

South Tangerang swimming in garbage

Although there is a garbage dump in Cipeucang, the city of South Tangerang is drowning in litter.

Risma, who lives on Jl. KH Salem in Pamulang subdistrict, said residents and passersby were ignoring notice signs forbidding dumping.

“Passing motorists usually dump their garbage carelessly and residents living here are the ones suffering from the foul odor,” Risma said. She added that notice signs were ineffective in preventing littering.

In the Jl. KH Salem area, piles of garbage could be seen along the roads and alleyways, with a particularly high concentration located between the streets near the Pondok Cabe bus terminal.

Fellow denizen Sakir said residents had complained about the unmanaged garbage and foul odor to the subdistrict office, but had received no response.

Head of the South Tangerang Sanitation, Parks and Cemeteries Agency Yepi Suherman said the subdistrict lacked the human resources and garbage trucks to clear the garbage from the roadsides.

“The capacity of the Cipeucang dump cannot handle the large amount of garbage that is currently littered on our streets,” he said on Monday.

According to Yepi, South Tangerang produces around 200 tons of garbage every day, but the dump could only handle 130 tons per day.

As a solution, he said the subdistrict would provide an additional 1.7 hectares of land to accommodate the entire amount of garbage around South Tangerang. “The past haze in Riau brought negative impacts to people’s lives, especially regarding the local economy, education and health sectors,” he said.