

Report card

The Public Hygiene Council, with the support of the Singapore Kindness Movement and the National Environment Agency, held its third islandwide clean-up operation yesterday, as part of the Keep Singapore Clean Movement. But how well are we doing now? The council's chairman, Mr Edward D'Silva, gives his take.



“ There are some who don't think personal hygiene is important. They don't wash their hands properly, continue to spit in public and blow their noses in public. ”

Good personal hygiene:
7/10



“ There is still some way to go. We are hoping to encourage stakeholders to hold litter-picking activities more regularly, so that this is a more sustainable programme. ”

Ownership of “bright spots”, a council initiative to have stakeholders adopt areas to keep clean:
6/10



“ This is a big concern. My rating comes from my comparing us to Taipei and Japan. Subconsciously, over the years, we have given this perception: 'Don't worry, there are cleaners following you to pick up after you.' ”

Throwing litter into the bin:
6/10



“ This is the biggest challenge of the lot, and the hardest to handle. People think: 'Why should we clear, we are paying. Cleaners will be out of a job.' But actually, when we return trays, we make their job easier. It also means the next customer can use the table faster. ”

Tray return:
4/10



“ There are varying degrees of cleanliness in toilets. Those in places like the airport, malls, restaurants, high-end offices and shophouses are generally fine. But one category that is still of concern is coffee shops. These are still dirty. ”

Clean toilets:
7/10