

**DENR Memorandum Order**

**No. 13 :**

**Nov. 08 1988**

**TO : ALL REGIONAL EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS  
CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Establishment of Forest/Tree Parks in  
Cities, Municipalities and Barangays  
Throughout the Country Per LOI 1312.**

Pursuant to Letter of Instructions No. 1312, issued on 23 April 1983, mandating the establishment, development and maintenance of Forest/Tree Parks all over the Philippines, the following instructions/guidelines are hereby issued for your guidelines and immediate compliance.

1. You are hereby instructed to reconfer with all city and municipal mayors and barangay chairman within your jurisdiction in order to further identify, locate and/or delineate priority sites/areas on said cities, municipalities and barangays for development into Forest/Tree Parks.
2. The Forest/Tree Parks referred to herein shall be located in lands owned by the city, municipality and/or barangay concerned which are open or denuded and are near or accessible to the said instrumentalities. In the absence of available lands for development, the same may be located in school grounds, plazas, roadsides, river basements, along beaches or idle private lands, with the consent of the owner thereof. Whenever possible, also allocate from lands of the public domain, appropriate areas and sites for such purposes, whereby the cities, municipalities or barangays adjacent to this public forest lands may avail of portions of same for the establishment of their forest/tree parks; if vacant and available.
3. Every barangay and municipality or city shall establish, develop and maintain forest/tree parks of such size and number as the circumstances may warrant, but in no case will it be less than one such park for every barangay, municipality or city. In the case of urban areas, the municipal or city government shall provide

forest/tree parks in suitable and accessible areas for several barangays who shall jointly participate in establishing the project.

4. The minimum area for forest/tree park development shall not be less than two (2) hectares for the municipality or city and one (1) hectares for the barangay which shall be, as much as possible, a continuous one. If there is no compact area available, two or three parcels may compose a forest/tree parks provided all the parcels are located within the jurisdiction of the municipality, city or barangay concerned.
5. As soon as the site is selected, the survey, and demarcation of boundaries shall immediately be undertaken. A report thereof should be prepared together with a sketch of the project area, describing the site so selected. A location map of same should also be indicated in said sketch. For uniformity, the sketch map of the subject area should be drawn on scale of 1:500 on a tracing paper, size of which should approximate that of a coupon bond paper. (Please see enclosed sample copies).

In addition thereto, if the subject area falls within a public forest, a certification should be enclosed thereon stating that the subject area is not in conflict with any existing/proposed government reforestation projects, reservations, special permits/leases, timber concession areas, etc. In the case of areas within titled lands or A or D areas, a waiver from the owner of the land must be secured. (Please see sample copies).

The corresponding Administrative Order and the sketch shall be approved by the Regional Executive Directors concerned, copies of which together with the survey report on the area, should be forwarded to this Office, thru the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, for information and record purposes.

6. The tree planting activities within the identified forest/tree park areas shall be undertaken by the city, municipal and barangay residents for the purpose of establishing a permanent forest cover therein in order to enhance beauty and improve the ecosystems of the said communities, provide populace with healthy and wholesome places for rest and recreation and to increase awareness of the people of the need to protect our forest. Whenever feasible, mini-zoos shall be put in said forest/tree parks to infuse to the citizens the importance of conserving the wildlife. Relative thereto, trapping, catching and/or

disturbing of birds of any kind must not be allowed within the park.

7. Likewise, no harvesting or cutting of trees shall be allowed in these forest/trees except when necessary to beautify and improve the stand, or when such cutting is done to eliminate danger to the lives and limbs of the residents therein.
8. The cities, municipalities and barangay concerned shall be responsible for the establishment, maintenance and protection of their forest/tree parks with the Regional Executive Directors and his field Officers concerned providing seedlings and technical assistance in the development, care and protection of said forest/tree parks.
9. Supervision on the establishment and development of the forest/tree parks shall be jointly exercised by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Local Government and Community Development. Proper consultation and cooperation by and among the said agencies must therefore be attained in all levels in order to effectively accomplish this project.
10. The Reforestation and Protected Areas and Wildlife Units of the DENR field offices shall be responsible for the coordination and monitoring of said activities under this project.
11. These instructions/guidelines shall supplement the guidelines previously issued on this matter.
12. This Order takes effect immediately.

**(Sgd.) FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.**  
Secretary

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL:

**(Sgd.) JESUS B. ALVAREZ, JR.**  
Director  
Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau