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Fines await households that don't separate waste

PUTRAJAYA: June 1 – that's when some two million households and premises in six states and the Federal Territory will start to get fined if they fail to separate their wastes at source.

That means that in less than two weeks, landed property owners who fail to comply with the ruling can be issued a compound of RM50 for the first offence, RM100 for the second and RM500 for the third.

For non-landed properties, the Joint Management Body (JMB) can be slapped with a RM100 fine (first offence), RM200 (second offence) and RM500 (third offence).

On Sept 1 last year, the waste separation programme took off in Perlis, Kedah, Negri Sembilan, Malacca, Johor and Pahang as well as the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya after they adopted the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Act 2007 (Act 672).

Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan said yesterday that the programme had so far been well-received.

"The people have begun to understand and realise the importance of efficient solid waste management.

"I hope everyone will comply and separate their waste. Make it a shared responsibility for all of us to protect the environment," Abdul Rahman said in his monthly address to his ministry staff.

His speech was read out by his deputy Datuk Halimah Mohamed Sadique.