THE WATER SPOT

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ♦ SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH

CHIEF'S REVIEW BY JOANNA SETO

As 2012 comes to a close, I'd like to congratulate all of our water systems for continuing to meet MCLs. Also, a big mahalo goes out to the systems whose sanitary surveys were performed. Your assistance was invaluable. Thank you for keeping our drinking water safe.

Notable highlights from 2012:

- The Hawaii Water Agency Response Network (HIWARN) was officially established, and the Steering Committee had its first meeting. Videos of the HIWARN sessions from the 2012 HWWA Conference will be posted on the SDWB website.
- Kudos to our National AWWA ACE12 Pipe Tapping Teams: the Big Island's Hawaii Department of Water Supply Men (1:38:35) and

2nd Place Honolulu Board of Water Supply Wahine (2:10:41).

Upcoming plans for 2013:

- On January 14-18, the DOH-SDWB, DLNR-CWRM, USGS, and County Water Departments will be presenting at the 1st Annual Joint State Water Conference which consists of one day conferences on Kauai, Maui, Oahu, and in Kona and Hilo. Please call us for information.
- Processes and rules are changing. Stage 2 DDBP compliance monitoring requirements will take effect on January 1, 2013 for most water systems statewide. In addition, revisions to the Total Coliform Rule are scheduled to be finalized in the coming weeks.
- Numerous training opportunities (page 5) for board members, certified operators, and water samplers are coming our way throughout the year.
- Our Sample Collection and Reservation System (SCRS) is in development to provide online reservations for sample testing at the State Laboratories. Demonstrations and training will be held next summer.

Best wishes for a wonderful 2013! The SDWB appreciates all that you do in providing safe drinking water to the communities of Hawaii.

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JANUARY 2013

In this issue:

Quarterly Calendar 2

Available Funding 3

Operator Certification 4

Training Opportunities 5

Special points of interest:

- Financial resources available from RCAC and HRWA
- ABC revises certification exams
- Disaster Management training by TEEX
- HRWA's continuing education program starts

ONE-ON-ONE FISCAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE

In an effort to promote sustainable financing and management for small water systems, the Environmental Finance Center Network (EFCN), under a cooperative agreement with the US EPA is offering assistance through their website, www.efcnetwork.org.

EFCN is an organization with ten university based centers throughout the states. They help in providing solutions for fiscal issues of environmental protection and improvement.

On their website, under the Assistance tab, you may "Request One-on-One Assistance" and a representative from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill will contact you to help you with your specific request. EFCN can assist with financial issues and tools. Contact EFCN today for one-on-one assistance.

Quarterly Calendar

- **1/2 Operations & Emergency Plan Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **1/3-4 WTPO Exam Prep Class**
  Kauai
- **1/8-9 WTPO Exam Prep Class**
  Waikoloa
- **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
- **1/10 Chemical Quarterly Monitoring Report Due**
  Systems with quarterly monitoring requirements
- **1/14-16 WTPO Exam Prep Class**
  Maui
- **1/14-18 Joint State Water Conference**
  Kauai, Maui, Oahu, Kona, & Hilo
- **1/22-23 WTPO Exam**
  Maui, Kona, Oahu, & Hilo
- **1/23 DSO Applications Due**
  April 2013 Examinees
- **2/8 CT Report Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **2/8 TCR Report Due**
  Systems who complete their own tests
- **2/25 Disaster Management Training**
  Maui
- **2/26 Board of Certification Meeting**
  SDWB Honolulu, 10:15 am
- **2/26-27 Disaster Management Training**
  Oahu
- **3/8 CT Report Due**
  Surface Water Systems
- **3/8 TCR Report Due**
  Systems who complete their own tests

January 2013

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

February 2013

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

March 2013

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

AVAILABLE FUNDING

RCAC'S LOAN PRODUCT INFORMATION

Founded nearly 35 years ago, Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) provides a wide range of community development services including helping to create, improve, and expand the supply of safe drinking water through use of its Environmental Infrastructure Loan Program. RCAC was certified as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) in 1996. As a certified CDFI, RCAC fills financing gaps and serves those traditionally neglected by conventional markets. RCAC's loan programs are unique. They provide the early funds small rural communities need to determine feasibility and pay pre-development costs prior to receiving state and federal program funding. RCAC also may provide interim construction financing as well as intermediate and long-term loans for system improvements. With a $13 million operating budget and more than $65 million in lending capital, RCAC is a major resource for rural communities.

Eligible applicants are presently limited to non-profit organizations, public agencies and tribal governments in rural locations. With loan products ranging from short-term (1-3 years) to longer-term (20+years), RCAC's current loan products are designed to meet your needs. However, the RCAC loan committee can make loan policy exceptions to tailor a loan to fit particular project needs. Loans may roll from one into the next, for example, feasibility to pre-development to interim financing during construction, or they may also be freestanding.

Applications are accepted throughout the year and RCAC's loan turn-around can be as quick as two weeks. Loan applications and additional information is available online at www.rcac.org or by contacting Cyndy Elliott, loan officer, at 209 576-0430.

HRWA'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES

There are several programs that may be available as financial resources for water systems and their operators through the Hawai'i Rural Water Association (HRWA).

The HRWA can assist with rate studies, income surveys, and financial and budget adjustment issues through our three Circuit Rider programs.

The HRWA is also available to assist water systems in applying for United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utility Services (USDA RUS) loan and grant programs, State Revolving Loan Funds, and the National Rural Water Association's Revolving Loan Fund (NRWA RLF) Program that was established through a grant from the USDA RUS.

The NRWA RLF Program provides financing to eligible utilities for pre-development costs associated with proposed water and wastewater projects. NRWA RLF funds can also be used by existing water/wastewater systems to assist with short term costs incurred for equipment replacement, small scale extension of services, or other small capital projects that are not a part of your regular operations and maintenance. Systems applying must be public entities; this includes municipalities, counties, special purpose districts, Native American Tribes and corporations not operated for profit, including cooperatives, with up to a population of 10,000 and rural areas with no population limits. NRWA RLF Program loan amounts may not exceed $100,000 or 75% of the total project cost, whichever is less. Applicants will be given credit for documented project cost prior to receiving the NRWA RLF Program loan. Loans will be made at the lower of the poverty or market interest rate as published by USDA RUS, with a minimum of 3% at the time of closing. The most current rates are available on the USDA RUS Water and Environmental Programs home page at www.usda.gov/rus/water.

Please contact the HRWA office at 808 495-0264 or karrie@hawaiirwa.org for more information or assistance with any of these programs.

OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

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

www.hawaii.gov/drinkingwater/opcert

ABC RELEASES NEW STANDARDIZED EXAMS

For the past two years, the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) has been developing new standardized water treatment and distribution exams in conjunction with their goal of achieving ANSI accreditation. These new standardized exams were created from a refined item bank that captured up to date technology and regulations in the evolving industry. The result was an exam complete with relevant information of operator's everyday job duties.

New *Need-To-Know Criteria* were developed from the results of the Job Task Analysis revalidation surveys which a few Hawaii operators completed. These criteria may be found on ABC's website and is linked to the right. Be sure to look at the links below ABC's 2012 New Standardized Exam when preparing for any ABC exam.

Also, the Formula/Conversion Tables were revised with the addition of pie wheels for various equations, which is a great resource for operators. The new table may also be found on ABC's website and is linked to the right.

Lastly, another new resource is the development of the sixth edition of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) *Water Operator Certification Study Guide*. More than 1,000 sample questions and answers aligned with ABC's updated *Need-To-Know Criteria* can be found in this AWWA study guide.

The new standardized exams will be introduced throughout 2013 as ABC addresses each certifying authority's needs. If you're planning to take an exam this year, get a head start by familiarizing yourself with the new criteria and tables. The new tables will also be sent to any operator who is sitting for an exam.

Association of Boards of Certification

Important Links

Need to Know Criteria

www.abccert.org/testing_services/need_to_know_criteria.asp

Formula/Conversion Tables

www.abccert.org/testing_services/formulas_conversion_tables.asp

DSO EXAM PASS RATE REMAINS LOW

The pass rate for the October Distribution System Operator (DSO) exam remained virtually unchanged at 29% from July's 32%. This is a considerable drop from the April pass rate of 42%. Out of the 51 operators that sat for the exam, only 15 passed. However, the DSO Grade 1 category had a high 56% passing rate. The passing rates by grade are displayed in the table below. The exam was held on Oahu, Kauai, Maui, Kona and Hilo.

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	9	16	56%
2	5	19	26%
3	0	7	0%
4	1	9	11%
Total	15	51	29%

Congratulations to those who passed the exam!

The next DSO exam will be given during the week of April 22, 2013. Registration will be due on January 23, 2013 for those who want to sit for the April exam.

It is possible that the new standardized exams produced by the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC) will be available by the April 2013 exam as stated in the above article. Examinees should be aware of the updated *Need-To-Know Criteria* and the new Formula/Conversion Tables. Please contact Jodi Yamami at jodi.yamami@doh.hawaii.gov if you are having difficulty in finding the new updates on the ABC website.

DSO Applications Due 1/23/2013

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

WTPO EXAM PREPARATION COURSE OFFERED

In preparation for the upcoming Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) exam, the Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) will be offering exam preparation training on Kauai (Lihue), Big Island (Waikoloa) and Maui (Wailuku). The training will be FREE of charge, however, class seating is limited, and priority will be given to those who are approved to sit for the WTPO exam.

The trainings are being offered through a US EPA grant for training and technical assistance for system operations awarded to HRWA. Similar exam preparation courses may be planned throughout 2013 for the Distribution System Operator (DSO) exams.

Please contact Jodi Yamami at jodi.yamami@doh.hawaii.gov for registration information.

WTPO Exam Prep

FREE OFFER

Bring your pencils, paper and calculators!

Lihue, Kauai
January 3, 4 (Thursday, Friday)
Kauai District Health Office, 3040 Umi St.
Reading Room

Waikoloa, Big Island
January 8, 9 (Tuesday, Wednesday)
Learning Center, 68-1845 Waikoloa Rd.
Unit 113

Wailuku, Maui
January 14, 15, 16 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)
State Building, 54 High St.
3rd Floor Conference Room B

DISASTER MANAGEMENT BY TEEX

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) will be offering training on Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Systems in February on Maui and Oahu. The training is being offered through a US Department of Homeland Security grant.

This course will cover issues concerning preparing for, responding to, and recovering from incidents affecting water facilities. The course introduces the various natural and man-made hazards to which water systems may be vulnerable, and the potential effects the hazards may induce. Legislation that serves to aid in the planning and response to a natural or man-made incident is discussed along with measures that can mitigate threats to the water systems. Participants are guided through portions of the US EPA's Response Protocol Toolbox to identify steps in the response and recovery processes.

Registration information was mailed to all water systems in December. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Nikaido at 808 586-4258.

HRWA'S CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Need CEUs? Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) will kick off their 3 year continuing education training program for Hawaii water systems and their operators with classes starting in January. The topics selected for this first group of classes were chosen from operator surveys. The schedule and registration information may be found on the next page. On-site instruction may also be requested. Please contact Karrie Lasater at 808 495-0264 to register for classes.

Hawai'i Rural Water Association

1325 South Kihei Road, Suite 200
Kihei, Hawai'i 96753
808-495-0264
www.hawaiirwa.org

Continuing Education Training Program for Water System Operators
Course Listing
January 2013 through March 2013

Course	CEUs	Date and Time	Location	Tuition Fee		
	approved by Hawaii Board of Certification of PWS Operators	8:30 am to 3:30 pm (1 hour lunch break)		Public Water System Employee	HRWA Member (non-water system employee)	Non-member
Pumps & Motors O&M	0.6	Tuesday, January 29, 2013	Hilo	$60	$210	$490
Pumps & Motors O&M	0.6	Thursday, January 31, 2013	Oahu	$60	$210	$490
Pumps & Motors O&M	0.6	Tuesday, February 05, 2013	Kauai	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Tuesday, February 19, 2013	Kona	$60	$210	$490
Preventative Maintenance Overview	requested 0.6	Wednesday, February 20, 2013	Oahu	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Thursday, February 21, 2013	Maui	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Tuesday, March 05, 2013	Molokai	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Wednesday, March 06, 2013	Kauai	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Thursday, March 07, 2013	Oahu	$60	$210	$490
Basic Water Calculations	0.6	Friday, March 08, 2013	Waimea	$60	$210	$490

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration forms must be received two weeks in advance of class scheduled date.

Name _____ Public Water System (PWS)_____

Public Water System (PWS) # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Telephone _____ Position _____

E-mail _____ Certification # _____

Session/Date/Location_____ Class Fee $_____

Email registration to: karrie@hawaiirwa.org

Mail registration and payment to: Hawai'i Rural Water Association, 1325 S. Kihei Rd., Suite 200, Kihei, HI 96753

Payment by Visa and MasterCard: contact Karrie Lasater @ 808-495-0264 or karrie@hawaiirwa.org for further information.

Note: This program is partially funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Hawaii, Department of Health using Federal Drinking Water State Revolving Fund monies.

Quality On Tap! Our Commitment Our Profession

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Protecting Our Environment · Our Commitment • Our Profession

Hawai'i Rural Water Association
Backflow Assembly Tester Training

January 21, 2013 through January 24, 2013
7:30 am to 4:00 pm
Location: Pacific Pipe Co., 1255 Kuala St., Pearl City, HI 96782

The Hawai'i Rural Water Association is offering a Backflow Assembly Tester Training Course. This course will help attendees to prepare for the ABPA Tester Certification Examination. The next scheduled ABPA Tester Certification Examination date is January 25, 2013. Applicants must register directly through ABPA for the tester certification examination. To register for the ABPA .Tester Certification Examination, go to http://abpa.org/tester.htm. **Course training will be based on the USC FCCC Manual of Cross Connection Control, 10th Edition. You will need this manual to participate in the course. The manual can be purchased through HRWA with your course registration or at** http://catalog.fccchr.org/viewProduct.cfm?item_id=736869. If you are a HRWA or ABPA Member, as a benefit to you, the manual is included in the registration fee. To enroll in this training course, return the registration form below to Karrie at karrie@hawaiirwa.org or mailing address below. **Space is limited to a maximum of 20 participants for this course.**

Note: Attendees will be able to use equipment that is available or bring their own gauge, equipment and tools for this course.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Utility/System _____

Utility Address _____System #_____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Telephone _____ Position _____

E-mail _____ Operator # _____

Email registration to: karrie@hawaiirwa.org

Mail registration and payment to:

Hawai'i Rural Water Association
1325 S. Kihei Rd., Suite 200
Kihei, HI 96753

o	HRWA or ABPA Member – manual provided on first day	$ 950.00
o	HRWA Non-Member – I provide my own manual	$ 950.00
o	HRWA One Year Individual Membership & Course Registration	$1,045.00*

Payment by Visa and MasterCard:

Name on card: _____

Card Number: _____Exp. date: _____ Code: _____

Billing address for credit card: _____

Billing zip code: _____Amount authorized to charge on card: $_____

Signature: _____

*Companies wishing to enroll multiple attendees could receive additional discounts and benefits through a HRWA Associate Membership, please contact Karrie at 808-495-0264 for more information.

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH

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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

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

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.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE SDWB!