Hawaii State Department of Health
Safe Drinking Water Branch

The Water Spot

January 2011

Volume 15, Issue 1

Stuart Yamada Leaves SDWB

Hot!

Special points of interest:

- Monitoring training concludes
- DSO pass rate drops
- AWWA eLearning program approved for CEUs
- HRWA officially begins

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Announcement!

Aloha!

Looking back at the past 4+ years, we have seen numerous challenges: a boil water notice and the resulting closure of an elementary school; severe drought conditions and the need for alternative sources; residential and public water system rain catchment systems impacted by volcanic emissions from Halemaumau; the threatened abandonment of three public water systems; the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009; the downturn in the State's economy and the reduction-in-force, just to name a few. Now as we approach the New Year, water system staff will take on the responsibility for scheduling, collecting, and shipping of drinking water compliance samples to the State Laboratories Division in Pearl City. While our Monitoring Section has conducted training throughout the state, we understand that these new responsibilities will present significant challenges for some. More than ever, it will be essential for everyone to communicate and work together with Safe Drinking Water Branch staff to help maintain the high level of compliance deserved by the public or consumers that we all serve. I am confident that with everyone committed to the effort, we can succeed.

To be honest, I had expected to write my final Water Spot message many years from now upon my retirement. While I would have been perfectly content to remain the chief of the Safe Drinking Water Branch, it became clear that due to ongoing issues within our division, the future of our branch was in serious jeopardy. After much thought, I decided that I could better serve the Safe Drinking Water Branch by accepting the Environmental Management Division chief position. Please know that this is not about personal ambition or advancement. It is with

Stuart Yamada promoted to Division Chief

great reluctance that I give up one of the best jobs with certainly the best staff, and the most conscientious water utilities that I could have the honor and privilege of working with. Although there was still so much more that I had hoped to do and experience in the drinking water field, on both a local and national level, it has come time for me to move on.

Please be assured that even with the change in leadership, the heart and soul of the Safe Drinking Water Branch continues to be our staff that is dedicated to their mission of verifying drinking water qual-

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SDWB Provides Monitoring Training

As year 2010 comes to a close, the Monitoring Group of SDWB has been providing hands-on training for small water system staff while collecting the compliance samples required in 2010. In addition, throughout September and October, a Drinking Water Monitoring Workshop was held for all water system staff to increase the understanding of drinking water monitoring requirements, improve the drinking water monitoring system, and ensure public water system compliance with drinking water monitoring requirements. These trainings were developed to better enable water system staff to perform their own compliance sample collection and shipping when utilizing the services of the State Laboratories Division (SLD), effective January 1, 2011.

At the classroom workshop, water system staff were first given background information on water sources and water systems. A laboratory session provided information on using certified laboratories and approved methods of testing. Compliance monitoring requirements such as rules and regulations and sampling points and frequencies were reviewed. Sampling protocols/procedures for collecting and submitting samples to the SLD were also detailed. Lastly, water systems were provided with their own individualized listing of sampling required.

Dan Chang prepares samplers for the upcoming changes in 2011 at the Hawaii County Waimea baseyard.

As water systems start to perform their own sampling, they will be required to schedule with the Sample Scheduler prior to samples being sent to the SLD. A master schedule for the year will be generated by the SDWB and will be posted on the Share Point site. The SDWB will send water systems sampling supplies for chemical samples. Supplies will be sent at least a week before sampling dates. Shipping will be charged to the water systems' courier account.

If you have any questions about sampling procedures, you may contact the assigned monitoring section staff listed in the table below.

"…water systems will be required to schedule with the Sample Scheduler prior to samples being sent to the SLD."

Kauai: David Kawahara 586-4281 david.kawahara@doh.hawaii.gov

Maui: Steven Matsuda 586-0452 steven.matsuda@doh.hawaii.gov

Oahu, Molokai, Lanai: Melvin Tokuda 586-4657 melvin.tokuda@doh.hawaii.gov

Hawaii: Theresa McGeehan-Takiue 933-0401 theresa.mcgeehan-takiue@doh.hawaii.gov

Aloha Stuart

Continued From Page 1

ity throughout the State of Hawaii, protecting public health and the environment. We will continually strive to be consistent, fair, and accurate.

It has been an honor to be part of an organization made up of committed and caring individuals like the Safe Drinking Water Branch for more than 20 years. It has also been a privilege to have worked with outstanding individuals representing water utilities, labs, consulting firms, developers, etc. who truly care about the quality of the water that they develop and serve. I am indebted to so many of you who took the time to generously share your knowledge, experiences, and expertise. Please know that I am truly grateful and appreciate all that you have done and continue to do to help so many people, like me.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a Joyous New Year!

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 O & E Plan Due	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 CT Report Due MRDL Report Due TCR Report Due Enhanced Coagulation Report Due	11	12	13	14 FURLOUGH	15
16	17 HOLIDAY	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Maui & Kona WTPO Exam	25 Oahu & Hilo WTPO Exam	26 DSO Applications Due	27	28 FURLOUGH	29
30	31					

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 FURLOUGH	5
6	7	8	9	10 CT Report Due TCR Report Due	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 FURLOUGH	19
20	21 HOLIDAY	22 Board of Certification Meeting	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 CT Report Due TCR Report Due	11 FURLOUGH	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 FURLOUGH	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 HOLIDAY	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Quarterly Schedule

- **1/3 Operations & Emergency Plan Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **1/10 CT Report Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **1/10 MRDL Report Due**
  Disinfection Systems
- **1/10 TCR Report Due**
  Systems who complete their own tests
- **1/10 Enhanced Coagulation Report Due**
  Conventional Treatment Systems
- **1/24-25 WTPO Exam**
- **1/26 DSO Applications Due**
  April 2011 Examinees
- **2/10 CT Report Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **2/10 TCR Report Due**
  Systems who complete their own tests
- **2/22 Board of Certification Meeting**
  SDWB Honolulu Office
  10:00 am
- **3/10 CT Report Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **3/10 TCR Report Due**
  Systems who complete their own tests

Operator Certification

DSO Exam Pass Rate Drops

The pass rate for the October DSO exam was nearly cut in half, down to 34%, from last April's pass rate. The exam was held at seven different sites throughout the state. Out of the 62 operators that sat for the exam, 21 passed. The passing rates by grade are displayed in the table.

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	7	15	47%
2	8	17	47%
3	5	17	29%
4	1	13	8%
Total	21	62	34%

Overall DSO pass rate drops to 34%.

Math problems from all areas continue to be the area that requires the most improvement. Exams of all grades are now having fifteen to eighteen math problems, making it an essential topic to study prior to the exam. Math study guides may be borrowed from the Operator Library for extra preparation. Please contact Jodi Yamami for borrowing instructions.

The next two topics requiring improvement were Performing Security Procedures and Maintaining Equipment. These two topics have also been "not mastered" topics in the past. The Operator Library also has a field guide on water system security which may be borrowed for extra preparation.

Individualized reports on the areas needing improvement will be provided in each examinee notification letter after Board approval to help examinees prepare for the next exam, should they wish to retake it. The next DSO exam will be given in the last week of April 2011.

"The pass rate for the October DSO exam was nearly cut in half, down to 34%, from last April's pass rate."

Certificate & ID Card Replacement Fees

F.Y.I.

Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 25, Rules Relating to Certification of Public Water System Operators states in its Schedule of Fees that replacement of a certificate will be $10 and replacement of an identification card will be $15. This rule will be strictly enforced starting January 2011.

The Rule also states that it is the responsibility of each operator to keep the board informed of any changes in his or her mailing address. This will prevent certificates and identification cards from being mailed to wrong locations.

If you need a replacement certificate or identification card, please submit a cashier's check or money order made payable to the State of Hawaii along with a request for replacement. Personal checks will not be accepted. All replacements will be mailed to the last valid address in the operator's file.

Contact Operator Certification

Contact: Jodi Yamami
Phone: 808-586-4263
Fax: 808-586-4351
Email: jodi.yamami@doh.hawaii.gov

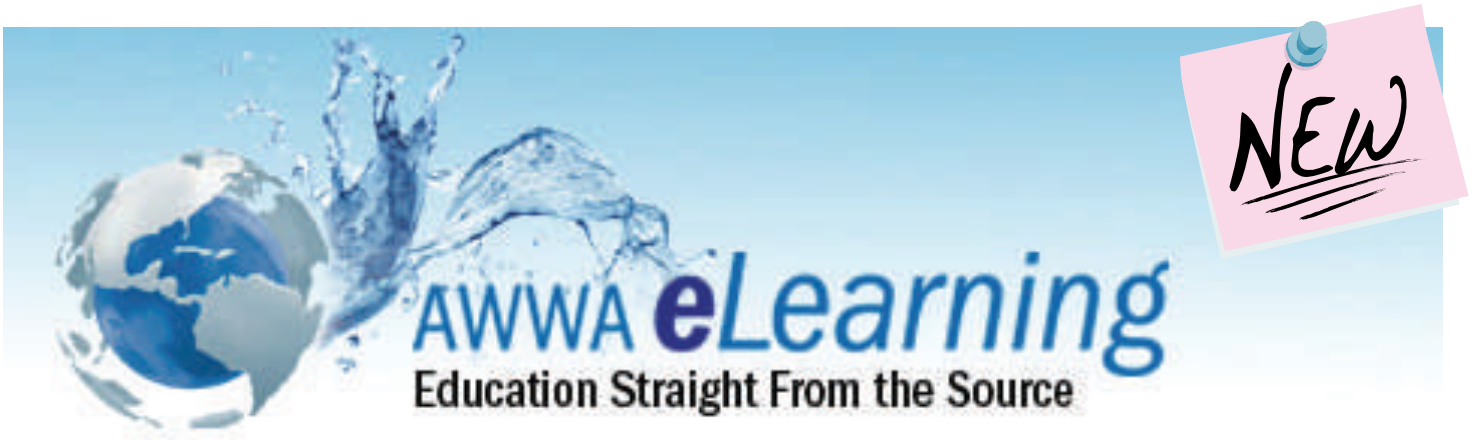
www.hawaii.gov/drinkingwater/opcert

Math Whiz

To Do:

1. How much pressure does a 25 ft head exert?
2. What is the volume in gallons of a tank with a 60 foot diameter and sidewall depth of 30 feet?
3. What is the flowrate in gpm thru a pipeline with an 8 inch diameter and velocity of flow equal to 3 ft/sec?
4. Determine the chlorinator setting in lbs/day needed to treat a flow of 4.5 MGD with a chlorine dose of 3.2 mg/L. Assume 65% available chorine in the hypochlorite solution used.
5. A chemical feed pump is set at 2500 lbs/day. What is the feed rate in pounds per minute?

Answers: (1) 10.8 psi (2) 634,154 gal (3) 470 gpm (4) 185 lbs/day (5) 1.74 lbs/min



AWWA's eLearning Program
Recently Approved for CEUs in Hawaii!

AWWA's eLearning Program is an online learning tool for water professionals that offers quality training, professional development, and continuing education units online, in which participants can learn at their own time and at their own pace. AWWA's eLearning catalog counts with more than 75 online courses with subjects on water treatment, distribution, quality, conservation, resources, math, engineering, safety, regulations, leadership, management, and more!

Visit our webpage at www.awwa.org/eLearning to view the Quick Search PDF Catalog or Online Catalog for full courses detail, and registration.

Course Highlight

Water Treatment Operator Level 1: January 28 thru April 8th, 2011

An eLearning Facilitated Class

This class introduces water operations personnel to the industry and educates them in the basic functions and responsibilities of Level 1 operators at most water treatment plants. While applicable to all treatment facilities, the concepts are geared to new and small-system operators and this program takes into consideration the Association Board of Certification National Need-to-Know Criteria for Level 1 Water Treatment Operators, AWWA member criteria, and industry practices.

The class is primarily conducted online, facilitated by an instructor, and it's paced over the course of 10 weeks. Students are expected to complete 6 hours of online learning activities each week. Activities include presentations, videos, interactions, quizzes, discussion boards, weekly tests, homework assignments, and a live meeting. These activities can be accomplished by the student at his or her most convenient time during the week. Students will also be able to interact with the instructor and other water professionals from across the US and internationally and may earn CEUs* for the completion of the program.

View full details at www.awwa.org/elearning/watertreatment

It's Official - Hawaii Rural Water Association

Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) became official on December 1, 2010, becoming the newest state to join 48 other state rural water associations in the National Rural Water Association (NRWA). Like the other state associations, HRWA will provide training and technical assistance to water systems throughout Hawaii.

NRWA first came to Hawaii in 2008 offering free training courses to help operators in their day to day operations. With high attendance and much success, a circuit rider program was then established with a full time local circuit rider to provide assistance to the water systems. Source water protection services were also added, and the latest addition was a full time local trainer. This past summer, NRWA promoted the initiation of HRWA thru their Introductory Workshops held on the different islands. And to culminate the event on December 1, 74 participants from Hawaii and the mainland congregated in Maui, to initiate HRWA.

NRWA members from left, Taani Taumalolo, Jim Watts, Phil Bastin, Fred Sheldon, Sam Wade, & Erin Borger hold the first HRWA Introductory Workshop & Luncheon in Hilo.

A Board of Directors was elected to lead the association thru the initial stages. The first directors are Dave Taylor, Maui; David Craddick, Kauai; Jeff Pearson, Maui Land & Pine; Earl Ichimura, Pural Water Specialty Co., Inc.; and Eassie Miller, Aqua Engineers, Inc. Two seats, one from the Big Island and one from Oahu, remain to be filled.

Welcome to Hawaii, HRWA!

"Welcome to Hawaii, HRWA!"

Water System Reminders

Reminder

As a reminder to all **non-County water systems**, substantial modifications to existing water system infrastructure must be approved in writing by the SDWB in accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 11 Chapter 20 Section 30 (HAR 11-20-30). A "substantial modification" is defined as, but not limited to, any physical modification to the source, storage collection, treatment or distribution system facilities of the public water system which is determined by the director to have an actual or potential significant impact on the quality of the water delivered to the users of the public water system. Substantial modifications also apply to any physical modification to a water system which increases the number of service connections or population served.

Submittals for substantial modifications may include construction plans (signature line required), engineering reports, pilot studies, O&M Manuals and evidence of appropriate operator certification, if applicable. Approval for a "Section 30" must be obtained prior to water being delivered to customers through this improvement. Violation of this section could result in penalties of up to $25,000 per violation per day. For questions, please contact Mike Miyahira of the Engineering Section at 586-4258.

For those **ground water systems that had a sanitary survey performed by the SDWB in calendar year 2010**, a reminder that under 40 CFR 141.153 all uncorrected significant deficiencies as of December 31, 2010 must be reported in your 2010 CCR (due July 2011). Significant deficiencies that are on an SDWB-approved corrective action plan must still be reported, as the EPA has interpreted their status as "uncorrected" until the physical correction is actually completed and verified by the SDWB. For questions on the status of your 2010 significant deficiencies, please contact your SDWB sanitary survey inspector or Mike Miyahira at 586-4258.

The mission of the Safe Drinking Water Branch of the Department of Health is to safeguard public health by protecting Hawaii's drinking water sources (surface water and groundwater) from contamination and assure that owners and operators of public water systems provide safe drinking water to the community. This mission is accomplished through the administration of the Safe Drinking Water Program, Underground Injection Control Program (UIC), Groundwater Protection Program (GWPP), and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).

Hawaii State Department of Health Safe Drinking Water Branch

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We're on the Web!
www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/sdwb/index.html

We provide access to our activities without regard to race, color, national origin (including language), age, sex, religion, or disability. Write or call our Affirmative Action Officer at Box 3378, Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 or at 808-586-4616 (voice) within 180 days of a problem.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor of Hawaii

Director of Health

Deputy Director for Environmental Health

Happy Holidays from the Safe Drinking Water Branch!