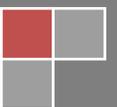


# 2013 Highlights – Environmental Health Management Report

Environmental Health Administration



HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HEALTHY PEOPLE · HEALTHY COMMUNITIES · HEALTHY ISLANDS



## Department of Health



*Acting  
Director  
Gary Gill*

In December 2013, we mourned the passing of our health director Loretta “Deliana” Fuddy. She will be greatly missed by all. Deliana was loved and respected for her passion and dedication to public health and the children and people of Hawaii, and we will remember her dedication as we move forward into 2014 and beyond.

The Department of Health (DOH), Environmental Health Administration (EHA), plays a key role in ensuring the health and safety of the air we breathe, the ocean and streams we enjoy, the water we drink, the food we eat, the products we use, and safely processing the waste we create. Administering such a wide array of programs is an exciting, yet challenging, responsibility.

We take this responsibility seriously because environmental health issues intricately touch upon almost every aspect of public life. The Administration has delegated authority from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement a number of Federal environmental statutes. EHA also works closely with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Together with these Federal partners we ensure that we meet national standards, while also focusing on issues unique to our islands.

For more detailed information about the highlights covered in this report, and for continuing updates, please refer to the following websites:

- Department of Health: <http://health.hawaii.gov>
- Department of Health News Releases: <http://health.hawaii.gov/news/>

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## Strategic Plan: Five Foundations for Healthy Generations

These principles guide all of our policies, protocols, programs, and new initiatives.

**Foundation 1, Health Equity**—The Administration worked with environmental justice staff from the EPA to provide funds to non-profit community organizations, and is in the process of updating an environmental justice policy for Hawaii.

**Foundation 2, Health Promotion & Disease Prevention**—We increased the adoption of evidence-based interventions to improve health through our State Laboratories Division.

**Foundation 3, Emergency Response & Preparedness**—The Administration increased the State’s readiness to mitigate, respond to, and recover from external threats through its Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office and Environmental Health Services Division.

**Foundation 4, Clean & Sustainable Environments**—We increased environmental protection through programs in our Environmental Management Division, benefitted consumer health through programs in our Environmental Health Services Division, and improved industry’s ability to protect the environment through our Environmental Planning Office and Compliance Assistance Office.

**Foundation 5, Quality & Service Excellence**—We worked toward providing timely, accurate, useful, and clear public health information through our Environmental Information Manager’s initiatives.



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In 2013, the Administration drafted numerous environmental health bills for submittal to the State legislature and provided testimony on over 160 bills. In the upcoming year, we look forward to continuing to protect environmental health by ensuring compliance with Federal and State requirements, and continuing to address issues such as climate change, electronic waste, marine debris, and the need for greater government transparency.



This document provides a summary of highlights from the 2011-2013 Environmental Health Management Report, which can be found in its entirety at:  
<http://health.hawaii.gov/epo/>

## Environmental Management Division

The Environmental Management Division consists of five branches: Clean Water, Safe Drinking Water, Wastewater, Clean Air, and Solid and Hazardous Waste.

The **Clean Water Branch** protects public health by protecting and restoring coastal and inland water resources. The Branch conducts statewide coastal water surveillance and watershed-based environmental management, which includes permit issuance, monitoring, enforcement, funding of polluted runoff control projects, and public education.



In 2013, the Branch:

- Conducted over 3,000 tests on ocean water samples;
- Provided funds to develop watershed plans;
- Reminded residents to take precautions during flood-related cleanups; and
- Tracked the number of impaired coastal waters, the total number of days of shoreline (water quality) postings, and the number of impaired streams.

Days of Shoreline Postings	
State Fiscal Year (July-June)	Total
2009	310
2010	403
2011	529
2012	729

In July 2013, the Branch held a statewide Pesticide General Permit Workshop to help people learn more about and comply with new administrative rules. Over 100 people participated in the meeting.

The **Safe Drinking Water Branch** aims to safeguard public health by protecting Hawaii's drinking water sources (surface water and groundwater) from contamination, and to assure that owners and operators of public water systems provide safe drinking water to the community. The Branch's programs are administered by its four sections: Engineering, Compliance and Enforcement, Monitoring and Analysis, and Groundwater Pollution Control.



In 2013, the Branch: conducted tests to ensure drinking water systems were safe (below maximum contaminant levels); issued drinking water violation letters; tracked the percentage of the State's population that is served drinking water; tracked the number and regularity of sanitary surveys of drinking water systems; and monitored the percentage of underground injection control facilities in compliance with current permits. In 2013, the Branch began working on updating the State Water Quality Plan in conjunction with the Clean Water Branch, Wastewater Branch, and Environmental Planning Office.



The **Wastewater Branch** administers the statewide engineering functions relating to water pollution control, the municipal and private wastewater treatment works program, and the individual wastewater systems program. The Branch consists of two sections: Planning and Design, and Construction and Operations. The various program activities include: review and approval of all new wastewater systems; monitoring of all existing wastewater systems; planning, design, and construction of several major wastewater treatment works projects; engineering and scientific contracts; and final project, operation, and maintenance inspection reports.

In 2013, the Branch: encouraged increased wastewater reuse; conducted 296 wastewater inspections; examined over 58 wastewater treatment plants; received and responded to 161 wastewater complaints; issued 52 wastewater-related warning notices and 39 wastewater field citations; and tracked the number and percentage of wastewater treatment plants in compliance with State laws.

Calendar Year	Total Wastewater Treated In Hawaii (MGD)	Total Wastewater Reused In Hawaii (MGD)	Percentage Reused
2011	141	19.64	13.93%
2012	141	21.14	14.99%

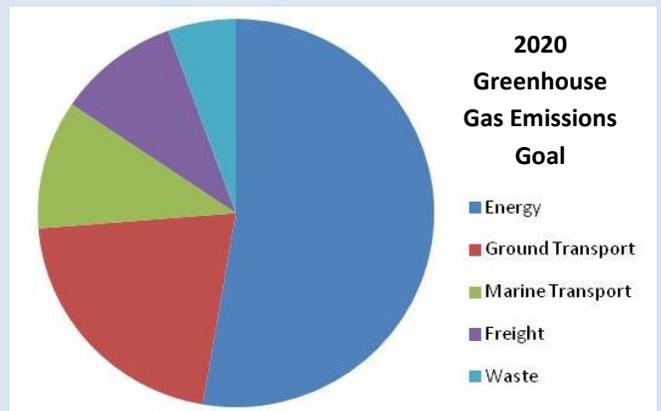


For more information on the Clean Water Branch, Safe Drinking Water Branch, and Wastewater Branch, visit: <http://health.hawaii.gov/water/>

The **Clean Air Branch** is responsible for air pollution control in the State. The primary services are provided by its three sections: Engineering, Monitoring, and Enforcement. These sections conduct engineering analysis and permitting, perform monitoring and investigations, and enforce Federal and State air pollution control laws.

In 2013, the Branch: issued air and agricultural burning permits; monitored ambient levels of eight air pollutants, including the components of vog; conducted more than 1,952 air related inspections and complaint investigations; issued over 97 air-related warning notices; initiated 25 formal enforcement actions; and proposed Hawaii Administrative Rule amendments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions		
Type	2010	2020 Goal
Energy	8.85	8.08
Ground Transport	3.10	3.23
Marine Transport	2.15	1.65
Freight	1.37	1.53
Waste	1.10	0.85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16.57</b>	<b>15.34</b>



For more information on the Clean Air Branch, visit: <http://health.hawaii.gov/cab/>

The Clean Air Branch is currently developing rules to regulate Greenhouse Gas emissions. For more information, please visit: <http://health.hawaii.gov/cab/proposed-amendments-to-hawaii-administrative-rules/>

The **Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch** aims to protect Hawaii's lands from pollutants that endanger people and the environment, to rehabilitate contaminated lands, and to ensure environmentally-sound and cost-effective management of all solid and hazardous waste generated within the State. It promotes pollution prevention and waste minimization, and the development of proactive partnerships with waste generators and the regulated community.



The Branch consists of the Office of Solid Waste Management, Hazardous Waste Section, Solid Waste Section, and Underground Storage Tank Section. The Branch runs the Hawaii Electronic Device Recycling, Hi-5 Deposit Beverage Container (DBC) Recycling, and Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization programs.

In 2013, the Branch: monitored for oil and chemical releases; assisted in cleanups of leaking underground storage tanks; encouraged the recycling and proper disposal of solid waste; conducted 827 waste-related inspections; responded to numerous complaints; issued 140 waste warning notices; issued 27 waste field citations; proposed Electronic-Waste Recycling legislation; facilitated the Tire Task Force; and tracked several key solid waste indicators, including the amount of solid waste recycled and the Hi-5 DBC redemption rate.

The Branch has set a goal to reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 50% by the year 2020 through source reduction, recycling, and bioconversion. It also intends to update the State Solid Waste Master Plan.

For more information on the Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch, please visit: [www.health.hawaii.gov/shwb/](http://www.health.hawaii.gov/shwb/)

## Environmental Health Services Division

The **Food Safety & Vector Control (Sanitation) Branch** administers the statewide Food Safety program, a regulatory program mandated by law with a large and diverse area of responsibility. The Branch safeguards public health by ensuring that food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, and related consumer products are safe, effective, and properly labeled, and that household substances and prescription drugs are packaged in child-resistant containers, when required. The program inspects establishments where these products are manufactured, distributed, or sold; investigates complaints; and collects samples to determine compliance with product standards.

In 2013, the Branch worked with retailers to collect and destroy OxyELITE Pro products because of serious health concerns. The Department's ongoing investigation has associated the products with 36 cases of liver damage and acute hepatitis in Hawaii that have resulted in one death and two liver transplants. Approximately 1,000 pounds have been collected for destruction and disposal.



For more information on EHSD, please visit: <http://health.hawaii.gov/about/links-to-doh-program-information/environmental-health-administration/#EHSD>

In 2013, the Branch:

- Issued 5,300 permit renewals, 690 new permits, 4,449 temporary food permits, and conducted 553 building plan reviews, for food establishments;
- Refined and communicated an innovative web-based restaurant inspection system to more efficiently ensure a safe food industry;
- Conducted 10,906 field inspections and issued 10,344 field citations; and
- Discovered a rare mosquito at Honolulu International Airport and quarantined it.

In 2013, the Branch held hearings on new food safety regulations that will affect all restaurants and food establishments in the state. Among other things, the rules require that these facilities post highly-visible green, yellow, or red placards to alert patrons to their performance during their most recent health inspection.

The Branch also administers State sanitation laws in the areas of inspection and enforcement, permit and license issuance, licensing of professionals, and education. The Branch reviews and approves building plans for newly-constructed or renovated food establishments and public swimming pools. It also conducts educational classes for the public. Due to recent organizational changes, the Branch now includes a vector control section.

The **Indoor and Radiological Health Branch** conducts assessments, develops policies, and provides assurance in the fields of community noise control, radiation control, mechanical ventilation, indoor air quality, asbestos abatement, and lead-based paint abatement. Its regulatory functions include permit issuance, monitoring, and enforcement, and its programs include: Community Noise, Radiation Control, Asbestos, Indoor Air Quality, Air-Conditioning/Ventilation, and Lead-Based Paint.

State of Hawaii  
Department of Health - Retail Food Safety Branch

# PASS

(Pono)

FACILITY NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
FACILITY ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

This facility was inspected by the State of Hawaii Department of Health - Retail Food Safety Branch in accordance with the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Food Safety Code and passed the inspection conducted on:

Date \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ Sanitarian

A copy of the most recent inspection report is available for review upon request at this location. Inspection reports may also be viewed at [www.hawaii.gov/health](http://www.hawaii.gov/health)

**PREVIOUS INSPECTION**

Results of previous inspection conducted on: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PASS  CONDITIONAL PASS  CLOSURE

For further information contact  
State of Hawaii Department of Health Retail Food Safety Branch  
at (808) 586-8000

THIS PLACARD IS THE PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SHALL NOT BE REMOVED, COPIED OR ALTERED IN ANYWAY  
State of Hawaii Ordinance Code Section 8.04.021



In 2013, the Branch conducted regular shoreline surveillance and radiological tests to ensure marine debris was not radioactive.



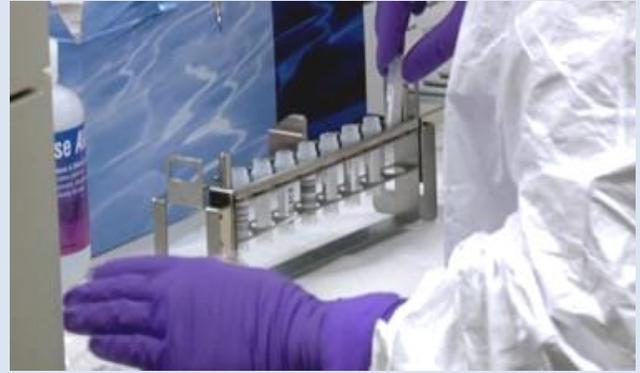
## State Laboratories Division

The **State Laboratories Division** provides a wide range of public health and environmental analytical services, as well as some oversight of community laboratory quality. It tests for an ever-growing number of known and emerging health risks. Test results are used to protect the public from exposure to dangers and toxins. Analyses conducted under vigorous quality management produce data that ensure that the State can make informed, evidence-based decisions. The Division consists of the Environmental Health Analytical Services Branch, Medical Microbiology Branch, and Laboratory Emergency Response Program.

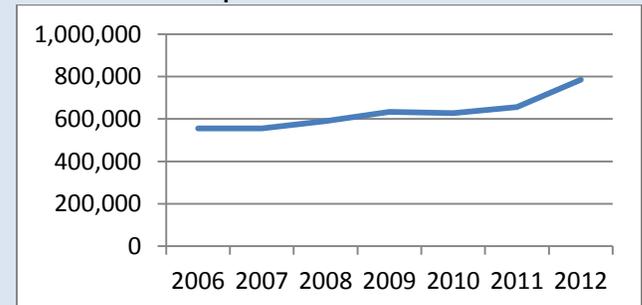


In 2013, the Division monitored for food, water, and air health risks. It also regularly tested air samples, drinking water, and ocean water, and tested for improperly used pesticides and herbicides. The Division:

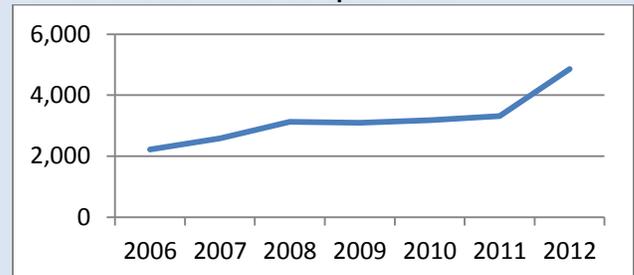
- Continued to test for Avian Influenza, Norovirus, whooping cough, mercury, arsenic, and salmonella;
- Continued surveillance for respiratory pathogens;
- Tested 600 food product samples;
- Tested fish and fish feed for mercury and selenium;
- Conducted shellfish water and shellfish meat analyses;
- Provided influenza test support for the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands; and
- Created or improved electronic data reporting to the public, CDC, EPA, and community laboratories.



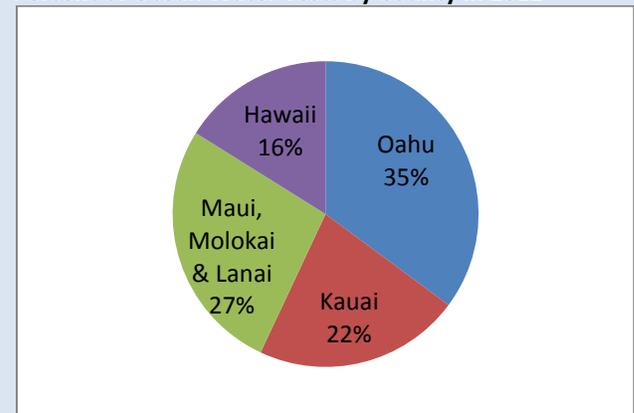
**Number of Air Samples Tested**



**Number of Ocean Water Samples Tested**



**Percent of Ocean Water Tests by County in 2012**



For more information on the State Laboratories Division, please visit:

<http://health.hawaii.gov/statelab/>

## Offices

The **Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office** protects human health and the environment by providing leadership, support, and partnership in preventing, planning for, responding to, and enforcing environmental laws related to releases, or threats of releases, of hazardous substances. When it discovers and confirms a site is contaminated, it takes immediate action.

In September 2013, the Office responded to an unprecedented 233,000 gallon molasses spill in Honolulu Harbor. The Office activated the Incident Command and worked with State and Federal partners to respond to the situation. The Office oversaw the collection of 26,000 dead fish and other organisms, directed more frequent water quality sampling, added additional sampling sites, and facilitated the posting of warning signs.



For more information, visit HEER's website at:  
<http://eha-web.doh.hawaii.gov/eha-cma/Org/HEER/>

The **Environmental Resources Office** provides administrative guidance and support to all of the Administration's programs in budget, fiscal, and personnel areas. The Office prepares grant awards and loan agreements, manages grants and State Revolving Fund loans, and tracks enforcement penalty payments and loan repayments.

The **Environmental Planning Office** assists with collecting, evaluating, and disseminating land use documents. The Office provides environmental Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping assistance, reporting, and strategic planning for the Administration. It also works on a range of new initiatives, including future Department of Health accreditation.

In 2013, the Office:

- Reviewed over 200 land use documents;
- Participated in the State Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Plan and related Bike-share Initiative;
- Worked with NOAA and DLNR to provide \$100,000 in grant funds to six non-profit community organizations across each County for their marine debris clean-up efforts;



- Contributed to the revision of the State Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP), under the direction of the Coastal Zone Management Program at the Office of Planning (DBEDT); and
- Co-hosted an annual Hawaii Environmental Forum with all U.S. Department of Defense branches.

The **Compliance Assistance Office** assists small businesses understand and comply with the environmental laws and regulations administered by the Department of Health. The Office is staffed by an Environmental Ombudsman. Services are confidential, free of charge, and provide small businesses with a point of access to government, which facilitates the exchange of information and open communication. As a neutral party and mediator, the Office can help investigate and resolve disputes, as well as increase the Department of Health's and other agencies' understanding of small business concerns.

In 2013, the Office:

- Held meetings with businesses to improve their knowledge of environmental laws;
- Worked with government and business representatives to develop proposals that removed unwarranted hurdles to small businesses;
- Conducted voluntary site assessments of businesses to determine their compliance with applicable environmental regulations;
- Provided regulatory guides and other documents; and
- Assisted businesses that had exhausted readily-available dispute resolution mechanisms within the Administration.



The **Environmental Information Manager** oversees the coordination, planning, and facilitation of the Administration's information management and information technology activities. The Manager's primary and most challenging goal is to provide data integration across all programs within the Administration, thereby facilitating more informed decisions.

In 2013, the Manager:

- Assisted programs with creating and integrating new information technology systems, thereby increasing efficiency;
- Expanded a new e-Permitting Portal where the regulated community can apply for environmental permit applications;
- Improved the Environmental Health Warehouse to provide programs with integrated access to facilities' environmental information in geospatial mapping and tabular formats; and
- Updated computerized sample collection, reservation, analysis tracking, and data-sharing systems.

