



Nurture the Marikina Watershed!
(A volunteer activity)

February 2012 marks the 26th anniversary of EDSA People Power Revolution. It is imperative on the new generation of Filipinos to carry on the values of people power and importance of unity in achieving a positive difference to our country. New expressions of these values have to be dynamic, creative and compelling for these to remain relevant.

Ninoy and Cory Aquino embodied the spirit of sacrifice and the commitment to democracy and people empowerment. In this spirit, the **the iamninoy-iamcory** Movement aims to engage the youth on a deeper level. For its advocacy for the environment, iamninoy iamcory in partnership with Ayala Malls, young Filipinos are invited for a volunteer action, **“Save Marikina Watershed!”**

Project Proponents

Ninoy and Cory Aquino Foundation	Through its youth program, the iamninoy-iamcory Movement , seeks to form new Filipinos who will embody the spirit of sacrifice and love for country
Ayala Malls	The biggest chain of world - class shopping malls in the country takes a stand to make a difference and pushes the hero in their customers through a series of initiatives that inspire and uplift people’s hearts
Fostering People’s Education, Empowerment, Enterprise (FPE3)	It is a not-for-profit organization created by the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (www.fpe.ph). FPE3 is one of the collaborating partners in the Marikina Watershed Initiative. FPE3 is specifically engaged in the rehabilitation and restoration of the Marikina Watershed particularly in the Boso-Boso and Tayabasan sub-watershed areas.
CAREFOR – Community Action For Reforestation	A community of volunteers replanting forests. It is a reforestation volunteer program that connects with indigenous and local communities to plant trees in their ancestral domain and community-designated reforestation areas. Carefor likewise partners with organizations like iamninoy-iamcory to mobilize more volunteers , in order to plant more trees and build seedling nurseries.

THE PROJECT

The long years of abuse of Marikina Watershed resulted in vast destruction wrought by floods as experienced in one of the worst natural disaster brought by the typhoon “Ondoy.” It was reported that out of the 500 people killed in Ondoy, 68 came from Marikina. We may not be able to tell when another Ondoy will come but we can do so many ways to lessen its effects.

Marikina Watershed consists of four municipalities: Antipolo, San Mateo, Rodriguez and Tanay. It has a land area of approximately 28,000 hectares, with an estimated 20% remaining forest cover (5,600 hectares); Marikina Watershed needs an additional 34% (or 9,520 hectares) forest cover to achieve a sustainable level of 54% forest cover and 6.7 million trees to go.

As part of the reforestation efforts for Marikina Watershed, the **iamninoy iamcory** Movement thru its partners Ayala Malls, Fostering People’s Education, Empowerment, Enterprise (FPE3) and CAREFOR –Community Action for Reforestation are calling young Filipinos to work together for nursery duties in Marikina Watershed. Seedlings that will be gathered and nurtured in these nurseries are the ones that will be planted during the tree-planting season (usually from June to October 2012, depending on the rainy season).

The activity does not aim for a one time experience for the volunteers. After the nursery duties, they are welcome to help out in the tree planting and be given deeper information and education about the environment thru the technical expertise of some of our partners.

Composition of Volunteers: Volunteers who signed up in the one month event of Ayala Malls’ Project Inspire (particularly in Trinoma and Greenbelt).

WHAT ARE NURSERY DUTIES?

- Collect wildings to be potted
- Walk back to the nursery site
- Do potting and chambering of the wildings gathered
- Maintenance and inventory of seedlings

*Wildings are seedlings that grow naturally in the forest