

**MAJLIS BANDARAYA SHAH ALAM
(BAHAGIAN KORPORAT DAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM)**

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SHAH ALAM: Abandoned houses, overgrown weeds, flower pots with stagnant water and plastic containers left out in the rain are the most common places that mosquitoes breed.

About 70% to 80% of mosquito breeding grounds are inside homes as opposed to the dirty backlanes and clogged drains.

Shah Alam City Council (MBSA) Environmental Health director Dr Roslan Fadzil said the council had tried its best despite residents' *tidak apa* (couldn't care less) attitude.

"We can clear the drains and organise *gotong-royong* outside but we cannot help the people if they do not help themselves," he said, adding that it only takes 10 minutes a week to ensure a mosquito-free home.

In fact, MBSA had a problem conducting spot checks inside homes as most people were not willing to allow council enforcement officers into their homes.

The spot checks are conducted to help residents identify breeding areas they were unaware of, as well as handing out Abate larvicide and other paraphernalia to help prevent the same problem in the future.

Dr Roslan also said the council recently set up a Dengue Action Unit to fight dengue in hotspot areas and said the timing was perfect with the looming threat of Zika.

Officers, he added, would be stationed at the hotspot areas daily to

drive in the message and they would also work at night to ensure the working class would benefit from their checks too.

The unit was launched yesterday at Section 7 Shah Alam by Selangor health committee chairman Dr Daroyah Alwi.

In SUBANG JAYA, prior to the emergence of Zika, dengue cases were at an all-time high.

As of last month, Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ) recorded

Shah Alam
**-MBSA: Fighting mozzies hard
unless apathy abates**

6,769 dengue cases this year.

A total of 18 hotspots had been recorded thus far including two in Subang Jaya, nine in Seri Serdang and seven in Seri Kembangan.

SS18 Rukun Tetangga pro-tem chairman Dr Hamidah Merican said eradicating mosquito breeding grounds must be done at every house.

"We are planning to organise a proper clean-up in the next couple of weeks. Many of these mosquito

breeding zones are within the compound of every home and every resident must take the responsibility to check and clear it.

"We can check our own houses but when it comes to abandoned houses, we do not know the owners so it is best for MPSJ to step in.

"On top of the clean-up, we also plan to gather more information on the Zika virus to help educate our fellow residents about this matter," she said.