



Friends of the Country Parks

Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre



## OUR IMMENSE CONCERN OVER THE DESTRUCTION OF WHITE-FLOWERED DERRIS

It is recently reported that after the opening of the Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre, the White-flowered Derris and other vegetation at Lai Chi Wo suffered from serious damages due to increasing number of visitors. As a consequence, fences are set up to protect them from further destruction. We would like to raise our immense concern over the destruction of White-flowered Derris.

Even long before the opening of the Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre, during the weekend, there are numerous visitors who join the local tours to visit the hollow tree, Coastal Heritiera, White-flowered Derris and other attractive sites of Lai Chi Wo. As some visitors like to play and climb on the White-flowered Derris to take photos, the environment has been negatively affected by these irresponsible acts.

With the opening of the Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre, all our volunteers have been strenuously publicizing the importance of conserving our fauna, flora, rocks and landforms to the visitors. Via our interpretation of the special geological features, landforms, the stories of Coastal Heritiera and White-flowered Derris, we wish to arouse the public's interest in our environment, increase their awareness and appreciation which will ultimately lead to their care and conservation. This is also one of our objectives and missions of setting up the Lai Chi Wo Geoheritage Centre.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department advises the main purpose of installing the fence is to clear the withered trees which might cause danger to visitors and to prevent any further destruction of the White-flowered Derris, so they can recover and become sustainable.

According to the Country Parks Ordinance Chap. 208 Section 26 Part VIII s(1)(e), “the taking of, destruction of or interference with vegetation within a country park or special area or the doing of anything therein which will interfere with the soil” are prohibited. Our Centre therefore sincerely urges all visitors to observe the regulation and minimize their disturbance to the environment when enjoying Lai Chi Wo's beautiful sceneries and diversified ecological environment.



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To save our invaluable natural treasures, if you discover any destruction of the White-flowered Derris or malpractice to the environment, please immediately report to Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (24 hours hot line: (852) 1823) for their follow up actions.

Conservation of our ecosystem commences from us. Please take more care of our environment and spend more efforts to make it better.

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