

Residents complain about piling up garbage

Residents of Ciracas subdistrict in East Jakarta have complained about garbage that has for years been left to pile up on the streets.

They said that neither the Sanitation Agency nor its officers had taken care of it.

One resident, 63-year-old Abas, said on Wednesday that the plot of land in the neighborhood had become a dump site as the area did not have an official one. He said residents had sent reports to the subdistrict office and district office to no avail.

“When flooding occurs, the garbage washes into residents’ houses. It is made worse by drains that are too small,” he said as quoted by beritajakarta.com.

Abas said that although garbage has left uncollected, residents still had to pay Rp 6,000 (53 US cents) for sanitation purposes to community unit heads.

“We burn the waste to eliminate garbage heaps. We suspect the garbage causes diseases in our neighborhood,” he said.

In response to the complaint, East Jakarta Sanitation Agency head Apul Silalahi said he would immediately inspect the location. He said he had received no complaints from residents or subdistrict officials.

“I will look into the case first. If garbage is piling up, we will immediately clean the place and transport the garbage to a dump,” he said.