

New guidelines for high-risk trees: DBKL

KUALA LUMPUR: Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) is improving the Shade Tree Management Plan as well as preparing new guidelines for old and high-risk trees.

In a statement Friday, it said that although the new guidelines are expected to be ready in July, monitoring of high-risk trees will continue to be carried out, taking into account environmental preservation and conservation aspects.

According to DBKL, so far, a total of 175 trees have been identified as high-risk, the majority of which are over 50 years old.

“Of the total, 147 have been cut down. DBKL, through an appointed contractor, has been conducting inspections on trees that are over 30 years old or with a circumference exceeding 1.5 metres around Kuala Lumpur since 2019.

“Certified arborists have conducted regular inspections, with the most recent one in February 2024, and have identified 28 (high-risk) trees that will be felled soon,” it said.

High-risk trees are those with a high potential of experiencing structural failure and falling, and assessments of tree risk will take into account the physical condition of the tree on-site.

“If the condition of the trees is unsatisfactory, further assessment will be conducted, and mitigation actions such as pruning, root treatment, or tree removal will be implemented,” said the statement. – Bernama