

Going green in Serdang

Council launches new environment initiative in the township



Dig it: Asmawi (centre) and Radin (right) planting trees to mark the launch of Serdang Green Town. With them is MPSJ councillor Sufari Tinnin.

THE Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ) and its synergy partner Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) took a step forward in the green movement with the launch of Serdang Green Town.

MPSJ president Datuk Asmawi Kasbi said the Serdang Green Town programme was aimed at making Serdang a sustainable township through green initiatives that created a positive impact on the preservation and conservation of the environment.

"The Serdang area was chosen because it is a town that was planned and developed based on achieving sustainable development in the long run," he said.

The project is part of the three-year Serdang Biomass Town pilot programme, an initiative by the National Solid Waste Management Department, which is under the Housing and Local Government Ministry, Japan's Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, MPSJ and UPM.

The MPSJ-UPM initiative is to create a green community, improve the quality of life, and promote a sustainable township for Serdang residents.

"MPSJ and UPM have agreed to share their expertise in nine areas – community service, environment, engineering, green city, information resources, safe city, human capital development, urban services and environmental beautification," said Asmawi.

Among the projects that have been lined up are:

- **THE Serdang Biomass Town Project** – including food court waste separation in Pekan Seri Serdang and Tasik Seri Serdang, Seri Serdang market waste separation for anaerobic digestion (biogas) project, organic waste composting, cooking oil recycling project, community composting for Sri Serdang residents;

- **HIGHER Education Ministry Knowledge Transfer Programme - Seri Serdang market vermi-composting project;**

- **SERI Serdang Clean Zone Programme** – focus on the cleanliness and maintenance aspects, gotong-royong activities and landscaping;

- **RECYCLING Programme** – maximising the function of the

Taman Seri Serdang Recycling Centre, placing recycling bins owned by NGOs in Seri Serdang as part of the MPSJ NGO recycling programme, promoting recycling and composting at schools in Seri Serdang with the cooperation of MPSJ and UPM Medicine and Health Sciences Faculty;

- **SUSTAINABLE Use of Plastic Campaign** – the campaign is expected to help minimise waste disposal and preserve the environment through workshops with traders and collaboration with supermarket operators;

- **FORESTRY Education Awareness Programme** – a visit to the Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve;

- **LED Lamp Installation** – 19 LED lamps installed at Tasik Sri Serdang, where the benefits include up to 50% savings on electricity bill, heat reduction, and reduction in carbon emission;

Activities that have been agreed in the near future include UPM students' industrial training at MPSJ, bio-energy development programme and recreation park development planning on ex-mining ponds.

Present at the launch was UPM vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi.