

# Daluyan

The official news channel of

**LAGUNA WATER**  
A MANILA WATER  
PHILIPPINE VENTURES COMPANY

VOLUME 7 | ISSUE 2 | DECEMBER 2022



**DALOY NG SAYA:**  
Spreading love  
and happiness this

**Christmas**

**TURNING GREEN INTO GOLD:**  
Laguna Water's  
Green-Minded Program tops  
the 2022 Kaanib sa Agos Awards

**PROMOTING SANITATION  
ACROSS THE PROVINCE:**  
Laguna Water expands its  
desludging services in Pagsanjan

**CONTINUING JOURNEY  
TO PROMOTE AWARENESS**  
about water and wastewater  
management process

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## ABOUT THE COVER



The photo was taken during Laguna Water's Daloy ng Saya held in Perez Elementary School, Calauan, Laguna.

Like the student in the photo, Laguna Water has embraced the new challenges brought by the pandemic – learned to adjust and walk with faith and hope. The year 2022 is about adapting and learning how to return and rebuild our previous working routines and schedules. Employees continue to do their responsibilities of bringing life and joy to the community - by providing water and wastewater services in its concession areas.

## MESSAGE FROM THE

# General Manager

The year 2022 is all about adjustments. COVID-19 has taught us lessons that have forever shaped us. It also helped us engage and reflect on our personal and professional goals.

Even before the pandemic, the challenges and inequities in our everyday lives required time, attention, and end results. Laguna Water continues to find the best sustainable solutions and holistic approaches to help the community, the employees, and the environment.

As we jump to 2023, I want to extend my appreciation to all our customers and stakeholders who continue to trust Laguna Water - its services and people. You are all important to the organization, and we recognize each of you.

Let us welcome the new year with high hopes, determination, and optimism.

Cheers, ka-Loveguna Water!

**CONSTANTINE O. UY**  
Laguna Water COO and General Manager

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# Planting hope for the future: Laguna Water partners with CENROs in protecting the environment



**Laguna Water answers the call of the local governments of Santa Rosa and Cabuyao to plant bamboo and kabuyaw trees for the environment's continuous protection.**

The Company adopted a portion of the 13-hectare coastal land in Brgy. Aplaya, Santa Rosa City, Laguna that the local government dedicated as a bamboo planting site. To kick-start the lifetime commitment, employee volunteers of Laguna Water initially planted 120 propagules on June 28, 2022.

According to Engr. Maria Amor Salandanan, EnP., Head of the Santa Rosa City Environment and Natural Resources Office, planting bamboos in coastal areas proves beneficial.

*After a series of trials, we decided to plant fish pole bamboos in this area since these were found to be the most suitable by showing the highest survival rate. At the same time, bamboo also protects the lake since these prevent soil erosion and siltation while sequestering carbon in this part of the city. They are highly sustainable, and we also saw bamboos' potential in helping the livelihood of the local cooperative here in the area.* Engr. Salandanan mentioned.



Supporting the program is Laguna Governor Ramil L. Hernandez, who shared a message through Forester Erick Flores, Forest and Water Resources Management Division Head of the Laguna Provincial Environment and Resources Office. He conveyed that "protecting the environment will not be possible without the cooperation of everyone. It is important to verbalize our plans toward our goal, no matter how small or simple. These actions will help us in ensuring a better future for the generations to come." (Translated)

This year's bamboo planting with the Local Government of Santa Rosa City also marks the Company's participation in the simultaneous planting activity of the Manila Water Enterprise to celebrate the Philippine Arbor Day and Environment Month.

On the other hand, Cabuyao City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) headed by Engr. Manolo Punongbayan together with the Cabuyao River Protection Advocates (CaRPA) members,

conducted the tree planting in Canlubang Golf to commemorate Cabuyao's 10th cityhood anniversary on August 1, 2022. A simultaneous planting of the kabuyaw tree, where the city's name originated, was also conducted in various institutions and landmarks, among which is Laguna Water's facility in Matang Tubig Spring where two seedlings were planted.



Laguna Water adopted a portion of the 13-hectare land dedicated by the City Government of Santa Rosa as a bamboo planting site. Fish pole bamboos were planted in the area to prevent siltation and soil erosion in Laguna Lake.



Volunteers from the Cabuyao Business Zone planted two seedlings of the kabuyaw tree in Laguna Water's facility in Matang Tubig Spring.

**Another activity spearheaded by the group is a community engagement day in Brgy. Diezmo, Cabuyao to support the International Coastal Cleanup Month where employees of member organizations and residents joined hands in a tree planting and community cleanup session. Laguna Water also hosted an interactive learning session about proper wastewater management and disposal. The combined efforts of the group assures that an integrated approach is adopted in protecting the Cabuyao River.**



## PROMOTING PROPER HYGIENE ACROSS THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN LAGUNA:

Laguna Water and Manila Water Foundation donate handwashing facilities in Pagsanjan and Victoria



Proper sanitation and handwashing are the simplest yet most effective ways to beat the COVID-19 virus. With that, Laguna Water and Manila Water Foundation continue to find ways to help the Lagunenses promote proper handwashing.

Laguna Water and Manila Water Foundation donated handwashing and hygiene facilities in public schools in Pagsanjan and Victoria. The facilities were built under Lingap, a program that develops water and hygiene infrastructures in public institutions. The chosen beneficiaries of these facilities are Pagsanjan Integrated National High School and Victoria Elementary School.

According to Laguna Water General Manager and COO Constantine Uy, Laguna Water highly promotes the importance of proper handwashing to avoid spreading diseases such as COVID-19.

Moreover, the facilities were built to provide access to clean water, especially since face-to-face classes resumed this November. The donated facilities in schools will benefit 3,000 public school learners, teachers, and non-teaching staff.

The hygiene facilities were designed to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, featuring safely distanced foot-pedal-operated washing stations. They are built with visual nudges encouraging users to wash their hands regularly and properly.

Aside from the hand hygiene facilities, Manila Water Foundation also donated hygiene kits, information, education, communication (IEC) materials, and hand soaps from their long-time partners Safeguard Philippines and Procter and Gamble Philippines.

# MANILA WATER FOUNDATION DONATIONS



*Laguna Water values the health of the community, and we believe that it is important that we all practice proper handwashing since this is our first line of defense against diseases.*

*We are thankful that we are one with Manila Water Foundation in this mission to promote proper hygiene and sanitation.*

**Constantine O. Uy**

General Manager and COO, Laguna Water



# SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY:

Laguna Water supports Gulayan sa Paaralan program of public schools in the province



In this pandemic, ensuring enough food supply to feed the community has been essential to our daily lives. The Philippines is so blessed that the Department of Education has its program Gulayan sa Paaralan to promote and raise awareness for food security in the country.

As an advocate of sustainability and community building, Laguna Water supports the Gulayan sa Paaralan program and donates vegetable seedlings to Don Jose National High School, Santa Rosa City, Laguna and Victoria Elementary School, Victoria, Laguna. Aside from food security, this program will also teach the students the importance of sustainable agriculture.

In partnership with the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Plant Industry, the company provided seeds and seedlings of okra, eggplant, string beans, and squash. The donations came at a time when the school prepares for the implementation of 100% face-to-face classes. Teacher Arlene Gaspard, Adopt-a-School Coordinator of the school, shared that these donations are helpful in the rehabilitation of their edible garden from which they source ingredients for their school canteen and feeding programs.



To rehabilitate their edible garden, in time for the 100% implementation of face-to-face classes, Don Jose National High School received seed donations from Laguna Water and Bureau of Plant Industry.

## #AGRI TRIVIA

As per the study, farmers need to produce 70% more food because the population will increase from 7 million to 9 million by 2050.

We can achieve this figure through improvements in the agricultural processes.

Source: <https://krishijagran.com/agripedia>



Laguna Water

NOW STREAMING

is the company's official YouTube channel that brings the latest updates about Laguna Water's events, activities, projects and Kwentong Kasangga.

To know more, visit our YouTube channel by scanning the QR code.



# LAGUNA WATER EVENTS

## 13th Anniversary Celebration

## Sponsorship at Victoria/Itik Festival



## TSEK ng Bayan Activities



## Health and Safety Training



## Year End General Assembly





# DALOY NG SAYA: Spreading love and happiness this Christmas

After more than two years with minimal face-to-face interactions, learners are back in schools as in-person classes resume. Despite the challenges brought by the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, teachers and parents worked together to ensure the safety of children.

Aside from schools, office activities are also in full swing. For instance, Laguna Water has started to bring back its community engagement and environmental protection initiatives. The company volunteered to become vessels of hope by allocating time and talent to different causes the company supports while still ensuring continuous provision of water and wastewater services to its service area.

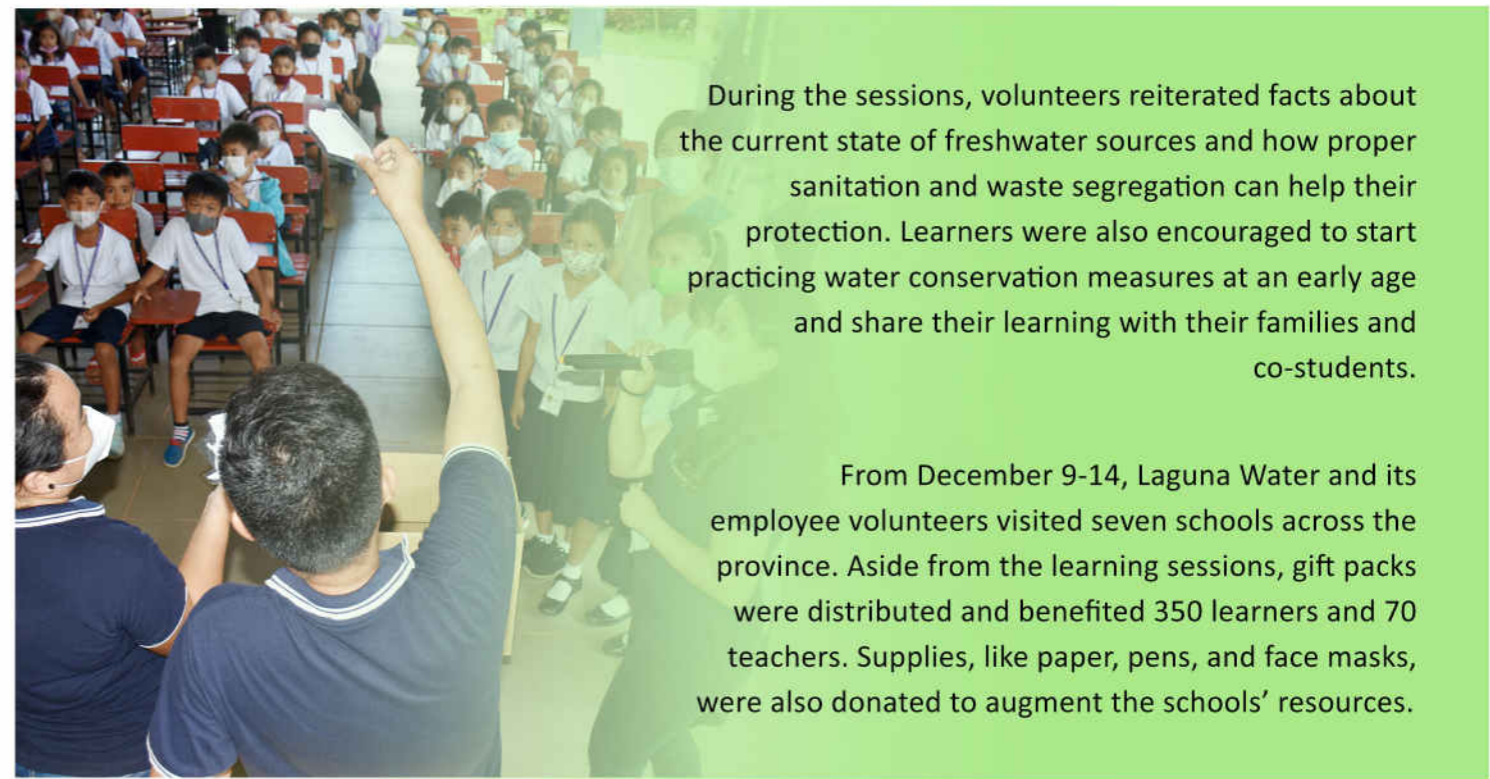
In line with this, Laguna Water spearheaded Daloy ng Saya, an annual Christmas activity that aims to spread awareness on water conservation, proper sanitation, and waste management. For its seventh year, the activities were made possible through the camaraderie and care of 41 Laguna Water volunteers who led the learning session made interactive with games and prizes.

## 2022 PROGRAM SUMMARY

### LOCATIONS

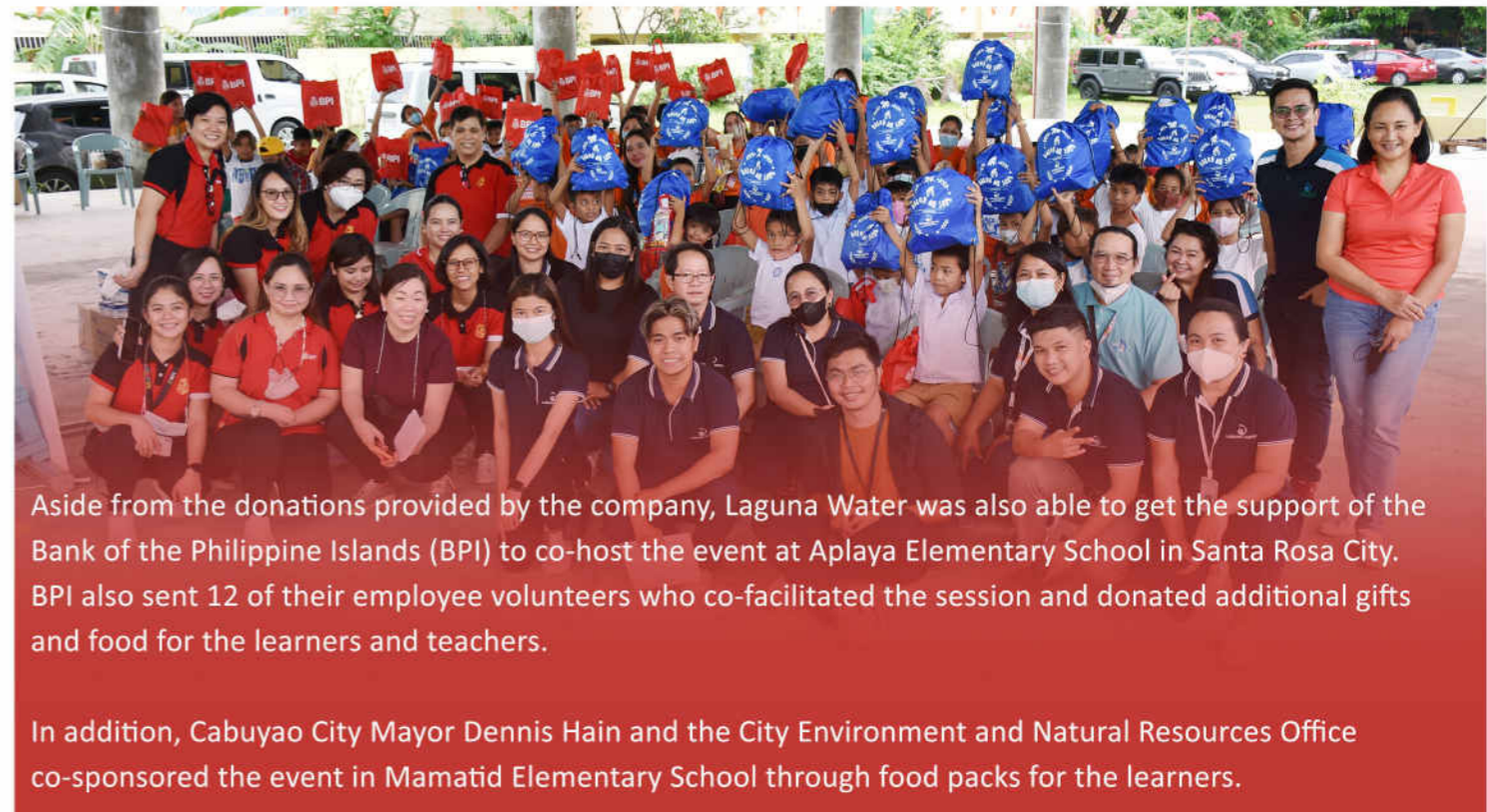


- 3 co-sponsors
- 7 school-events conducted
- 54 volunteers participated
- 70 teachers reached
- 350 learners reached



During the sessions, volunteers reiterated facts about the current state of freshwater sources and how proper sanitation and waste segregation can help their protection. Learners were also encouraged to start practicing water conservation measures at an early age and share their learning with their families and co-students.

From December 9-14, Laguna Water and its employee volunteers visited seven schools across the province. Aside from the learning sessions, gift packs were distributed and benefited 350 learners and 70 teachers. Supplies, like paper, pens, and face masks, were also donated to augment the schools' resources.



Aside from the donations provided by the company, Laguna Water was also able to get the support of the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) to co-host the event at Aplaya Elementary School in Santa Rosa City. BPI also sent 12 of their employee volunteers who co-facilitated the session and donated additional gifts and food for the learners and teachers.

In addition, Cabuyao City Mayor Dennis Hain and the City Environment and Natural Resources Office co-sponsored the event in Mamatid Elementary School through food packs for the learners.

“Lubos kaming nagpapasalamat sa Laguna Water dahil sa dinamidami ng paaralan dito sa Biñan ay napili n’yo po kaming handugan. Naghatid kayo ng saya sa ating mga mag-aaral. Dalangin namin na lalo pa kayong pagpalain dahil naging mapagpala kayo sa buhay ng maraming bata.

Dr. Charity Mae Lagud Satoquia,  
Principal of Dr. Jose G. Tamayo Memorial Elementary School



**Continuing journey to promote awareness about water and wastewater management process:**

## Laguna Water's Lakbayan reopens its doors to stakeholders and partners

To continue its mission of promoting sustainable and innovative solutions to the community, Laguna Water once again opened its doors to conduct facility tours through its program Lakbayan.

Since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, the company has stopped accepting visitors for health and safety matters. This year, with the lifted quarantine protocols and improving COVID-19 cases, the company welcomed visitors again, but with caution and proper health and safety protocols to ensure the safety of guests and Laguna Water employees. Through Lakbayan or the company's facility tour, stakeholders and partners will have a deeper appreciation and understanding of the entire water and wastewater management cycle.

Before the tour, Laguna Water presents a quick story about the company's transformational journey and milestones. Among the facilities visited are the Matang Tubig Spring, Laguna Wellfield, the booster facility in Laguna Technopark Inc. (LTI), and the LTI – Sewage and Septage Treatment Plant (LTI-SSTP). Laguna Water's facility managers conduct a brief discussion about the processes and operations of the facilities.

With the reopening of Lakbayan, some of the stakeholders and partners who visited this year were investors from various banks and investment firms, local government unit partners from Pagsanjan and Binan, Laguna, engineering students from Cavite State University, foreign visitors from Mozambique and local media partners.

This year, Laguna Water upgraded its LTI - SSTP to comply with the guidelines set by the DENR. The Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) or Bio-nutrient project constructed tanks and included additional processes to lower nutrients such as nitrates, ammonia, and phosphates. BNR is added to LTI-SSTP to comply with DENR DAO 2021-19, which aims to strengthen the limits of monitored parameters before returning treated wastewater to our rivers.



Laguna Water's world-class facilities and processes were also appreciated by visitors from Mozambique, as observed during the Fundo de Investimento e Patrimônio de Abastecimento de Água (FIPAG) visit last October.



In preparation for the desludging services in the Municipality of Pagsanjan, Laguna Water organized a Lakbayan with the different barangay leaders and representatives from the Office of the Municipal Mayor.



Stakeholders from Binan City, headed by its City Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) Rodel Lee, visited LTI – SSTP as part of their Manila Bay Task Force meeting along with the city's barangay leaders and representatives from DILG, Agriculture Office, and Disaster Risk Management Office.



As part of Laguna Water's recently conducted media roundtable discussion – KamusTalakayan, local media partners across Laguna visited the facilities and learned about the wastewater treatment process. On the same day, Ms. Delanie Llanto, the Used Water Section Head, was also interviewed on air in DZRJ to promote LTI-SSTP and the company's desludging services.



## Turning Green into Gold: Laguna Water's Green-Minded Program tops the 2022 Kaanib sa Agos Awards



The Kaanib sa Agos Awards continues to recognize teams of Manila Water Non-East Zone who have implemented continuous improvement projects or operational initiatives which resulted in processing efficiencies, cost savings, or revenue maximization. It also recognizes those who have made significant contributions by working on note-worthy projects or initiatives that helped mitigate critical operational issues or improved business processes.

Laguna Water's Green-Minded Program bagged 1st place in the 2022 Kaanib sa Agos Awards. Its winning entry features the company's collaborative efforts in achieving solutions and alternative ways to care for humanity and promote sustainability to save the planet and future generations.

Laguna Water's vision of becoming a global leader in providing quality water and environmental services supportive of sustainable development has made the company search for projects that focus on sustainability. Heavily dependent on natural resources, Laguna Water aims to protect and preserve the environment by investing in technologies that will reduce its carbon footprint and pursuing advocacies that can lead to better environmental protection, sustainability, and health for the communities it serves.

The recent power supply shortages and high electricity rates significantly affect businesses in the country, which also directly affects the company's operational expenses, especially for facilities with high power consumption. Hence, Laguna Water started taking action to reduce costs and maximize its resources.

With the increasing power tariff, the team leads the initiative to install and optimize processes that can save power consumption and increase power efficiency. By implementing these initiatives, the team decreased operating expenditures, which contributed to the company's overall financial management and attainment of the net income target.

Laguna Water's corporate practices are anchored in the triple bottom line business principle, which measures the company's commercial success in terms of profit and, most importantly, its positive impacts on people and the planet.

There are several drivers to improve Laguna Water's operational expenses thru power savings and process optimization.

The team divided the initiatives into three phases:



Explorations and initial utilization of power and chemical saving initiatives



Optimization and extension of successful energy initiatives to other facilities



2023 exploration and implementation of new initiatives for the exploration of new technologies

As a socially responsible organization, Laguna Water is committed to creating an exceptional customer experience by providing sustainable solutions vital to health and life. The company will continuously implement and develop programs and activities that aim to meet the needs of the present without sacrificing the ability of the future to meet its own needs.



# Sustainability Tips

## SAFE AND EARTH-FRIENDLY NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

New Year's Eve is among the happiest and most festive celebrations in the Philippines. It's an opportunity to gather with families and friends, reflect on the challenges conquered, give thanks for the blessings received in the past year, and hope for a better year ahead. But as the world welcomes 2023, keep in mind these tips to ensure that celebrations are safe and Earth-friendly.



### Refrain from using fireworks and firecrackers

According to EcoWaste Coalition, the quality of air in cities is most polluted during New Year's Eve. It is due to the number of fireworks and firecrackers that exploded during the celebration. To minimize air pollution, watch fireworks with the rest of the community in your city's designated area.



### Don't burn used tires

Smoke coming from burning tires is toxic and is detrimental not only to the human body but also to the environment. Instead, recycle these into gardening materials or donate them to institutions that upcycle rubber scraps into construction additives.



### Ward off bad spirits in an eco-friendly way

Creating noises at midnight is believed to ward off bad spirits and intentions. Toy trumpets are often used to do this, but are choking hazards for kids. Likewise, these are made from plastics that end up in landfills. For a safer and eco-friendlier way to keep the tradition, turn the music up and make noises using pots and utensils.



### Prevent food wastage

Parties are never complete without food. Most of the time, people tend to purchase and prepare more than they can consume. Prevent food wastage by cooking food that is just enough for your guests. If there are leftovers, store these properly and share them with others to avoid spoilage.



### Make sustainability part of your New Year's resolution

In 2023, the world only has seven years to accomplish the UN Sustainable Development Goals. To help deliver meaningful progress to the 17 goals by 2030, lead a more sustainable lifestyle by making more eco-conscious choices like avoiding single-use plastics, managing wastes properly, supporting organizations that promote environmental protection, etc.

## PROMOTING SANITATION ACROSS THE PROVINCE: Laguna Water expands its desludging services in Pagsanjan



Besides delivering potable water supply 24/7, Laguna Water is now offering desludging or septic tank siphoning for its customers in Pagsanjan, Laguna.

Since the beginning of desludging services in Santa Rosa, Binan, and Cabuyao in 2018, more than 51,056 households have already been visited and inspected. A total of 8,221 customers have been provided with the service, with an accumulated 16,050 cubic meters of septage collected and treated at Laguna Technopark Inc. Sewage and Septage Treatment Plant (LTI SSTP).



*It is everyone's responsibility to protect the environment and prevent water pollution while promoting the health and sanitation of communities. Laguna Water is your "kasangga" in attaining these environmental goals; that is why I am encouraging all our customers to avail of this service,*

**Constantine Uy**

Laguna Water General Manager and Chief Operating Officer

The septage or wastewater from septic tanks will be collected and hauled by Laguna Water's desludging trucks to the company's sewage and septage treatment plant. The septage collected will undergo stringent treatment processes to comply with the strict parameter standards of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for effluent water.

Laguna Water's desludging service is aligned with the company's flagship program on sanitation - the Tamang Sanitasyon Equals Kalusugan, Kalinisan, at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (TSEK ng Bayan). TSEK ng Bayan centers on environmental services, such as sewage management, desludging, collection, transport, and septage treatment. It is the company's share in responding to ecological challenges, including the pollution of water bodies such as Manila Bay and Laguna Lake.

To better understand the desludging services of Laguna Water, residents of Pagsanjan, Laguna, also joined the Lakbayan and TSEK ng Bayan programs of the company and learned the importance of water and wastewater management.





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