



## NEPA's Debris Report 2013

### NEPA partners with UDC for clean-up activities

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#### Special points of interest:

- The international coordinator of ICCD is Ocean Conservancy.
- Over 90 countries participated in ICCD 2012.
- Through the national coordinator, Jamaica Environment Trust, 89 clean-up sites registered across Jamaica for ICCD 2013.

The Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Clean-up Day (ICCD) is the world's largest volunteer effort for ocean health. Annually on the third Saturday of September, volunteers worldwide visit beaches and waterways to remove accumulated debris.

This year the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) collaborated with the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) to stage clean-up activities along Hellshire Bay, St. Catherine. NEPA also organized clean-up activities at Shipwreck within the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area, Kingston. The main activity of the day involved volunteers removing and recording data on the type and quantity of marine debris. The data collected is submitted to Ocean Conservancy for inclusion in their annual publication 'Trash



Volunteers weighing garbage at Hellshire Bay site

Free Seas'.

NEPA and the UDC seized the opportunity to sensitize the public about the impact of marine debris and to raise awareness on the perils that improper solid waste disposal techniques can cause on Jamaica's coastline if not removed.

NEPA through its external officers also participated in clean-ups with community based NGO's at Bryans Bay, Foreshore and CASE Beaches (Portland), Treasure Beach (St. Elizabeth), Priory and Roxborough Beaches (St. Ann), White River to Shaw Park Beach and Rio Nuevo (St. Mary).

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### Strong support for beach clean-up

This year 1100 volunteers registered for the clean-up at both sites. At Hellshire Bay 628 registered volunteers removed debris from approximately 750m of coastline and the 472 registered participants at Ship-

wreck, Palisadoes removed debris from approximately 600m of coastline. Volunteers were tasked with tallying each item of garbage removed from the beach and weighing each bag of garbage collected.



Volunteers registering at Shipwreck site

**Snapshot from 2012:-**

- 561,633 volunteers removed 4,603,956.74 kg of garbage from beaches and waterways worldwide
- 4,087 volunteers removed 25,043.74kg of garbage from beaches across Jamaica.
- 661 volunteers removed 2,760 kg of garbage from NEPA's clean-up sites at Hellshire Bay, St. Catherine and Shipwreck, Palisadoes.

**Over 3,500kg of garbage removed from the coastline**

Participants removed a total of 514 bags of garbage weighing approximately 3,594kg from both sites. This represents an increase in the weight of garbage and the number of participants when compared to previous years. 2,382kg of garbage was collected at Hellshire Bay and at Shipwreck 1,212kg of garbage was collected.

Year	No. of volunteers	No. of garbage bags	Total weight of garbage (kg)
2008	270	235	3,412.2
2009	333	198	1,568.4
2010	186	113	1,633.2
2011	624	403	3,687.3
2012	661	546	2,750.1
2013	1,100	514	3,594.4

**NEPA's Coastal Clean-up Results 2008—2013****Shipwreck****Hellshire Bay****Bagged garbage collected from clean-up sites 2013****Ten most frequently recorded debris**

Overall 52,547 items of garbage were collected during this year's clean-up. A top ten list of the most items collected was generated and bottle caps and plastic beverage bottles were the highest (see table). These accounted for 30% of the total number of items collected during the beach clean-up. A new category, plastic pieces (2.5cm or less) was introduced in 2013. It is strongly believed that items within this size class range are most likely to be ingested by marine animals resulting in serious, often deadly, harm to these animals. Ten percent (10%) of the items collected in this year's clean-up were classified in this particular category.

Items	TOTAL	TOTAL (%)
Bottle Caps (Plastic)	8,619	16
Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less	7,155	14
Plastic Pieces (2.5cm or less)	5,174	10
Other Plastic Bags	3,885	7
Cups & Plates (Plastic)	3,243	6
Other Plastic /Foam Packaging	2,271	4
Straws, Stirrers	1,920	4
Food wrappers	1,897	4
Beverage Bottles (Glass)	1,615	3
Lids	1,434	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,213</b>	<b>71</b>

**Top 10 Things Collected at the Clean-up Sites**

*"The results indicate that plastics bottles and caps were the most frequently recorded items"*

## Keeping Jamaica's coastline and waterways clean

Data show that promoting personal responsibility and change in human behaviour are important factors in addressing critical environmental issues such as management of solid waste.

*Promoting 'reduce, reuse and recycle'.*



### WHAT CAN WE DO:

- Encourage the proper disposal of drink bottles and food containers.
- Make recycling a habit – actively recycle all plastic beverage bottles from your homes, work and places of entertainment.
- Participate in Community Based Marine Litter Initiatives to raise awareness on the issue of marine and coastal litter and its impact on wildlife, human health and the local economics.
- Develop public-private partnerships to implement programmes such as 'Adopt a Beach' and 'Fishing for Garbage' that would utilize survey protocols and methods that are comparable with other protocols implemented internationally.

#### Special thanks to our sponsors:-

- Digicel, Jamaica
- Jet Blue
- Scotiabank
- NCB
- Megamart
- Catherine's Peak
- CL Environmental
- JDF—Coast Guard
- NSWMA
- Pepsi
- Airport Authority of Jamaica
- Tastee
- NSWMA
- Lasco
- Crazy Jim
- Ministry of National Security
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Finance & Planning
- National Land Agency
- Earthwise Recycling
- JUTC
- GlaxoSmithKline

## Massive support from corporate Jamaica for beach clean-up

NEPA wishes to acknowledge its partner the UDC for its continued support of clean-up activities at Hellshire Bay. The Agency also recognizes the international and national coordinators of ICCD, Ocean Conservancy and the Jamaica Environment Trust respectively. Thanks to the national sponsors of ICCD: Tourism Enhancement Fund, RBC Royal Bank and Wisynco.

Special thanks to the sponsors of the Hellshire Bay and Shipwreck clean-up sites.





# SCENES FROM COASTAL CLEANUP 2013—SHIPWRECK





# SCENES FROM COASTAL CLEANUP 2013—HELLSHIRE BAY





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## The tally is in....list of all items collected!

Items	Shipwreck	Hellshire Bay	Overall total for both sites	Category Total
<b>Items Most Likely to be Found</b>				<b>38,264</b>
Cigarette Butts	61	41	102	
Food wrappers	196	1,701	1,897	
Take out/Away Containers (Plastic)	165	552	717	
Take out/Away Containers (Foam)	738	475	1,213	
Bottle Caps (Plastic)	2,449	6,171	8,620	
Bottle Caps (Metal)	276	352	628	
Lids	322	1,112	1,434	
Straws, Stirrers	151	1,769	1,920	
Forks, Knives, Spoons	378	1,000	1,378	
Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less	3,409	3,772	7,181	
Beverage Bottles (Glass)	387	1,228	1,615	
Beverage Cans	386	302	688	
Grocery Bags	314	468	782	
Other Plastic Bags	514	3,371	3,885	
Paper Bags	191	726	917	
Cups & Plates (Paper)	102	532	634	
Cups & Plates (Plastic)	272	2,971	3,243	
Cups & Plastics (Foam)	82	1,328	1,410	
<b>Fishing Gear</b>				<b>530</b>
Fishing Buoys, Pots & Traps	57	60	117	
Fishing Net & Pieces	55	69	124	
Rope (1 yard/meter = 1 piece)	78	141	219	
Fishing Line (1 yard/meter = 1 piece)	42	28	70	
<b>Packing Materials</b>				<b>3,484</b>
6-Pack Holders	9	19	28	
Other Plastic /Foam Packaging	589	1,682	2,271	
Other Plastic Bottles (oil, bleach, etc.)	198	685	883	
Strapping Bands	134	105	239	
Tobacco Packaging/Wrap	6	57	63	
<b>Other Trash</b>				<b>1,440</b>
Appliances (refrigerators, washers, etc.)	104	60	164	
Balloons	44	29	73	
Cigar Tips	13	20	33	
Cigarette Lighters	129	287	416	
Construction Material	314	199	513	
Fireworks	16	15	31	
Tires	158	52	210	
<b>Personal Hygiene</b>				<b>365</b>
Condoms	33	77	110	
Diapers	77	76	153	
Syringes	21	23	44	
Tampons/Tampon Applicators	28	30	58	
<b>Tiny Trash (&gt;2.5cm)</b>				<b>6,962</b>
Foam Pieces (2.5cm of less)	402	974	1,376	
Glass Pieces (2.5cm of less)	104	308	412	
Plastic Pieces (2.5cm of less)	1,568	3,606	5,174	
<b>Items of Local Concern</b>				<b>1,573</b>
Clothing	1,066	69	1,135	
Shoes	179	259	438	