

FEHD launches "School of Life" series of activities to encourage green burials

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has launched a series of activities under the theme "School of Life" to encourage the public to embrace green burials and plan their end-of-life arrangements ahead of time. The campaign features a range of creative activities, including the "Life and Death Expo," which introduces support resources for old age and after-death arrangements; the Community Tour for Life Education, which encourages participants to reflect on life and death through learning about special attractions in the community; and the Guided Life and Death Exploration Tours for Youth, which deepens life education through hands-on experiences. The FEHD will also launch short videos on an online platform to elaborate on the green burial process and address common misconceptions, thereby helping the public better grasp the relevant information.

In addition, the department has been making continuous efforts to enhance its burial services by upgrading both hardware and software to provide more humane and thoughtful support. The smoke-free Shek Mun Columbarium and Gardens of Remembrance (GoR) is expected to be completed and come into operation within the year, and the outlook design providing free services for scattering ashes at sea by ferry will be enhanced. As green burials gain popularity, the Government will continue to expand related facilities and promote public education on life planning through free talks, guided GoR tours, and immersive community experiences (see appendix for details). These efforts aim to raise public awareness and drive green burials as a mainstream option. Members of the public are encouraged to stay updated on "School of Life" activities by visiting the FEHD's dedicated webpage.

As the first key activity to kick off this year's promotion, the FEHD will organise the interactive exhibition "Green Burial, Love Living On" over two consecutive days starting from March 15 at Citywalk 2 in Tsuen Wan, New Territories, with an opening ceremony on March 16. The exhibition features thematic talks, workshops, and family-friendly activities designed to guide the public to explore the meaning of life and understand the value of green burials. There will be a story zone for children on-site, with lively illustrations on the concept of the life cycle. Also, performances by an elderly theatre club will encourage intergenerational participation to face life's topics together through advance care planning. Visitors can also enjoy a complimentary family photo service, which can open conversations about life and death across all ages. Moreover, the FEHD has invited experts in life and death education, and funeral directors to host a series of talks on topics such as well-being planning and personalised eco-friendly funerals. Information booths will be set up to provide details about green burial options and the Green Burial Central Register. Nearby, a "Life Recipe" will be displayed and distributed at the Yeung Uk Road Market near the exhibition

venue, connecting food culture with the "Five Ways of Life" to complement the main event. The public is invited to join. For more details, please visit the thematic webpage: www.greenburial.gov.hk/en/intro/school-of-life.html.