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# Culture of planting trees

Thousands of trees being planted to strike a balance between rapid development and preserving greenery in the city

**P**LANTING trees is aggressively being inculcated in individuals to raise awareness on the importance of greenery in our ecosystem.

From the layman to big corporations, everyone can contribute to saving and preserving trees.

In conjunction with the National Landscape Day themed *1Malaysia Komuniti Penggerak Negara Taman* on March 3, the annual tree-planting programme will take place on June 15 at 8.30am.

The programme will be launched by Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor in Taman Metropolitan Batu, Kuala Lumpur.

The aim of the programme is to build an interest in tree-planting and tree care.

It is also to increase awareness that greening the environment is a shared responsibility.

In addition, it is to ensure a balance between development and preservation of environment for a sustainable future, in line with turning Malaysia into a high-tech developed garden nation by 2020.

At the programme, a total of 2,620 trees will be distributed to the three federal territories.

The trees that will be planted are a mix of

shade and forest trees such as Tecoma, Bucida, Tembusu, Semarak Api (*delonix regia*), Merawan Siput Jantan (*hopea odorata*) and Bungur (*lagerstromia speciosa*).

In Kuala Lumpur, 1,970 trees will be planted in all 11 parliamentary constituencies with the collaboration of Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL).

Meanwhile, in Labuan and Putrajaya, 500 and 150 trees will be planted on the same day.

The event in Labuan will be launched by its MP Rozman Isli at Kawasan Pinggiran Sungai Air Tawar in Jalan Kina Benuwa, while Putrajaya Corporation senior vice-president Datuk Muhammad Haitamin Ishak will do the honours at Taman Rimba Desa in Presint 9, Putrajaya.

The programme will involve the community including residents' associations, Rukun Tetangga, students, undergraduates, uniformed bodies, non-governmental organisations, private sector and the media.

This is also in line with the recommendations by the Prime Minister on the implementation of Entry Point Project (EPP) Six Greening Greater Kuala Lumpur/Klang Valley, which is to ensure that all residents enjoy sufficient green areas.

## Tree planting activity on June 15

### Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur

Parliamentary	Location	Nos. of trees
Batu	Taman Metropolitan Batu	200
Kepong	Taman Metropolitan Kepong	150
Bandar Tun Razak	Open space in Jalan Damai Puspa	200
Seputeh	Entrance and exit of Jalan Desa Bakti - East West Highway	250
Segambut	Children playground Jalan Kasipillay	100
Wangsa Maju	Taman Medan Idaman/Ibukota	70
Titivangsa	Pahang roundabout	50
Cheras	Block F, PPR Pinggiran Bukit Jalil	200
Bukit Bintang	Open space beside Red Crescent Society building off Jalan Wisma Putra	250
Setiawangsa	Kuala Lumpur Police Training Centre	300
Lembah Pantai	Along Jalan Pantai Permai	200
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,970</b>

### Federal Territory of Labuan

Labuan	Kawasan Pinggiran Sungai Air Tawar, Jalan Kina Benuwa	500
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### Federal Territory of Putrajaya

Putrajaya	Taman Rimba Desa, Presint 9	150
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**Doing their bit:** Participants ensuring the saplings are firmly planted.

On another note, the Federal Territories Ministry's key performance indicator includes planting 30,000 new trees under the Greening Greater Kuala Lumpur/Klang Valley programme.

Last year, more than 37,000 new trees had been planted in Kuala Lumpur.

Labuan and Putrajaya are also set to see their fair share of greening this year, with a target of planting 2,000 and 5,000 new trees respectively.

In the wake of global warming and other natural disasters, it is paramount to take steps now to preserve the greenery.

## Recent tree-planting programmes

In March, 700 Kuala Lumpur Police Training Centre staff planted 30 forest saplings and 1,800

flowering shrubs in a joint effort with DBKL.

Many corporate sectors are also taking on an active role by sponsoring tree-planting events, where staff members are encouraged to participate as part of their corporate social responsibility.

In April, 50 Nestle Rocks members — the company's employee volunteer programme — planted more than 100 hardwood tree saplings such as Merbau, Belian and Cengal at FRIM's Field 43, an area that was in need of enrichment planting. These trees are popular and durable.

More than 800 Scope International Malaysia employees also helped plant more than 1,000 Karas (*Aquilaris malaccensis Lamk*) trees, which were known to be endangered.

The event was held at Taman Rimba Bukit Kerinchi in Pantai Dalam during the Scope KL Eco Challenge.

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**Pitching in:** Federal Territories Ministry secretary-general Datuk Adnan Md Ikshan getting down to work at the tree-planting event in Kuala Lumpur last year.



**Finishing touch:** Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Ahmad Phasal Talib (left) and Kuala Lumpur Police Training Centre commander SAC Zulkifli Mohamed (centre) watering a meranti sapling, while DBKL deputy director-general (Project Implementation and Maintenance) Mohd Najib Mohd (right) looks on.



**Job well done:** FT Ministry deputy secretary-general (planning and development) Datuk Mohd Jamal Mahussin getting his hands dirty at a tree-planting event last year.