



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**

**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

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**BEAUTIFY MY MARIANAS GROWS**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – The Marianas Visitors Authority’s (MVA) Beautify My Marianas program continues to draw more participants, sparking a grassroots interest in participating in the tourism industry. So far this fiscal year, 53 groups have participated in the program which offers \$100 for each 1-mile cleanup in assigned areas. Nearly 18,400 lbs. of trash and debris have been collected.

“We talk about how ‘tourism is everybody’s business,’ and Beautify My Marianas is allowing more individuals and groups to become a part of that business,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “The program is just a small part of the successful application of destination enhancement funds now underway, and we’re encouraged to see the strong community support.”

Recent groups include the Hopwood Junior High School Simiyan Lina’la’ Club, whose 24 volunteers and five advisors cleaned from Sugar Dock to Oleai Beach on Feb. 27, 2015.

“Not only (are we) fundraising for our club, but we enjoyed beautifying our island,” said the group in their post-cleanup report.

The Northern Marianas College Palauan Club, whose 10 volunteers collected 500 lbs. of trash on March 7, 2015.

“We had about 5 trash bags full of trash (at Tank Beach); ranging from beer cans to household trash,” said the group in their report. “At the Marine Beach...some of us went down the beach, while some of us cleaned around the pavilions and to the north camping site. (A) majority of the trash were around the pavilions and in the bushes.”

The Marianas High School senior class graduation committee cleaned along the beach in Susupe on March 14 to raise money for their graduation this year.

“We have seen headlines of other organizations take part in this program. This program not only beautifies our island, but as students we are able to interact with each other while doing something that benefits our island and our school,” said the committee in their report. “The senior class has a set of goal for \$2,000. This Beautify My Marianas program will help us achieve our set goal...We would like to thank Marianas Visitors Authority for allowing us to be a part of this program.”

For more information on Beautify My Marianas or an application, visit the MVA homepage at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com). Groups must apply to participate and document their cleanup with a written report, list of participants, and photos.



The Northern Marianas College Palauan Club collected 500 lbs. of trash on March 7, 2015, at Tank Beach and Marine Beach as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Beautify My Marianas program.



The Hopwood Middle School Simiyan Lina'la' Club collected trash on Feb. 27, 2015, from Sugar Dock to Oleai Beach in Saipan as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Beautify My Marianas program.



The Marianas High School senior class graduation committee collected trash on March 14, 2015, in Susupe, Saipan as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Beautify My Marianas program. The committee is raising funds for decorations, water, and other needs at this year's graduation.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct daily flights from Seoul and Busan and Jeju Air provides daily service from Seoul. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, to Saipan is available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta Air Lines to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and United Airlines via Guam. Russian and Taiwanese visitors usually arrive via Seoul. For more information, visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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