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## Letting people value nature

**MALAYSIANS** have to be force-fed the idea of loving nature, said Forest Research Institute of Malaysia director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod.

The general idea among the public was that trees and forests were going to be around forever and that all rubbish was biodegradable, he said.

“What we have now is not our right. It belongs to our children. It is high time we pushed the value of environment to the people. To me, this is the real concept of 1Malaysia where we don’t look at sensitivities of race and religion,” he said after opening the Environment Education Centre in Frim on Thursday.

The forest reserve, which is also a popular picnic, camping and family outing site, gets up to 300,000 visitors each year for an entrance fee of RM5. Half of these visitors are students.

He said Frim would like to work closely with the Education Ministry and Higher Education Ministry in creating more environmental awareness among students.