

# Debris Report: ICCD 2015

## NEPA partners with UDC for Coastal Clean-up 2015

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. Since 2013 the National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA) has collaborated with the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) to stage clean-up activities along Hellshire Bay, St. Catherine. The main activity of the day involved volunteers removing and recording data on the type and quantity of marine debris. It was also an 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.



**VOLUNTEERS**



**REGISTRATION**

### Greater turnout for beach clean-up

This year 1 144 volunteers from over 40 schools, community based organizations, community members, social clubs, governmental and non-governmental groups turned out for this year's staging of the event. This represents a 49.9% increase in the number of persons participating in this year's clean-up com-

pared to 2014. The volunteers contributed to the removal of 356 bags of garbage weighing 2,362.7kg (~5208.82lbs) of garbage from approximately 750m of coastline. Volunteers were tasked with tallying each item of garbage removed from the beach and weighing each bag of garbage collected.



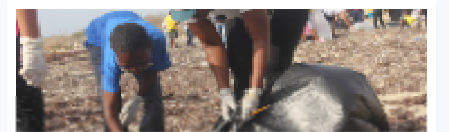
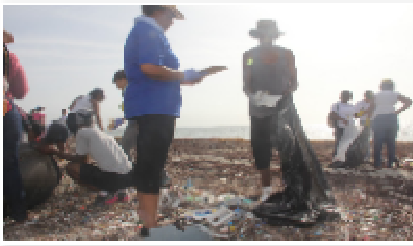
**BAGGED GARBAGE**

Debris	Amount	% of total
Bottle Caps (Plastic)	12854	21
Plastic Pieces (2.5cm or less)	10923	18
Beverage Bottles (Plastic) 2 liters or less	7802	13
Foam Pieces (2.5 cm or less)	3132	5
Other Plastic/Foam Packaging	2983	5
Cups & Plates (Plastic)	2371	4
Beverage Bottles (Glass)	2257	4
Other Plastic Bags	2217	4
Lids	2048	3
Forks, Knives, Spoons	1724	3

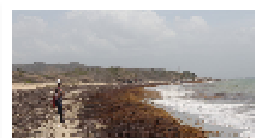
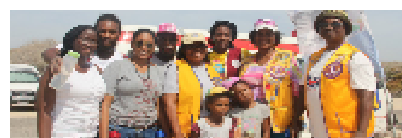
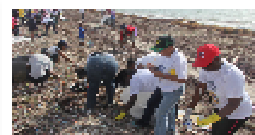
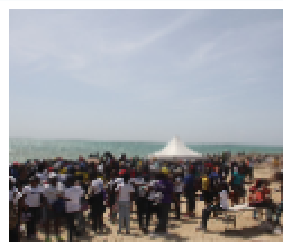
### Top 10 List of Debris Bagged

Overall 60,705 items of garbage were collected during this year's clean-up, an increase in garbage bagged of 45% compared to the previous year. A top ten list of the most items collected was generated and bottle caps, plastic pieces and plastic beverage bottles were the highest (see table). These accounted for 52% of the total number of items collected. Most of the items listed within the top ten are associated with recreational items that are likely associated with improper waste disposal by individuals. This highlights the greater need for a push towards recycling in Jamaica's landscape.

# SCENES FROM ICCD 2015



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## Special thanks to our sponsors:-

- *The Ocean Conservancy (International Coordinators of ICCD)*
- *The Jamaica Environment (National Coordinators)*
- *Portmore Municipal Council*
- *Ministry of National Security*
- *Ministry of Health*
- *National Land Agency*
- *JCF - Marine Police Division*
- *Wisynco*
- *Tastee*
- *Rhino Garbage Bags*
- *NSWMA*
- *Recycling Partners Jamaica*
- *Knutsford Express*
- *JUTC*

## WHAT CAN WE DO:

### ‘ADOPT A BEACH’

The Adopt a Beach programme is a volunteer effort designed to empower people of all ages to become directly involved in cleaning our coastlines. The goal is to increase public awareness about marine litter and inspire public responsibility and community action.

#### How will it work:

- ♦ Participation is open to any local community organization, service clubs, school, business as well as individuals over the age of eighteen (18).
- ♦ Participant will be required to adopt a beach for a minimum “adoption period” of one (1) year. A maximum of three groups may adopt the same section of beach. Each group will be required to clean up the adopted beach a minimum of four (4) times a year and are encouraged to stage at least one (1) additional clean-up for the annual International Coastal Cleanup Day held in September.
- ♦ Each group will be responsible for selecting a Clean-up Coordinator to serve as the contact person for the participant.
- ♦ Groups are encouraged to share your experience via social media and with NEPA.

The adopt a beach programme is facilitated by the National Environment & Planning Agency. If you would like to get involved and require more information on how to adopt a beach contact :

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**National Environment  
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*"Managing and protecting Jamaica's land, wood and water"*

Remember the 3 Rs:  
Reduce, Reuse & Recycle

