

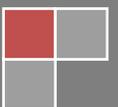
Highlights – 2012 Environmental Health Management Report



Environmental Health Administration



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



Department of Health



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The Department of Health (DOH), Environmental Health Administration, 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, products we use, and safely processing the waste we create. The administration of 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 environmental Federal statutes. The Administration also works closely with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Together with these Federal partners, we ensure we meet national standards, while also focusing on issues unique to our islands.

This document provides a summary of highlights from the 2012 Environmental Health Management Report, which can be found in its entirety at: www.hawaii.gov/health/epo

The Department of Health Strategic Plan: Five Foundations for Healthy Generations

In 2011, the DOH enacted a strategic plan to align our foundational principles of equity, health promotion and prevention, emergency preparedness, sustainability, and quality and service excellence. These principles guide all of our policies, protocols, programs, and new initiatives. Under **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. Under **Foundation 2, Health Promotion & Disease Prevention**, we increased the adoption of evidence-based interventions to improve health through our State Laboratories Division. Under **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. Under **Foundation 4, Clean & Sustainable Environments**, we improved environmental protection through programs in our Environmental Management Division, improved consumer health through programs in our Environmental Health Services Division, and improved industry's ability to protect the environment through our Compliance Assistance Office and Environmental Planning Office. Finally, under **Foundation 5, Quality & Service Excellence**, we worked toward providing timely, accurate, useful and clear public health information through the initiatives of the Environmental Information Manager.



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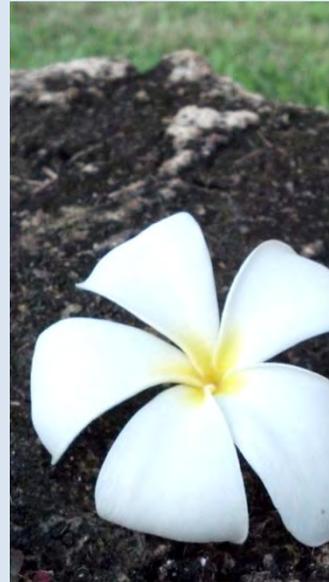
- Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response
- Environmental Resources
- Environmental Planning
- Compliance Assistance
- Environmental Information



In 2012,¹ the Administration drafted five 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, as well as better addressing emerging issues such as climate change, E-waste,

Japan tsunami marine debris, and the need for greater government transparency.

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



Department of Health: <http://hawaii.gov/health/>

¹ This Highlights Report typically refers to the 2012 State fiscal year (July 2011 to June 2012).

Department of Health News Releases:

<http://hawaii.gov/health/about/pr/index.html>

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 a combination of permit issuance, monitoring, enforcement, funding of polluted runoff control projects, and public education.



In 2012, the branch:

- Provided funds to develop watershed plans; Reminded residents to take precautions during flood related cleanups;
- Conducted over 3,000 tests on ocean water samples;
- Tracked the number of impaired coastal waters, the total number of days of shoreline (water quality) postings, and the number of impaired streams; and Settled the Maili`ili Stream enforcement case (one of the largest and most controversial water pollution cases in Hawaii's history, for a total value of \$1.4 million).



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 programs of the branch are administered by its four sections: Engineering, Enforcement, Monitoring, and Underground Injection Control and Groundwater Protection.



In 2012, the branch:

- Conducted tests to ensure safe drinking water systems;
- Issued 24 drinking water violation letters;
- Tracked the percentage of the State population that is served drinking water in compliance with maximum contaminant levels;
- 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.

The **Wastewater Branch** administers the statewide engineering and financial functions relating to water pollution control, the municipal and private wastewater treatment works program, the individual wastewater systems program, and the water pollution control revolving fund program. The branch consists of three sections: Planning and Design, Construction and Operations, and Grants Management. The various program activities include: The review and approval of all new wastewater systems; Monitoring of all existing wastewater systems; Implementation of the planning, design and construction of several major wastewater treatment works projects; Preparation of grant awards, loan agreements, engineering and scientific contracts; Final project and operation and maintenance inspection reports; Audit resolutions; and tracking the repayment of loans. In 2012, the branch: Encouraged the proper and increased reuse of wastewater; Conducted 296 wastewater inspections; Inspected over 60 wastewater treatment plants; Received and responded to 124 wastewater complaints; Issued 106 wastewater related warning notices; Issued 44 wastewater field citations; and Tracked the number and percentage of wastewater treatment plants in compliance with State laws.

Table 1: Days of Shoreline Postings

State FY	Total
2009	310
2010	403
2011	529

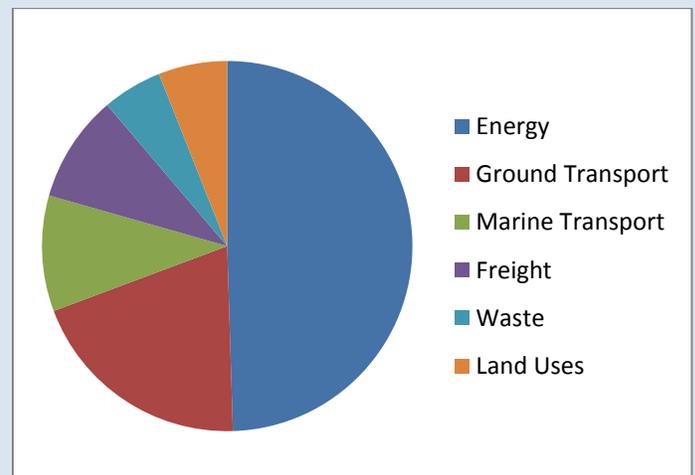


The **Clean Air Branch** is responsible for air pollution control in the State. The primary services are provided by its three sections: Engineering, Monitoring, and Enforcement. These sections conduct engineering analysis and permitting, perform monitoring and investigations, and enforce Federal and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



In 2012, the branch: Issued approximately 200 agricultural burning permits and more than 75 air permits; Monitored ambient levels of eight air pollutants, including the components of vog; Completed more than 1,400 air related inspections and complaint investigations; Issued over 70 air-related warning notices; Carried out more than twelve formal enforcement actions; Amended Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 11-60.1 to restrict open burning on all islands; and Proposed amendments to HAR to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions 1990-2010



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 insure environmentally sound and cost-effective management of all solid and hazardous waste generated within the State. The branch promotes pollution prevention and waste minimization, and the development of proactive partnerships with waste generators and the regulated community.



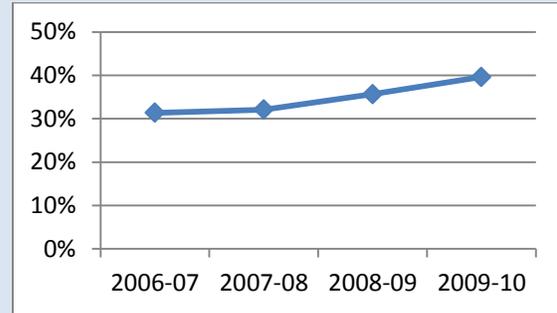
The branch assists in the prevention of releases and the threat of release of petroleum, hazardous substances, and other contaminants. The branch consists of the Office of Solid Waste Management, Hazardous Waste Section, Underground Storage Tank Section, and the following programs: Hawai'i Electronic Device Recycling, Hi-5 Deposit Beverage Container (DBC) Recycling, and Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization.

In 2012, the branch: Monitored for oil and chemical releases; Assisted in cleanups of leaking underground storage tanks, and in the proper disposal of solid waste; Encouraged the recycling of solid waste; Conducted over 800 waste related inspections; Responded to over 200 complaints; Issued over 160 waste warning notices; Issued 34 waste field citations; Proposed E-waste

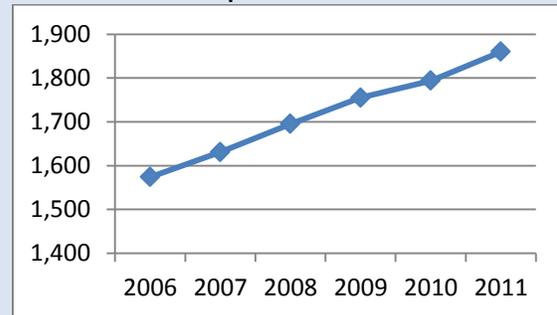


recycling legislation; Development an E-waste taskforce; and Tracked the amount of hazardous waste generated, and several key solid waste indicators including the amount of solid waste recycled, the number of cleanups, and the Hi-5 DBC redemption rate.

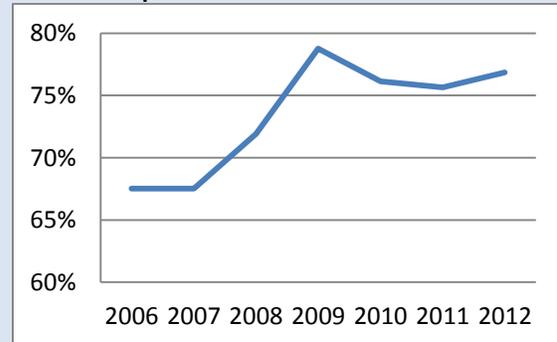
Percent of Solid Waste Diverted



Cumulative Clean-ups of LUST



DBC Redemption Rate



Enforcement actions included: Charles Lee and PRC Corporations, for solid waste violations; Kapunakea Partners, for underground storage tank violations; and Atlas Recycling Centers, for deposit beverage container violations.

Environmental Health Services Division

The **Food and Drug Branch** administers the statewide Food and Drug 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 2012, the branch: Advised consumers to avoid eating fresh or frozen clams, oysters or mussels imported from Korea due to possible contamination unsafe for human consumption; Drafted new pesticide rules to ensure community safety; Re-established the shellfish sampling and testing program; Settled an enforcement case with Koyo USA Corporation for a total of \$2 million for unapproved bottled water manufacturing practices; Ordered a Leeward farm to cease sale of basil due to a pesticide violation; and Ordered a local farm to cease sale of green onions due to a pesticide violation.



The **Sanitation Branch** administers State sanitation laws in the areas of inspection and enforcement; Permit and license issuance; Licensing of professionals, and education. The branch also reviews and approves building plans for newly constructed or renovated food establishments and public swimming pools. The branch conducts

educational classes for the public. Due to recent organizational changes, the branch now includes a vector control section.

In 2012, the branch:

- Issued 4,800 permit renewals, 658 new permits, 3,254 temporary food permits, and conducted 563 building plan reviews, for food establishments; Developed an innovative web-based restaurant inspection system to more efficiently ensure a safe food industry;
- Suspended a permit for Kanemitsu Bakery for unsanitary conditions; and
- Discovered a rare mosquito at Honolulu Airport and quarantined it.

The Indoor and Radiological Health Branch

conducts assessment, develops policy, and provides assurance in the fields of community noise control, radiation control, mechanical ventilation, indoor air quality, asbestos abatement, and lead-based paint abatement. The branch also conducts consultative services, works toward building partnerships, and participates in programs for public outreach and education. Its regulatory functions include permit issuance, monitoring, and enforcement, and its programs include: Community Noise, Radiation Control, Air-Conditioning/Ventilation, Asbestos, Lead-Based Paint, and Indoor Air Quality.

In 2012, the branch:

- Regularly conducted shoreline surveillance and radiological tests to ensure marine debris was not hazardous;
- Partnered with NOAA to provide training and detection equipment for debris and shoreline monitoring for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands;
- Provided radiation training to NOAA and non-profit volunteer beach cleanup groups as requested; and
- Issued a Notice of Violation and Order against Professional Training Hawaii, LLC, for asbestos training and certification violations.

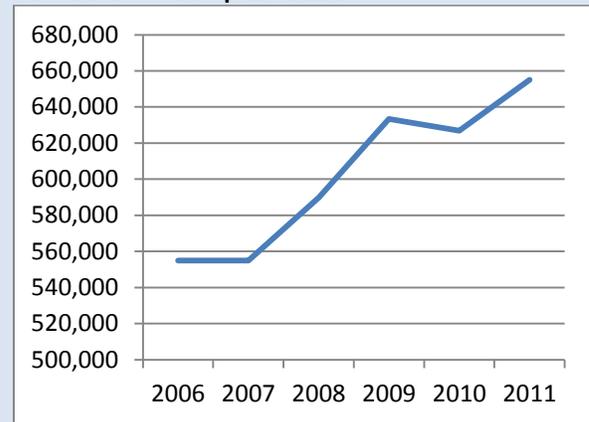
State Laboratories Division

The **State Laboratories Division** provides a wide range of public health and environmental analytical services as well as some oversight of community laboratory quality. They test 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 produces data that ensures 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 2012, the division:

- Monitored for food and water-borne diseases;
- Regularly tested for contaminated drinking water, ocean water, air quality, and improperly used pesticides and herbicides;
- Analyzed over 3,000 ocean water samples (calendar year 2011);
- Conducted 655,000 tests of air samples;
- Tested 5,000 drinking water samples;
- Analyzed 40,000 human clinical or surveillance specimens;
- Tested for *Salmonella*, Avian Influenza, Norovirus, and whooping cough, mercury and arsenic;
- Detected an influenza A (H3N2) variant in a Maui resident;
- Provided influenza test support for the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands;
- Continued surveillance for respiratory pathogens;
- 600 food products (now includes shellfish),
- Tested fish and fish feed for mercury and selenium; and
- Analyzed Pacific blue marlin fish jerky for mercury;
- Conducted shellfish water and shellfish meat analyses; and
- Created or improved electronic data reporting to the public, CDC, EPA, and community laboratories.

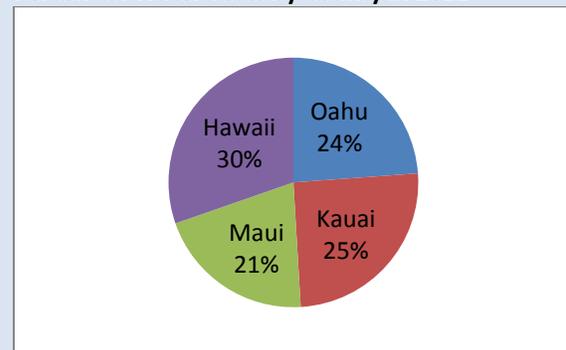
Number of Air Samples Tested



In 2012, accomplishments included:

- The division Director being elected to the Association of Public Health Laboratories Board of Directors;
- An award to the Chemical Response Laboratory (which will allow development of advanced methods for analyzing mercury accumulation in humans and foods);
- The Virology Laboratory detection of the 18th case of a rare swine influenza A (H3N2) variant in a Maui resident;
- The Bacteriology Laboratory found the only two cases of high level azithromycin drug resistant gonorrhea in the United States reported to date;
- USFDA determined conformity of the Shellfish laboratory (according to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program) with the capabilities to test water and meats from the shellfish industry; and Remained prepared to test for bioterrorism agents like anthrax and plague if needed.

Percent of Water Tests by County in 2011



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 relating to releases, or threats of releases of hazardous substances. When a contaminated site is discovered and confirmed, immediate actions are taken to ensure public safety.



In 2012, the office:

- Monitored over 400 known contaminated sites in Hawaii;
- Assisted the EPA in performing a Superfund cleanup removal of over 814 tons of contaminated soil from a site that was once a pesticide mixing and storage area at the former Kilauea Sugar Mill in Kauai; and
- Tracked several indicators including an inventory of toxic releases, their disposal, and oil and chemical releases.

The **Environmental Resources Office** provides administrative guidance and support to all of the Administrations programs in budget, fiscal, and personnel areas. The office manages grants and State Revolving Fund loans, and tracks enforcement penalty payments. In calendar year 2011, the office managed a total of 27 environmental health grants.

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

In calendar year 2012, the office:

- Reviewed 229 land use documents;
- Worked with environmental justice staff from the EPA to provide funds to non-profit community organizations;
- Successfully applied for a NOAA marine debris removal grant;
- Participated in the State Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) initiative;
- 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 in understanding and complying with environmental regulations administered by the Department of Health. Services are confidential, free of charge, and provide a point of access to government. This facilitates the exchange of information and communication. The office is staffed by an Environmental Ombudsman. As a neutral party and mediator, the office can help by investigating and resolving disputes, and increasing the understanding of small business concerns within the Department of Health and other government agencies.

In 2012, the office:

- Held meetings with businesses to improve knowledge of environmental laws;
- Worked with government and business representatives to develop proposals which removed unwarranted hurdles to small businesses;
- Conducted voluntary site assessments of business compliance with applicable environmental regulations;
- Provided regulatory guides and other documents;
- Assisted businesses which have exhausted readily available dispute resolution mechanisms within the Department, or were in need of clear and accurate information; and



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

In 2012, the manager:

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

State of Hawaii



'A New Day in Hawai'i Plan'

www.governor.hawaii.gov/a-new-day-in-hawaii-plan/



Hawai'i State Department of Health



Strategic Plan, FY 2011-2014

www.hawaii.gov/health/opppd/strategicplan

The Five Foundations for Healthy Generations

1. Health Equity
2. Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
3. Emergency Response & Preparedness
4. Clean & Sustainable Environments
5. Quality & Service Excellence

2012

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