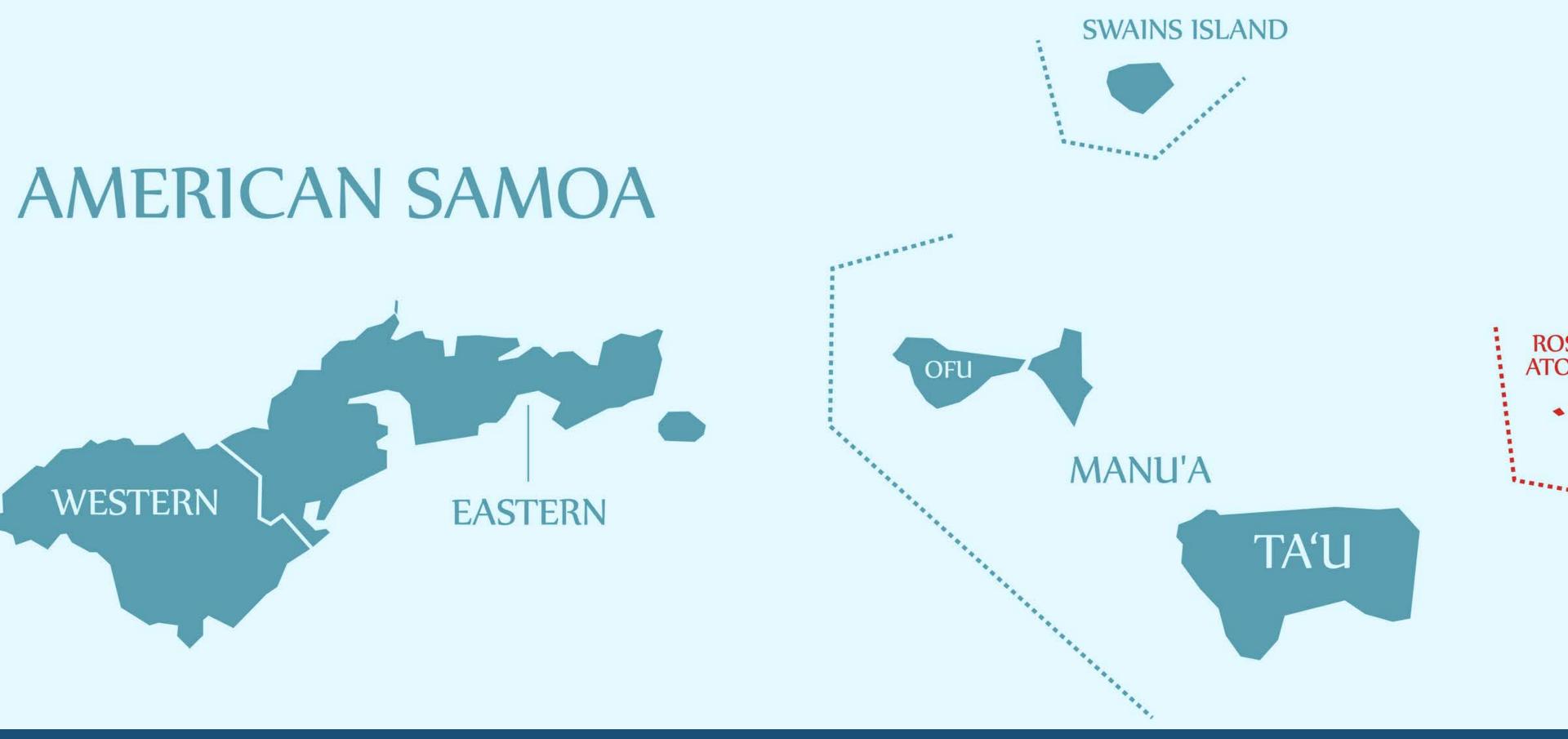
# AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY









# 7 islands. 50,000 population



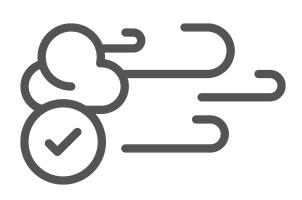




# OUTLINE

- Background
- American Samoa Government
- AS-EPA Program Overview
  - Water Division
  - Air & Land Division
  - Special Programs
  - Administration Division
- Other Updates

Air & Land Division includes the following branches with perspective responsibilities:



**Air Quality Branch**Ensure air quality



## **Solid Waste Branch**

Perform ongoing inspections in villages, industrial facilities, and commercial establishments aimed at reducing pervasive non-point source pollution that originates from improper solid waste disposal.



### **Pesticides Branch**

Safe handling, distributing, utilization, and storing of pesticides.



## **Hazardous Materials Branch**

Importation, storage and disposal of hazardous materials and waste.



## ONGOING PROJECTS

In addition to regular compliance work, the Division is implementing the following:

- Updating local regulations to align with Federal statutes
- Air Quality Monitoring Project
- E-Waste Disposal Initiative
- Foam Ban Initiative
- Implementation of the Pesticide Applicator's Certification Plan
- Notice of Intent/Notice of Arrival of Pesticides Process
- Hazardous Chemical Removal Projects
- Used Oil Drums Removal Operations

## **OUTSTANDING REQUESTS**

Continuous financial & technical support for existing regulatory programs.

Over the Last Year,

## **Air Quality Branch:**

- Issued # of Title V permit and # of Minor Source Air Quality Permits
- Systemized the process to import and temporarily export conforming and nonconforming engines and vehicles

### **Pesticides Branch:**

- Implementation of Notice of Intent and Notice of Arrival Processes to ensure pesticides users and importers comply with local and federal pesticides laws
- Refining certification and licensure requirements for all applicators purchasing and using Restricted Use Pesticides
- Enforcing certification requirements for ALL pesticide applicators in the Territory

## **Solid Waste Branch:**

- Divert polystyrene and e-Waste from entering landfill:
  - 237.92 tons of Polystyrene (ASPA, 2009) to the landfill. The Foam Ban halts the use of polystyrene foam. Enforcement of ban is implemented by AS-EPA
  - 25.81 tons of e-Waste (ASPA, 2009) to the landfill.
     The e-Waste program diverts e-Waste from disposal to recycling

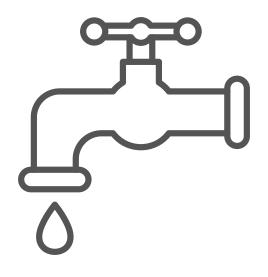
## **Hazardous Materials Branch:**

- Trained staff to safely handle hazardous substances through the HAZWOPER Training
- Successfully identified and removed chemicals from a range of facilities w/USEPA
- Collaborated with other entities to remove used oil drums (about 348 drums – 55 gallons = 19,140 gallons)

Without financial and technical support to existing programs, threats to the environment and public health of all residents of American Samoa.

AS-EPA AIR & LAND DIVISION

The Water Division consists of three technical branches:



**Drinking Water Branch** 

Implements safe drinking water program



Water Quality Branch

Implements water quality monitoring and watershed protection programs



**Laboratory Branch** 

Provides all programs with analytical services



## ONGOING PRIORITIES & INITIATIVES

## **Drinking Water:**

- Revision of Safe Drinking Water Regulations
- Central PWS Sanitary Survey
- Continued Data Cleanup in DIME
- Voluntary School and Childcare Lead Testing

## **Laboratory:**

- Maintain Laboratory Certification and Enhance Chemistry Capabilities
- New Off-Site Laboratory & Office Space (1.58acre)

## **Water Quality:**

- 2024 Integrated Report
- 2025 National Coastal Condition Assessment
- Marine Water Quality Monitoring
- Continued Engagement with EPA R9 and ASPA on Secondary Treatment



## STATUS OF CURRENT PRIORITIES

## **Nuuuli Filtration Plant and Status of BWN in Central PWS**

 Currently working with ASPA and EPA R9 to ensure that existing treatment process will produce safe drinking water

## **Satellite Laboratory and Field Office**

Identified government owned land and working to secure a land lease

## **Revision of American Samoa Water Quality Standards**

 Approved by the Environmental Quality Commission; currently working on filing at the American Samoa Legislature



The Special Programs Division oversees several programs and interagency initiatives outside of the core technical services of the agency. The divison manages the Brownfield State Response Program and provides technical assistance aimed at revitalizing contaminated lands and ensuring its redevelopment for community use. The division remains the focal point and liaison for the following interagency and intergovernmental initiatives that are held quarterly, monthly, and biannually:

- SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme)
- Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO)
- American Samoa Invasive Species Committee (ASISC)
- American Samoa Biosecurity Leadership Team (ASBLT)
- American Samoa Resilience Commission (ASRC)
- Island Wide Cleanup Committee (IWCC)



## **ONGOING INITIATIVES**

#### **SPREP**

SPREP provides technical assistance to local agency's on various capacity while AS-EPA serves as the territory's focal point. As a member and the SPREP focal point for American Samoa, AS-EPA continues to coordinate and ensure resources provided by the secretariat is extended to the local departments and agencies to improve their services.

#### **ISLAND WIDE CLEANUP COMMITTEE**

The Island Wide Cleanup Committee (IWCC) is a government initiative that was launched in 2014 to provide a strategic plan on organizing and carrying out cleanups on a regular basis. The committee is comprised of six cleanup zones (coastal and roadside), divided among all government agencies to clean and beautify on a monthly basis.

#### **BIOSECURITY LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The Special Programs Division represents the AS-EPA on the Biosecurity Leadership Team, a newly established initiative comprised of local and federal departments/agencies catering to needs of the local community on biosecurity. The primary role of AS-EPA in this team is to facilitate resources for invasive species management.

#### **BROWNFIELD STATE RESPONSE PROGRAM**

AS-EPA oversees the CERCLA Brownfield State Response Program, which focuses on preparation, site assessment, and potential cleanup of contaminated lands in the territory. In addition, the program manages the public record of sites that have been remediated and planned for remediation.



Administration Division includes the following branches with perspective responsibilities:

**Finance Branch** 

**Personnel Branch** 

Facility & Maintenance Branch

**IT & GIS Branch** 

**Education Branch** 



















## CURRENT EVENTS/UPDATES

The Special Programs Division oversees several programs and interagency initiatives outside of the core technical services of the agency. The divison manages the Brownfield State Response Program and provides technical assistance aimed at revitalizing contaminated lands and ensuring its redevelopment for community use. The division remains the focal point and liaison for the following interagency and intergovernmental initiatives that are held quarterly, monthly, and biannually:

- FOAM Ban
  - Public Law 38-12
- SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme)
  - CIRCLE (Circularity, Innovation, Recovery, Culture, Learning and Environment) Expo
- Island Wide Cleanup Committee (IWCC)
  - Dengue Fever Outreach
- Beach Advisory Dengue Fever Outreach





# FOAM BAN

AMERICAN SAMOA'S POLYSTYRENE FOAM
CONTAINER BAN



## PRODUCT BAN LEGISLATIONS

## Plastic Shopping Bag Ban ("PSBB")

Passed into law in 2010, the distribution and use of plastic shopping bags are prohibited in American Samoa, thus promoting the use of biodegradable and compostable bags while also encouraging BYO and reusable bags.

## Polystyrene Foam Container Ban ("Foam Ban")

Mirroring the successful PSBB, American Samoa also enacted the Foam Ban in February 2024, restricting the importation and distribution of polystyrene foam containers.





## PUBLIC LAW 38-12



SCAN TO VIEW







May 7, 2024: It is illegal to import polystyrene foam containers into American Samoa

Polystyrene foam containers imported into American Samoa before May 7, 2024 must be sold by **September 8, 2024** (within six months of the ban's effective date).

## **Exemptions**

- Imported pre-packaged food;
- Trays used for raw meat, poultry, fish or frozen foods;
- Polystyrene foam coolers and ice chests intended for re-use; and
- Packaging materials for non-food items.

Penalties	No Less Than	No More Than
First Offense	\$300	\$500
Second Offense	\$500	\$1000
Third Offense	\$1000	\$2000
Subsequent Offenses	\$2000	\$5000







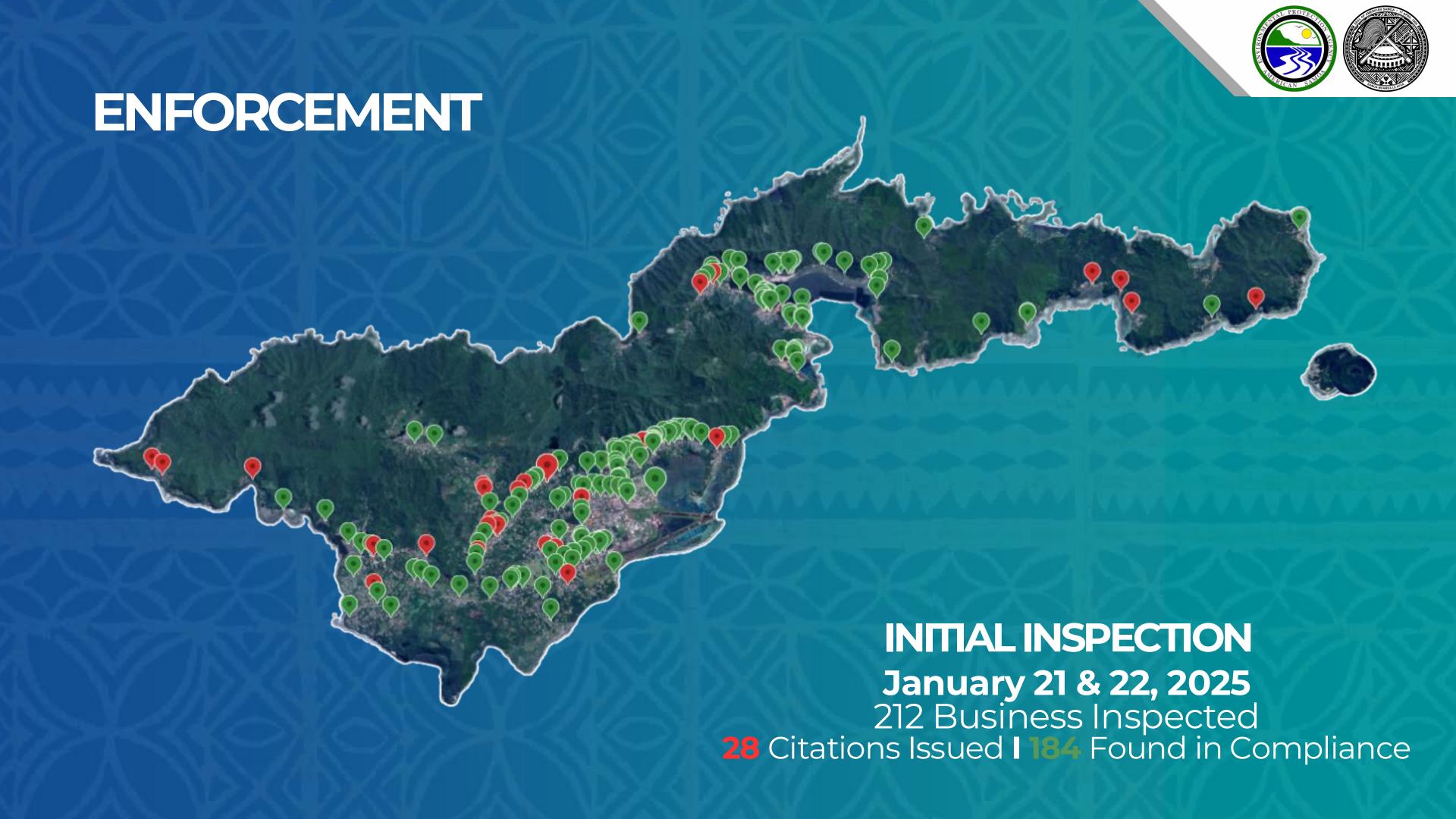


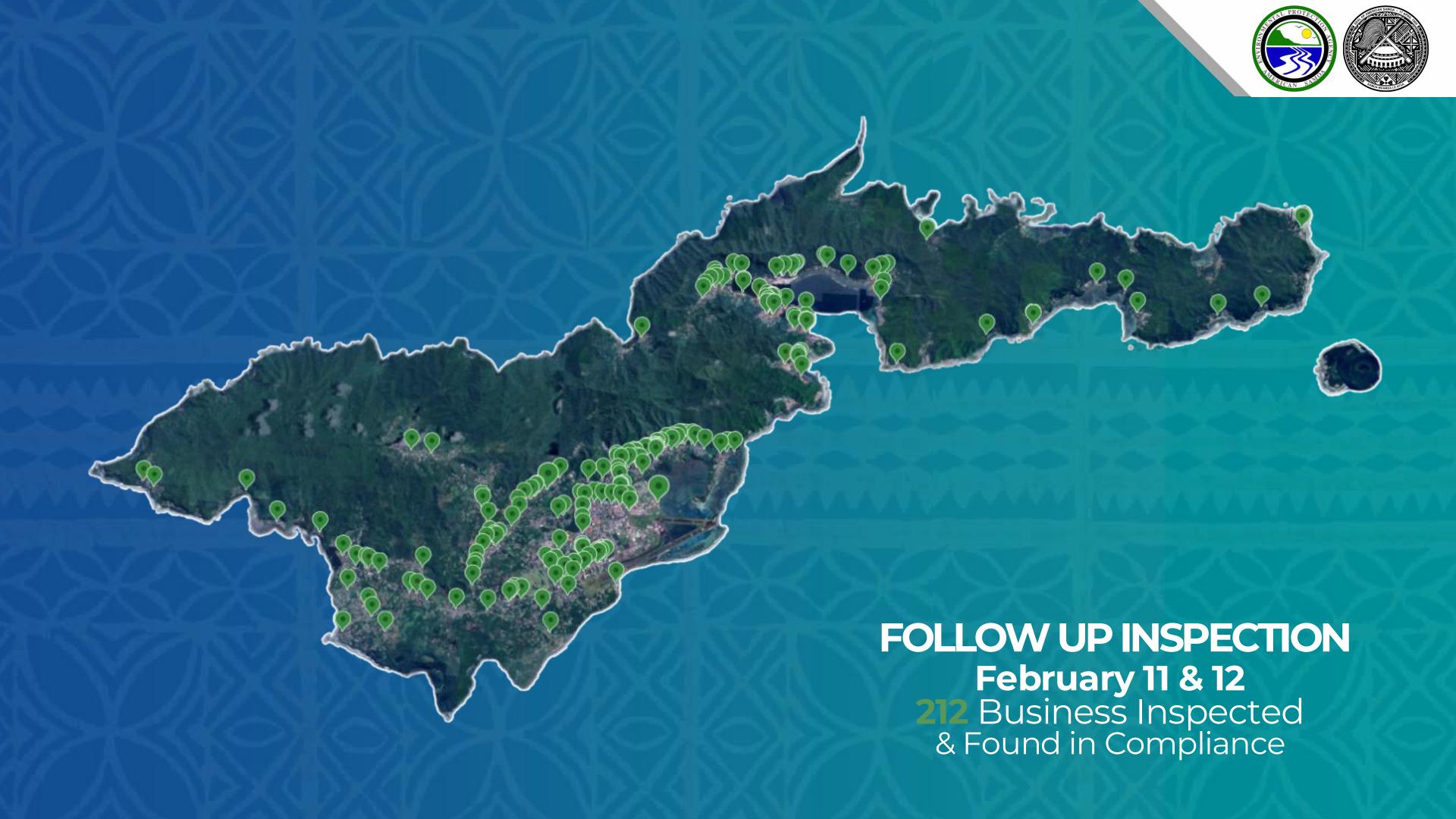
















ailding the sustainable developm



## Dengue Fever

A few key facts you should know



#### What is Dengue Fever?

Dengue fever is a viral illness transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes, primarily active during early morning (6–8 AM) and late afternoon (4–6 PM) hours.



#### What to look for?

You can help by identifying mosquito breeding sites, which are often found in damp areas such as water basins, tanks, plant pots, shells, and even bottle or glass caps.



#### What can you do to help?

Remove or destroy mosquito breeding sites like discarded tires, shells, and bottle caps where stagnant water can collect.





#### FIVA O PONAIVI IA SILAFIA FA'AMATALAGA MA FA'ATINO LOA



Department of Health

#### Ia Malamalama

O le fiva ponaivi e mafua mai se vairusi e feaveia e namu. E ŭ e le namu ua iai le vairasi le tagata soifua ma fa'apipisi ai. O nei namu e masani ona ŭ aemaise lava i le taimi o le taeao (6 -8am) ma le afiafi (4-6pm)



#### Saili

Saili vaega o lo'o tautu'ufua ai













