

# The Water Spot

July 2012

Volume 16, Issue 3

## SDWB Sponsors 45 Small Water Systems Staff for the AWWA Hawaii Conference

On April 18-20, 2012, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Hawaii Section held its 38th Annual Conference at the Hawaii Convention Center. The three day event focused on Recognizing with Appreciation, the Value of Water or Ke 'Ike Nei Me Ka Mahalo I Ka Waiwai O Ka Wai.

For four of the last five years, the SDWB has supported the conference and small water systems staff by sponsoring staff members to attend the conference. This year 45 small water systems staff were sponsored to attend the conference that provided

networking opportunities, technical presentations, enriching exhibits, and operator competitions.

In a repeat performance, the Department of Water Supply, Hawaii

County Men's team won the Men's Pipe Tapping Competition with a winning time of 1:23.62. Also repeating in the women's competition, was the Honolulu Board of Water Supply Women's team with a winning time of 1:47.29.

This year, five teams competed for Top Ops glory. In tough competition, the combination team of Wood Valley, Hawaiian Beaches and Marine Corps Base Hawaii came away with the prized championship.

In two of the con-



Hawaii DWS wins the Men's Pipe Tapping title.

current sessions lead by Juanita Colon, small water systems staff benefited from participating in roundtable discussions. They were able to share their knowledge and provide insight on issues small water systems in Hawaii face today.

Attendees could also attend an informative general session where SDWB's Craig Watanabe summarized the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts requirements and Jason Gambatese of EPA gave a regulatory overview.

Congratulations to AWWA Hawaii Section for hosting a stimulating conference!

Hot!

### Special points of interest:

- Preventive Maintenance Tips
- Board Members Confirmed for Second Term
- SDWB's New Secretary Starts

### On the Spot:

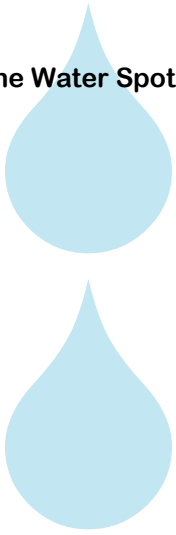
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Great Job!



The combination team of Wood Valley, Hawaiian Beaches, and Marine Corps Base Hawaii win the 2012 Top Ops Championship.

## The Water Spot



*“Preventive maintenance will save you time and money in the future, which is something everyone can fit into their budget.”*

## Preventive Maintenance Tips by HRWA

Preventive maintenance, is it worth the time or effort? Although there are many different views about what a good maintenance program is, let's try to think in terms of what needs to be done. First, a maintenance program needs to ensure that regular preventive maintenance is performed to prevent problems and equipment failures. A good maintenance program tries to anticipate what is going to go wrong and prevent it from happening. If something goes wrong, the problem is identified and corrected or repaired.

Preventive maintenance is the most effective and efficient type of maintenance program. It is a systematic approach for conducting maintenance activities before any equipment failures occur. The purpose of preventive maintenance is to extend equipment life, reduce maintenance costs, and increase reliability of the system.

Every water utility, no matter how small, should devote an appropriate level of resources

to developing a preventive maintenance program. Unfortunately, many small utilities find this difficult to do because their resources are already committed to emergency maintenance. However, experience in both the public and private utilities shows that as more resources are dedicated to preventive maintenance, less and less time and money will have to be spent on emergency maintenance.

The only way an operator can keep track of a preventive maintenance program is by good recordkeeping. Whatever record system is used, it should be kept up to date on a daily basis and not left up to memory. Equipment Service Record Cards are easy to set up and require little time to keep up to date. Each card should have the equipment name, maintenance required, and frequency of performance (along with motor size, pump



size and electrical or other power requirements).

Another card to keep is a Service Card, which should have

the date of service, work done, and the name of the operator who performed the service. The Equipment Service Record Card and the Service Card are two different items. The first tells what work needs to be performed; the second is a record of the service performed and when it was performed. File the Service Card when it's filled for future reference and attach a new card to the equipment. There are several computer data bases out there that will aid you in this area of work or you can create your own.

The bottom line is if you don't already have a preventive maintenance program in place you need to get one started now. It will save you time and money in the future, which is something everyone can fit into their budget.

## Operator Certification

### Math Whiz

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 chlorine 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

# Operator Certification

## Board of Certification Members Confirmed

Lan Yoneda, Robert Spetich, and Jodi Yamami, were all nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate Committee on Health on March 7, 2012 to serve on the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators. All three will be serving a second term on the Board starting July 1, 2012. Lan's second term will expire on June 30, 2015 and both Robert and Jodi's second terms will expire on June 30, 2016.

Lan is a licensed civil engineer and has fifteen years of experience in water system field operations as he was the Superintendent in the Field Operations Division of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. Also, Lan holds a Grade 4 Distribution System Operator (DSO) certification so he fully understands the importance of both main-

taining certification and of a drinking water operator certification program.

Robert is currently the Local Manager of Hawaii Water Service Company where he has thirteen years of experience in the management of water and wastewater facilities. Prior to his current position, Robert has more than twenty years of experience in design, planning, operation and start-up of water and wastewater facilities with consulting firms both in Hawaii and on the mainland. His experience will give the board valuable insight from a utility's perspective.

Jodi has worked in the Department of Health, SDWB for almost five years in an engineering

position that provides direct support to the Board. She is also in constant contact with all the Hawaii public water system operators and provides support to them on a daily basis. Being on the Board will fulfill the statutory requirement that a member of the SDWB be represented on the Board.

Lan, Robert, and Jodi will continue to serve on the Board with other members, Jeff Pearson and Guy Moriguchi.



Board Members: Lan Yoneda, Jeff Pearson, Robert Spetich, Jodi Yamami, & Guy Moriguchi

*“Thirty-seven of the April examinees attended the H2O course of which 19 passed for an H2O passing rate of 51% which is higher than this month’s passing rate.”*

## DSO Exam Pass Rate Drops Slightly

This past April, the Distribution System Operator (DSO) examination was given on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, Molokai, Hilo and Kona. The pass rate dropped slightly from 47% last October to 42%. The overall Hawaii pass rate since 2001 is 46%. Out of the 64 operators that sat for the exam, 27 passed. The passing rates by grade are displayed in the table to the right.

The next DSO exam will be given during the last week of July 2012, coinciding with the Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) examination. An

examinee will only be allowed to take one exam, either the DSO or the WTPO exam, but not both.

Prior to this April exam, the SDWB sponsored a DSO Test Preparation Review course given by H2O in Motion on Maui and Oahu. Thirty-seven of the April examinees attended the H2O course of which 19 passed for an H2O

passing rate of 51% which is higher than this month’s passing rate. Of the 27 remaining examinees who did not attend the H2O course, only 8 passed, resulting in a 30% pass rate.

Congratulations to those who passed the exam!

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	14	19	74%
2	7	19	37%
3	3	9	33%
4	3	17	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>42%</b>

DSO exam pass rate drops slightly to 42%.

**Contact Operator Certification**

Contact: Jodi Yamami  
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[www.hawaii.gov/drinkingwater/opcert](http://www.hawaii.gov/drinkingwater/opcert)

Quarterly Schedule



- **7/2 Operations & Emergency Plan Due**  
*Surface Water Systems*
- **7/10 CT Report Due**  
*Surface Water Systems*
- **7/10 MRDL Report Due**  
*Disinfection Systems*
- **7/10 TCR Report Due**  
*Systems who complete their own tests*
- **7/10 Enhanced Coagulation Report Due**  
*Conventional Treatment Systems*
- **7/10 Chemical Quarterly Monitoring Report Due**  
*Systems with quarterly monitoring requirements*
- **7/23-25 WTPO & DSO Exam**  
*Maui, Kona, Oahu, Hilo, & Kauai*
- **7/23 DSO Applications Due**  
*October 2012 Examinees*
- **8/10 CT Report Due**  
*Surface Water Systems*
- **8/10 TCR Report Due**  
*Systems who complete their own tests*
- **8/28 Board of Certification Meeting**  
*919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308, Honolulu, 10:15 am*
- **9/1-8 Tentative AAFES Building Closure**  
*Contact staff by email or at (808) 292-8408*
- **9/10 CT Report Due**  
*Surface Water Systems*
- **9/10 TCR Report Due**  
*Systems who complete their own tests*
- **9/28 CCR Certification Form Due**  
*Community Systems*
- **9/30 Lead & Copper Monitoring Period Ends**  
*Selected Systems*

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

August 2012

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

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 HOLIDAY	4 Tentative AAFES Building Closure	5 Tentative AAFES Building Closure	6 Tentative AAFES Building Closure	7 Tentative AAFES Building Closure	8
9	10 CT Report Due TCR Report Due	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 CCR Certification Form Due	29
30 End of Lead & Copper Monitoring Period						



Hawaii State  
Department of Health  
Safe Drinking Water Branch

919 Ala Moana Blvd.  
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96814-4920

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Fax: 808-586-4351  
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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).

We're on the Web!

[www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/sdwb/index.html](http://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.

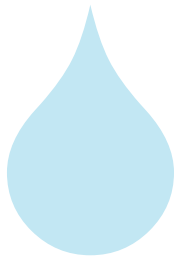
NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor of Hawaii

LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Director of Health  
*Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness*

GARY GILL  
Deputy Director for Environmental Health



## SDWB Up Close - Mary Cathcart



Mary Cathcart, new SDWB Secretary

On April 16, 2012, Mary Cathcart joined the SDWB as our new Secretary. Having started at Kalaheo High School in August of 1994, Mary has been working for the State for over 17 years. She also worked for the Environmental Resource Office and the Office of Health Status Moni-

toring within the Department of Health before joining the SDWB. In her new role as Secretary, she will support the entire branch and supervise the clerical section.

A resident of Waimanalo, Mary is happily married with 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 dogs. If that's not enough, now she'll have 23 other branch

members to take care of.

After a few weeks on the job, Mary is quickly learning the different functions of the branch and hopes to continue to learn how it all works to continually protect drinking water sources that provide drinking water to the public.

Welcome to the SDWB, Mary!

## SDWB Supports the Food Bank Drive

Led by Kumar Bhagavan, the SDWB raised \$146 dollars for the Hawaii Food Bank during a bento sale on May 4. Fifty-five KCCN Bentos and Deluxe Bentos from St. Louis Drive In were ordered. The SDWB chef, Mel Hamano

whipped up his famous potato salad and Dan Chang donated the drinks to complete the meals sold.

The branch was able to feast on a yummy lunch, have fun, and donate to a good cause.



Kumar and Seila hand out bentos during the sale.