



LOLO M. MOLIGA  
Governor

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Lt. Governor

**AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
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**Information Release Authorization Form**

**Thursday, April 28, 2016**

AMEKO PATO  
Director

FA'AMAO O. ASALELE JR.  
Deputy Director

- Newspapers (Advertisement/Public Notice/Press Release)
- Radio Stations
- Televisions

Attached is an Information Release issued by our office (AS-EPA). We would like to ask your assistance in making this information available to the public immediately, via your broadcasts or news publications. For additional information, kindly contact the AS-EPA Director, Ameko Pato or Deputy Director, Faamao Asalele, or Tumau Lokeni, Environmental Awareness & Education Program Manager at 633-2304.

Fa'afetai lava.

- Governor's Office, ASG Weekly
- Director, Department of Public Information (KVZK-TV)
- Samoa News
- Samoa Post
- KHJ FM 93.1 Radio Station
- WVUV FM 103.1 Radio Station
- KSBS FM 92.1 Radio Station
- KNWJ FM 104.7 Radio Station

**Title/Heading:**

**"2016 KASB Press Release"**

Approved by:

  
Ameko Pato, Director  
American Samoa – EPA

Date:

28 APR 2016



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## 2016 KASB Press Release

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (AS-EPA) begun 2016 by “kicking off” its Keep American Samoa Beautiful (KASB) program which has drawn public support from village and church groups, schools, businesses, families and individuals who are excited to clean-up and maintain the beauty of their adopted areas. The 2016 KASB orientation was held at the AS-EPA conference room in February to go over requirements of the program and to encourage active group participation during cleanups and their participation in public outreach campaigns on TV talk shows, radio stations and newspapers.

These groups are also required to fill out AS-EPA Waste Stream Data forms used to document the types, and quantities of solid wastes that have been collected during their cleanups and either recycled or disposed of properly. The data collected is very critical in identifying appropriate actions to take as an agency and community to help reduce solid waste, promote the reuse of certain items and encourage companies to undertake recycling programs throughout the territory.

For this year, **20** groups consisting of church groups, schools, businesses, families and individuals have signed up for the KASB Program, to adopt streams and roadsides, and volunteer their time to pick up trash. Eight of these groups provided AS-EPA with Waste Stream Data, information regarding the type and amount of trash collected during their scheduled cleanups. These groups are:

1. **Lauli'i CCCAS Youth, Lauli'i**
2. **All People's Pentecostal Church, Pago Pago**
3. **Misipeka Family, Pago Pago**
4. **New Apostolic Church Youth, Pago Pago**
5. **Fatima Choir Group, Aua**
6. **Catholic Youth Group, Fagatogo**
7. **Apo's Family, Utulei**
8. **Utulei Aumaga, Utulei**
9. **Ieova Nese Church Youth, Utulei**
10. **Leone Empowerment Team, Leone**
11. **Silia and The Diamond Divas, Leone**
12. **Seventh Day Adventist Youth, Leone**
13. **Heart of Worship Ministry, Tafuna**
14. **Grafalen's Landscaping, Tafuna**

15. **New Apostolic Church Youth, Tafuna**
16. **Kanana Fou High School JROTC**
17. **SDA Pathfinder Club, Iliili**
18. **Pulenu'u and Family, Failolo**
19. **ASCC Law and Justice Club**
20. **Miss American Samoa Incorporated (MASI)**

For the months of February and March, these eight groups removed a total of **3,223** pounds of trash from roadsides, streams and coastal areas. Here's a look at the top 10 most littered item in American Samoa for February and March of 2016.

**Top 10 Most Littered Item:**

<b>1. Beverage Cans</b>	<b>1358</b>
<b>2. Beverage Plastic Bottles</b>	<b>1099</b>
<b>3. Food Wrappers</b>	<b>1043</b>
<b>4. Cigarette Butts</b>	<b>996</b>
<b>5. Styrofoam Cups/Plates</b>	<b>815</b>
<b>6. Plastic Bags</b>	<b>482</b>
<b>7. Caps/Lids</b>	<b>470</b>
<b>8. Cups/Plates/Forks and Knives</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>9. Cigarette Filters</b>	<b>273</b>
<b>10. Clothing/Shoes</b>	<b>222</b>

Many of the most commonly found pieces of trash include items we use every day from food wrappers to beverage containers to plastic bags. The passionate volunteers who participate in the KASB program each year don't just pick up trash that endangers the health of humans, wildlife and coastal economies; they count every item as well.

American Samoa, the beauty and well-being of our island rests in your hands. Please think twice before you toss that trash on the ground. Do your part, and "Join the Movement" to Keep American Samoa Beautiful.

AS-EPA Director Ameko Pato encourages the community, businesses and government departments to unite in the fight against littering and bring back the village pride in cleanliness that was evident in the past. The Director said that there has been very good progress since the beginning of the KASB program back in 2013 but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. "Getting each village to take charge and ownership of cleaning up their respective jurisdictions is the key to Keeping American Samoa Beautiful for generations to come" stated Director Pato. "We have to work together as a community to solve the problem of littering and the KASB program serves to facilitate community, business and government collaboration in addressing this serious problem".

Come out and adopt a stream, roadside or an area in your village and be a part of our winning team. For more information, please contact the AS-EPA Solid Waste Branch at 633-2304 or visit our website [www.epa.as.gov](http://www.epa.as.gov).