Headline	Nature comes first			
MediaTitle	The Star			
Date	21 Jul 2012	Color	Full Color	
Section	Metro	Circulation	304,904	
Page No	51	Readership	1,026,812	
Language	English	ArticleSize	651 cm ²	
Journalist	Tho Xin Yi	AdValue	RM 30,201	
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 90,603	



Nature comes first

Developer invites FRIM to identify trees that can be saved at site of new development

By THO XIN YI thoxinyi@thestar.com.my

ROPERTY developer SP Setia has taken on a refreshingly unique approach to ensure that the flora at its new development site, Setia Eco Glades, in Cyberjaya is preserved.

Instead of just bulldozing the plants that are occupying the land, it has invited the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) to identify the trees that can be saved.

Setia Eco Glades Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Koe Peng Kang said some 1,300 trees will be uprooted in a safe manner and transplanted along the boundary of the development.

Trees that are too big to be moved do not have to worry about their fate, either.

"We will let them stay and work our development around them," Koe promised.

Explaning with the help of a layout plan that clearly marked every tree's GPS coordinates, Koe said the costs involved would total RM2mil.

The land was heavily logged previously but nature just refused to surrender. Trees have regrown beautifully and they deserve to be alive," he said.

Similarly, SP Setia has enlisted the help of Zoo Negara to identify the birds and fishes that are found at the site.

"There will be disturbance at the location during the construction period, but hopefully they will come back later," Koe said.

The 108.4ha site with freehold status next

to Cyberjaya Lake Garden features a combination of land and water features, and the SP Setia team — which Koe dubbed the dreamweavers — put in a lot of innovation and creativity to design the luxury gated and guarded housing development.

With a tagline of Blue View, Green Hut, there will be a total of eight islands with different cultural and heritage design concepts called Sanctuary of Western Heritage, Sanctuary of Eastern Heritage, Charm of



Koe: Our properties at Setia Eco Glades are adequately priced for young professionals and the employees of multi-national corporations in Cyberjaya



Nusantara, Isle of Kamares, Jewels of Grasmere, Terrace of Verdure, Glades of Westlake and Isle of Fantasia.

The names were inspired by either the beauty of special places around the world like Nusantara (Indonesian archipelago), Kamares (a village in Crete, Greece) and West Lake (Hangzhou, China) - and our own heritage, such as the Peranakan culture.

The Isle of Fantasia, on the other hand, will feature unique designs by SP Setia.

"We want to start our own heritage for people to remember and perhaps want to emulate 50 years down the road," Koe said.

Setia Eco Glades comprises 2,400 units of bungalows, semi-detached units, linked villas and condominium.

The developer says prices are expected to start from RM700,000 for a condominium unit, RM1.1mil for a link villa, RM1.7mil for a semi-detached unit, and more than RM3.1mil for a bungalow.

Clubhouses and community centres are some examples of the amenities that will be provided.

"Our properties are adequately priced for young professionals as well as the multinational-corporation community Cyberjaya," Koe said.

Taking cues from the success of Setia Eco

Park in Shah Alam, Koe said Setia Eco Glades will feature even more attractive components.

"We made the drains at Setia Eco Park into waterways, and beautified the common areas with grape vines and sunflowers. We're planning to include solar panels as well," he said.

Themed gardens, such as a liuli (glass sculptures) garden and heritage garden are also being planned for Setia Eco Glades.

The heritage garden will pay tribute to

"Rubber trees and tin mining were the foundation of this country. We want to send a message to our children, reminding them of our past and not to take the nation's wealth for granted," he said.

Koe also highlighted an interchange to provide direct access from the Putrajaya Link into Setia Eco Glades.

"The Malaysian Highway Authority has approved the proposed access," he said.

Setia Eco Glades, which is a joint venture between SP Setia and Setia Haruman, the master developer of Cyberjaya, will be launched in August.

"It will take three years to turn our dream into a reality.

'Under SP Setia president and chief executive officer Tan Sri Liew Kee Sin, who always encourages the team to dream, we will not shy away from difficulty. What makes SP Setia unique is the ability to execute our dreams," Koe added.

For details, visit www.setiaecoglades.

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Beautiful sight: Be surrounded by blooming sunflowers at the Sunburst Plateau.