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Green thumb: Abdullah watering a Merawan Mata Kuching Pipit tree at Kota Iskandar in Nusajaya.

Forget chocs,
better to *The Star*
plant a - 24/5/2015
tree instead

PASIR GUDANG: Forget chocolates for your loved ones next Valentine's Day. Hand them plant seedlings instead.

Giving the advice, Tun Jeanne Abdullah's comparison of both gifts had an immediate impact.

"Chocolates don't last but plant seedlings grow into trees to reflect the everlasting love between couples.

"Why not do something different on Valentine's Day and something good for the environment?"

"Let's plant trees on Feb 14. It is also much cheaper than chocolates," the Malaysian Landscape chairman said after joining 500 guests at a tree-planting event at Bandar Seri Alam Town Park 1 here in conjunction with World Biodiversity Day.

Jeanne was accompanied by her husband, former Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Jeanne said back in the old days, Malaysian families planted coconut trees to welcome a newborn.

She urged developers to allow residents to plant trees to mark the birth of their new babies.

At the event, the park was re-named Taman Tasek Tun Jeanne Abdullah to mark her visit.