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**Forest in the city:**  
A sparkling stream  
inside the Ayer  
Hitam Forest Forest  
in Puchong.

# Take a trip to forest reserve

## Fun activities await visitors in conjunction with World Habitat Day

By **JADE CHAN**

**T**HE PUBLIC will get the rare opportunity to visit the Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve in Puchong during the upcoming World Habitat Day Programme and Malaysian Environment Week.

The event, to be held from Oct 23-25 at the main concourse of IOI Mall's New Wing, is organised by the Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ), Kinrara assemblyman Teresa Kok's office, Universiti Putra Malaysia's (UPM) Forestry Faculty and IOI Properties.

It is organised in collaboration with the Department of Environment (DOE), Department of Wildlife and National Parks (Perhilitan), Selangor Forestry Department, WWF Malaysia, Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Subang Jaya district police, and Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP).

MPSJ public relations officer Azfarizal Abdul Rashid said the council-level event is aimed at increasing awareness on the need to protect and preserve the environment and ecosystem, encouraging green practices, and educating the public on the role that nature plays.

Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim is scheduled to launch the event on Saturday at noon.

Among the highlights are the scheduled trips to the Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve and Enviro-Challenge Competition.

The trip to the forest will be held at 11am and 2pm on Saturday and Sunday (two sessions for each day).

It is open to the public for free. Transport is provided. Visitors have to register and gather at the IOI Mall's lobby, as seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Enviro-Challenge Competition uses the "explorace" concept, whereby 100 participants (in groups of five) will cycle around Puchong to collect clues and complete tasks that are related to the environment.

The competition is held from 7.30am-11am on Saturday, and is targeted at students and youths. The competition offers prizes valued at RM2,000, RM1,500 and RM1,000 to the first, second and third place winners respectively.

A colouring competition for children will also be held at 2.30pm on Saturday.

For enquiries, call the MPSJ at 03-8026 3188/ 8026 7401.