shares the joy of holding compost with a young volunteer at SGKK.

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