

Tonnes of garbage down the drain

IRRESPONSIBLE: Thousands of tonnes of litter is ending up in the city's drainage system, blocking drains and causing flash floods

A simple calculation will tell us that it only takes each individual, in a population of 1.7 million, to throw out 60g of garbage daily into the drains for thousands of tonnes of rubbish to end up clogging the drains.

It takes only four aluminium cans (weighing about 16g each) or three empty 500ml plastic bottles (weighing about 20g each) to add up to 60g of trash.

"We will educate the public on maintaining the cleanliness of the environment and the devastating impact of littering.

"We will work with the concessionaires and local councils to make the cities clean and beautiful.

"Instead of waiting for the public to complain about the lack of cleanliness, our officers take proactive approach in seeking out dirty areas that need our attention.

"The number of complaints has significantly dropped. Since the beginning of the year till last month, PPSPPA received 7,002 complaints, compared with 14,117 complaints the whole of last year," he said at the Mata Hati programme at Bandar Seri Permaisuri, recently.

About 200 personnel from PPSPPA and Alam Flora cleaned up the surrounding areas of Jalan Danau Lumayan.

Impact of littering

***6,000 tonnes of garbage removed from KL drains in two months**

***An average of 100 tonnes of garbage collected from the drains daily. This works out to each person in a population of 1.7 million throwing away 3 empty 500ml plastic bottles daily.**



Datuk Ab Rahim Md Noor (left) remove illegal stickers from public property at Bandar Seri Permaisuri. Pic by Azmaidi Abidin

Property owners in Bandar Seri Permaisuri were made aware of the importance of keeping their premises clean.

The area was also hit by recurring flash floods.

"This is a new approach by PPSPPA to encourage the local community to manage their waste properly and keep their areas

clean. It will use the "winning the hearts and minds" of the community approach to get closer to the residents. We will organise this programme in other areas in the near future," he said.

Page 1 pic: PPSPPA workers collect some 100 tonnes of garbage from the drains daily.