

PRESS RELEASE



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Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



CHCC-PR-21-151

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EHDP to Conduct Village Premise Inspections

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation's Environmental Health Disease Prevention (CHCC EHDP) will be conducting premise inspections in collaboration with the Office of the Mayor of Saipan's (MOS) routine village beautification program to address improper trash or garbage disposal that contributes to litter and vector harborage in our communities. MOS staff frequently observe trash scattered on the streets or sidewalks during their routine village cleanup; this not only affects our environment, but more importantly impacts the mental and physical well-being of residents.

Pursuant to Public Law 14-15, Waste Container Lid Requirement Act of 2004, it is a public nuisance and a health hazard for garbage or trash to be accumulated in trash containers on either public or private property without tightly fitting lids or covers. Garbage or trash must be properly covered and secured, and surrounding areas should be clean and free of debris. Household trash can be disposed of at the Lower Base Transfer Station.

To support the MOS efforts in keeping our island clean, the EHDP will be initiating premise inspections in conjunction with the MOS field schedule, starting in Kagman. EHDP inspectors will inspect houses and businesses to assess compliance with trash confinement and disposal requirements, as well as identification and removal of potential vector breeding sites.

Failure to comply with requirements of P.L. 14-15 may result in a Notice of Violation and civil fine of \$100 for each violation, plus an additional \$50 for each day for failure to comply with the law.

The public is advised to tie up or confine dogs for the safety of the inspectors and staff of the mayor's office.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to do the following to keep our island clean and healthy:

- Properly secure and dispose of trash or garbage in approved waste container. Use of cardboard boxes, buckets, or other open containers are prohibited by law.
- Ensure waste containers have tight fitting lids and are kept closed at all times.
- Ensure sufficient storage between collection or disposal.
- Clean up all trash around your premise, especially those that can hold water such as loose tires, bottles, buckets, cans, etc.
- Regularly clean and empty water tanks and other containers used to store water, and making sure these containers have screens to cover any openings.
- Frequently change the water in flower vases and other containers that routinely contain water, including pet dishes.

- Inoperable vehicles parked on public easements also provide harborage for vermin and rodents. Inoperable vehicles will be tagged by the Zoning Office and forwarded to the Mayor's office for removal.

For more information or report a violation to P.L. 14-15, please contact the Environmental Health Disease Prevention Office at (670) 664-4870/2/3 or email john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp.

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html>.