

Residents still waiting in vain

Rubbish in lake not cleared for the last two years

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IT HAS been two years and the issue of rubbish floating on a lake behind the Vista Tasik condominiums in Bandar Tasik Permaisuri, Cheras, has not been attended to despite numerous complaints.

The residents of the condominiums are fed up of complaining to the authorities because no action has been taken to solve the matter.

What was even more irritating was that a complainant received a response via email from the Drainage and Irrigation Department, saying that action can only be taken in 2013.

In September 2009, *StarMetro* carried a news report about this lake under the title "Lake Clean and Placid" which highlighted the rubbish seen around the lake.

According to resident Annie Ooi, the lake acts as a retention pond for the Smart Tunnel.

"When there is a downpour in the city, the water is channelled here via Sungai Kerayong.

"Along with the water comes the rubbish. Because of the huge volume of water, the water level rises



Oblivious: Friends (from left) Pang Jun Leng, eight; Marcus Ee Ken Xiong, 12; Ilyas Muhammad, 11; and Chai Jia Foo, 12, playing beside the rubbish strewn on the lake's bank.

above the waste trap at Sg Kerayong and spills over to the lake.

"The irony is that when this happens, rubbish accumulates in the lake. And when the water recedes, the rubbish is left behind on the

banks of the lake.

"They (the authorities) have tried on numerous occasions to install expensive equipment to trap the rubbish but the massive volume of water either damages the gates or it just pours over.

"Once the water starts to recede, the rubbish is left high and dry along the banks of the lake which has a jogging track around it. The winds also determine where the rubbish is clustered.

"To make matters worse, the rubbish has not been cleared by the authorities for the last two years. Some of the rubbish has even made its way to the bottom of the lake," said Ooi.

Ooi, who had been forwarding her complaints to the Drainage and Irrigation Department for the last two years was told that action would only be taken in 2013.

"That's incredible, why 2013?" she asked.

Ooi also added that the stench becomes unbearable after the rain.

"Dog and cat carcasses, plastic bags and household rubbish can be

Lake clean and placid



Awaiting collection: A pile of rubbish at the lakeside

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RESIDENT Ooi said, who lives in Bandar Sri

liness of the place

However, a gust of wind did carry a faint smell, perhaps from the bits of dead fish.

Bandar Tun Razak MP's said

Still an eyesore: A flashback to the story on Sept 15, 2009.

seen around the lake," she said.

In the evenings, children play beside the lake while anglers come to fish in the lake every evening.

Ooi said even though the rubbish floating on the lake made it an eye-

sore, eagles, birds and butterflies still visited the lake.

"I hope the relevant authorities will clean up the lake before it is too late and the entire ecological system is doomed," she said.



Scary sight: A view of the lake with the rubbish strewn along the lakeside.