

ADDRESS BY THE HON. MINISTER FOR HEALTH
AT THE LAUNCHING OF THE 3Rs ADVANCE WASTE MANAGEMENT
PROJECT GOODWILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY, 2013.

The launching of the 3Rs (reduce, Reuse and recycle) Advance School Waste Management Project is a pivotal and important strategy aimed at changing the mindset and attitudes of one of the corporation's most important customers – the youth.

Apart from service and enforcement, education is an important component in this process. Continuous education within our schools on how we can keep Dominica clean and green must be an every day activity crafted around the best practices of waste management.

Students must be taught at an early age about the benefits of preserving our Nature Island. All benefits including health, social and economic. They too must know that solid waste is not just waste anymore, but can generate employment. One such area for employment generation is composting, and I am happy that this will be one of the key activities at the Goodwill Primary School.

The students after learning about the 3Rs will be able to share this crucial knowledge with parents, guardians, neighbours, communities and friends. The Goodwill Primary School will be an exemplary school in that regard and we look forward to a grand exhibition on the 5th of June, 2013, which is World Earth Day. On that day schools around the island will be invited to view the 3Rs exhibits at the Goodwill Primary School.

The government gives its commitment to all initiatives which seeks to promote our Nature Island, protect our citizens from health risks and preserve our environmental integrity. This Advance 3Rs project with the Goodwill Primary School is no exception, and will be used as a pilot.

This project also brings together main stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Education and Health, the Environmental Coordinating Unit, the Roseau City Council, the Public Works Department, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the business community. I am certain that the media will play its part.

As Minister for Health and Parliamentary Representative for the Roseau North Constituency, I pledge my full support to this historic DSWMC, Goodwill Primary School 3Rs initiative, as we look to protect our environment together.

Thank You.