

1.8 tonnes of garbage collected at UMS beach

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KOTA KINABALU: A whopping 1.8 tonnes of garbage was collected along the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Outdoor Development Centre (ODEC) beach on Wednesday, thanks to the efforts and cooperation of some 1,000 UMS students and staff.

The special gotong-royong project was organised as part of UMS' commitment to keeping the beach area clean and safe, while inculcating the love for the beach among the staff and students, said the project's organising chairman Prof Dr Rossita Shapawi.

"As we know, the ODEC beach is a tourist attraction not just among locals but also foreigners, and we need to be committed to preserving the coastal environment," she said in a statement here yesterday.

Rossita, who is also director of the Borneo Marine Research Institute (IPMB), said that with continued support in pursuing its clean-up projects, the beach was set to be a major tourist attraction in Kota Kinabalu.

"The beach used to be quiet but after we introduced the eco-campus tourism at UMS, we see the ODEC beach attracting many visitors," she said. - Bernama