



Embassy of the United States of America
Port Louis, Mauritius

PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Embassy Earth Day Clean Up

Port Louis, April 22, 2013: Monday, April 22nd, marks the 43rd commemoration of Earth Day. Throughout the world, people gather annually to clean up their neighborhoods and to demonstrate their support for environmental protection. To mark this occasion and in view of the tragic events of March 30th, the U.S. Embassy organized an Earth Day Neighborhood Clean Up. U.S. Ambassador, Shari Villarosa, and Embassy staff cleaned “their own backyard” by collecting trash along John Kennedy Street, the area formerly known as Rogers Square (in between Rogers and Harbor Front), Place d’Armes and and its most immediate vicinities.

“Today is Earth Day and at the Embassy, we thought about doing something to show we care for the planet. Every individual can do something”, said Ambassador Villarosa. Approximately 30 staff members of the Embassy participated in the clean up. Ambassador Villarosa pointed out that this clean up is not a *“mandatory activity”*, and that all the staff volunteered. Some staff members from Rogers Enterprise also joined in. Foresite Property, a Rogers Enterprise, also provided additional logistical assistance. Witnessing the clean up, members of the public also volunteered to participate and picked up some trash. Plastic bags, plastic bottles, cigarettes butts and paper, among other things were picked up. After about an hour of cleaning, about twenty bags of trash were collected.

This activity is not the first clean up organized by the U.S. Embassy. But it is the first time that the Embassy cleaned its own neighborhood, a zone greatly affected by the floodings of March 30th where the accumulated trash contributed to some level in the casualties.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

U.S. Embassy | 4th Floor, Rogers House, John Kennedy St, Port Louis | Mauritius
Tel: (230) 202 4442 | Fax: (230) 212 2808 | Website: <http://mauritius.usembassy.gov>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/usembassy.portlouis>