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KUALA LUMPUR - About 1,000 students plunged into the rivers and waterfalls at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in Kepong yesterday in an effort to clean up

the clutter and rubbish strewn everywhere. Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) organised the River Saviour Brigade (BPS) River Fun Day event that saw the

Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

"To date, the BPS has seen the registration of more than 15,000 volunteers, mostly students who are conscientious and dedicated to the cause of preserving our rivers," Selangor state executive councillor Zaidy Abdul Talib said.

He said river pollution was caused by people and industry, which had caused regional water shortages in the past.

"It is vital to instill this value of preserving our natural resources in our by this knowledge and do a better job (in preserving nature) compared to the older generations," he said.

Teo Hui Xing, 14, was thrilled to be a volunteer at the clean-up drive and pledged to be a BPS member.

"It is sad to see the wonders of the environment spoilt by people. I want to help," she said.

The student from SMK Puchong said she was appalled by the state of the polluted water samples on display at the event

friends to join in her mission to clean the

"I am happy my friends are on the same page as me and want to help," she said.

Aliff Haikal Asman, 11, said it would be sad if children could not enjoy the pristine rivers the country had to offer, if the pollution was allowed to continue at such an alarming rate.

"We are having great fun right now and it would be a shame if children in the future won't be able to enjoy this," he said.