

THE WATER SPOT

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH • SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH

CHIEF'S MESSAGE BY JOANNA SETO

2014 has been a roller coaster of a year. The events this year can be compared to Walt Disney World park rides. Through it all, there has been much collaboration within the Environmental Health Administration and other government agencies. Thanks for riding with us.

Primeval Whirl® with its steep slide down with a side-to-side rocking motion and Spaceship Earth with its mellow twists and turns in a time machine: We began our year in January with an unexpected flurry of activity at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. The Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch, Underground Storage Tank (SHWB-UST) program, and SDWB continue to work together to protect our groundwater and drinking water. The Red Hill Task Force Report will be submitted to the 28th Legislature in late December.

Test Track® Presented by Chevrolet® with its bumps in the road and Barnstormer with its gentle kiddie roller coaster slopes: The Hawaii Loan and Grants Tracking System (LGTS) development was officially started with Northbridge Environmental Management in mid-February. According to the Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT), new State systems needed to be web-based. We're happy to report that Hawaii is expected to have our online LGTS by July 2015.

Star Tours® - The Adventures Continue with its great leaps forward and back, Rock 'n' Roller Coaster® Starring Aerosmith's loop de loop, and The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror™ with its 'stomach in your throat' drop: In March, Northbridge Environmental Management kicked off the State Revolving Fund Management Study. The recommendations were presented to the DOH in October with the Notice of Non-Compliance (NNC) to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) arriving soon after. We're continuing discussions with Northbridge on implementation of some of the Management Study recommendations and sharing the NNC with other government agencies in the hope that changes may be made to improve the DWSRF program. The first deadline for the NNC deliverables is January 30, 2015.

Splash Mountain® - get ready to get wet! Hawaii Convention Center was the site of the first joint Hawaii Water Conference hosted by the American Water Works Association-Hawaii Section and Hawaii Water Environment Association in May 2014. Both boards decided to continue to collaborate and the second joint conference, the

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VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2015

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CHIEF'S MESSAGE

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2015 Pacific Water Conference at the Hawaii Convention Center, is scheduled for February 2015. The Pipe-Tapping, Ops Challenge, and Top Ops will be held on the first floor near the exhibitor's booths. The next early bird deadline is January 16, 2015 – sign up soon!

Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin®
where you work as a team and individually to reach your goals:

The SDWB and Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission on Water Resource Management (DLNR-CWRM) held the Joint Government Water Conference in Lihue, Kahului, Honolulu, Kona and Hilo in August 2014. This conference focused on the DOH draft Water Quality Plan (WQP) and other parts of the Hawaii Water Plan. Most of the presentations are available online at <http://health.hawaii.gov/sdwb/training/>. An informational meeting was held in September for the WQP. The final WQP is expected by June 2015.

Mission: SPACE® with its sharp maneuvers and successful arrival on Mars: Great news was received in October 2014 from Princeville Utilities Company on the successful completion of the rehabilitation of its water tank. Their water was safe to drink the entire time the tank and bypass system were in operation.

Big Thunder Mountain Railroad® with twists and turns within the mountain and the splash of success at the end: In November 2014, the DWSRF team of SDWB, Environmental Resources Office-Water Revolving Fund Staff, Administrative Services Office, Department of Budget and Finance, and

Department of Accounting and General Services pulled together with the HBWS staff to coordinate the loan of \$26 million at 1% interest to refinance a bond. Interest savings to HBWS and its customers will amount to a little over \$6 million.

The Magic Carpets of Aladdin would be very helpful for this event: Our move to Waimano Ridge has been postponed from 2015 to spring 2016. We are using this time to scan our files and purge our cubicles. The first quarterly SDWB Clean-up day yielded over 20 bags of recycled office paper. Please pardon our mess as we prepare for our move.

The Circle of Life - an Environmental Fable: Throughout the year, we welcomed Mark Frazier (Feb), Joan Corrigan (Feb), Chantyll Westbrook (June), and Zhaohui Wang (June) to the SDWB Ohana. We bade farewell to Kumar Bhagavan in February and extended our best wishes to Craig Watanabe as he transferred to the Department of Education in late October.

it's a small world®: In addition to the goals for 2015 listed above, we wish to have you join us on a calm ride as we continue 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.”

Happy Holidays!



Joanna Seto, Chief

QUARTERLY CALENDAR

- ◆ **1/2 O&E Plan Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **1/9 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **1/9 MRDL Report Due**
Disinfection Systems
- ◆ **1/9 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests
- ◆ **1/9 Enhanced Coagulation Report Due**
Conventional Treatment Systems
- ◆ **1/9 Chemical Quarterly Monitoring Report Due**
Systems with quarterly monitoring requirements
- ◆ **1/26-27 WTPO Exam**
Maui, Kona, Oahu & Hilo
- ◆ **1/28 DSO Applications Due**
April Examinees
- ◆ **2/3-5 Pacific Water Conference**
Hawaii Convention Center
- ◆ **2/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water
- ◆ **2/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests
- ◆ **2/24 Board of Certification Meeting**
SDWB Honolulu, 10:00 am
- ◆ **2/27 DSO Exam Registrations Due**
April Examinees
- ◆ **3/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems
- ◆ **3/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests

JANUARY 2015

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

FEBRUARY 2015

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

MARCH 2015

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	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 HOLIDAY	27	28
29	30	31				

CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM CONTINUES

The Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) has selected Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) to continue operating the small water system circuit rider program for another three years through September 30, 2017. Funded by the U. S. EPA, the Circuit Rider program helps Hawai'i small water systems build technical, managerial, and financial capacity to ensure sustainable delivery of safe drinking water to their customers. Any small water system defined as a privately-owned, County-owned, State Agency-owned, or federally-owned (national parks and military) system serving 10,000 or fewer persons, is eligible for free services under this program.

RCAC circuit riders have no regulatory compliance authority, and RCAC does not represent the Department of Health in compliance matters. The circuit rider program aims to help systems identify and resolve questionable issues before they become compliance matters and to improve operators' and managers' abilities to solve problems on their own.

Mr. Kevin Baughman and Ms. Joy Gannon, RCAC's circuit riders, are experienced, knowledgeable drinking water professionals who provide hands-on technical assistance and guidance to water system operations staff, managers and board members. Mr. Baughman is a certified water system operator and holds current Hawai'i Water Treatment Plant Operator and Distribution System Operator Grade 4 certifications.

Through this free program, RCAC's experienced circuit riders will work with small water system personnel to:

- ◆ Improve technical, managerial, & finan-

cial capacity

- ◆ Assess systems, identify problem areas, & develop & implement solutions before problems become regulatory compliance issues
- ◆ Maintain Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) compliance
- ◆ Provide infrastructure development support & guidance
- ◆ Offer support with understanding complex government environmental regulations
- ◆ Identify funding sources for utility improvements
- ◆ Train board members in their roles & responsibilities as water system owners
- ◆ Improve safety procedures; e.g., emergency response planning, safe chemical handling, & working in confined spaces

Examples of hands-on assistance include:

- ◆ Teaching repair & adjustment of control valves, pumps, motors, etc.
- ◆ Developing standard operating procedures
- ◆ Strategic planning for Managers & Boards
- ◆ Developing budgets
- ◆ Developing sampling plans
- ◆ Drafting consumer confidence reports
- ◆ Setting up recordkeeping system
- ◆ Teaching system mapping
- ◆ Teaching disinfection
- ◆ Developing cross-connection control programs

For more information about the circuit rider program or to schedule an appointment, please contact either:

Technical Capacity Building

Kevin Baughman
808/896-3886 Mobile
kbaughman@rcac.org

Managerial/Financial Capacity Building

Joy Gannon
808/345-1246 Mobile
jgannon@rcac.org

FUNDING



- ◆ Reasonable, below market interest rate of **3%** and a maximum repayment period of **10 years**
- ◆ Straightforward application process and quick turnaround time (just a few days until check is in hand)
- ◆ Loan amounts may not exceed **\$100,000** or **75% of the total project cost**, whichever is less
- ◆ Financing is available for **pre-development** (planning) costs for projects and for replacement **equipment, system upgrades, maintenance and small capital projects**
- ◆ New focus on **energy efficiency projects** that improve water system sustainability through lower energy costs, providing consumers with more affordable water and wastewater services
- ◆ NRWA charges **no administrative or processing fees** to further capitalize on available funds - 100% of revolved funds are reinvested in the program
- ◆ Systems must be public entities - including municipalities, counties, special purpose districts, Native American Tribes and corporations not operated for profit (cooperatives), with up to 10,000 population and rural areas with no population limits

[BROCHURE](#)

[APPLICATION](#)

If you have any questions please contact Matt Holmes or Claudette Attwood with the National Rural Water Association at (580) 252-0629. Applications may be emailed to david@nrwa.org or mailed to NRWA, 2915 South 13th Street, Duncan, OK 73533.

2015 Pacific Water Conference

Enhancing Hawaii's Water Resources for the Future

February 3 Pre-Conference

February 4-5 Conference

Hawaii Convention Center

Honolulu, HI

Click [here](#) for more info



Sponsored by AWWA Hawaii Section & HWEA

DSO PASS RATE DROPS SLIGHTLY

The overall pass rate for the October Distribution System Operator (DSO) examination dropped slightly compared to last April's results from 57% to 51%. However, this is still higher than the overall average of 45% since 2001. The table to the right provides a breakdown by grade.

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	11	16	69%
2	4	8	50%
3	4	7	57%
4	4	14	29%
Total	23	45	51%

Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) provided DSO Exam Test Preparation classes on Oahu and the Big Island prior to the exam. Fourteen out of the twenty-two operators taking the preparation class passed for a 64% passing rate, higher than the overall October pass rate.

Congratulations to those who passed the exam!

RENEWALS PAST DUE

If your Distribution System Operator (DSO) or Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) certification expired on November 30, 2014, you should no longer be performing the duties of an operator until your renewal is approved.

To renew your certification, please submit your renewal form, renewal fee via

cashier's check or money order only, and proof of Continuing Education Unit (CEU) course attendance. The renewal fee has doubled since it is past due.

If you are unable to renew your certification by November 30, 2015, you will need to re-take and pass the exam to become certified again.

CEU TRAINING PROGRAM ENTERS 3RD YEAR

The development of a self-sustaining Continuing Education Training Program for Water System Operators enters its 3rd year. Class topics and instructors have been well-received by the operators. In addition, the on-site class option with the class tailored specifically for your water system and at your facility has been popular.

Hawaii Rural Water Association (HRWA) is developing the self-sustaining program with subsidies from the Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) for the first 3 years of the program. Beginning October 2015, the program is designed to be self-sustaining on tuition only. Therefore, tuition has been increasing each year. Effective October 2014, tuition increased to \$195.00 for a 6-hour full-day class.

Program Year	You Pay	Program Pays (on your behalf)
1	\$60.00	\$180.00
2	\$125.00	\$125.00
3	\$195.00	\$65.00
4	\$270.00	\$0.00

See the next page for the Course Listing. If you have suggestions for improving the program, please contact Mahana Gomes at hrwaoffice@hawaiiirwa.org.



Hawai'i Rural Water Association



Continuing Education Training Program for Water System Operators Course Listing January 2015 through March 31, 2015

Course	CEU's	Date & Time	Location	Tuition Fee		
				Public Water System Employee	HRWA Member (non-water system employee)	Non-member
		8:30am to 3:30pm (1 hr. lunch break)				
How to Complete a Consumer Confidence Report	0.6	2/24/2015	Maui	\$195	\$240	\$490
How to Complete a Consumer Confidence Report	0.6	3/3/2015	Oahu	\$195	\$240	\$490
How to Complete a Consumer Confidence Report	0.6	3/4/2015	Kona	\$195	\$240	\$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: hrwaoffice@hawaiiirwa.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 our office @ 808-495-0264 or hrwaoffice@hawaiiirwa.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.

Participants must attend entire class to qualify for Hawai'i Water Operator Board of Certification approved CEUs!! HRWA does not guarantee the attendee CEUs, but only offers CEUs that have been approved by the Hawai'i Water Operators Board of Certification.



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



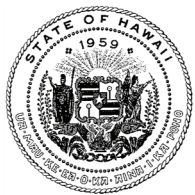


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The mission of the Safe Drinking Water Branch of the Department of Health is to safeguard public health by protecting Hawaii's drinking water sources (surface water and groundwater) from contamination and assure that owners and operators of public 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!

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

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!

GOOD LUCK, CRAIG

Craig Watanabe, an Engineer, left the SDWB on November 5, 2014. We wish him the best in his future endeavors and will definitely miss him. For all assistance with surface water treatment rule and disinfection byproducts rule issues, please contact Mike Miyahira at 808-586-4258.