Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office (HEER Office)

Programs & Responsibilities
Legal Authorities

- Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 128D - Hawaii Environmental Response Law
- Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Title 11, Chapter 451 – Hawaii State Contingency Plan (SCP)
- HRS Chapter 508C – Uniform Environmental Covenants Act (UECA)
- HRS Chapter 128E – Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (HEPCRA)
- HAR 11-452 - Requirements for the Decontamination and Cleanup of Methamphetamine Manufacturing Sites
Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response Office (HEER Office)

Emergency Preparedness & Response (EP&R) Section
- Responses to emergency releases of hazardous materials
- Emergency preparedness training
- Technical assistance to federal, state and county agencies for emergency responses
- Collection and distribution of community right-to-know hazardous substance information and fees

Site Discovery, Assessment & Remediation (SDAR) Section
- Site Discovery Program
- State Sites Program
- Fast Track Cleanup
- Brownfields Program
- Voluntary Response Program
- DoD State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) Program

Hazard Evaluation Section
- Environmental Hazard Evaluation
- Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment
- Toxicological assessments of chemical hazards
- Information on chemical health effects to public
- Evaluation of environment-related illness and injury reporting
- Special studies related to chemical hazards
HEER Responsibilities

- Emergency Response
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) Section

- Nonemergency/long-term environmental Management
  - Site Discovery, Assessment, and Remediation (SDAR) Section
  - Hazard Evaluation Sections
  - Planning Section
EP&R SECTION

- Emergency preparedness training
- Strengthen State’s ability to respond to hazardous substance release emergencies
- Assist the Hawai`i State Emergency Response Commission (HSERC) and the Local (county level) Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)
- Tier II reporting
- Release response
What is a Reportable Release?

- Potentially reportable substances:
  - Oil
  - Ignitable, corrosive, reactive, or toxic
  - “Listed elements, compounds, and hazardous substances”
- Section 2D of the HEER TGM

When in doubt REPORT IT!!!
How Do I Report a Release?

- Report releases immediately
- Report release via telephone or in person.
- Information to provide [http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/spill.html](http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/spill.html)
- Written follow-up notification within 30 days
Presumptive Releases

- Unexpected sample results
- “Presumptive” release doesn’t require reporting as above, but
- Property owner/developer has an obligation to protect human health and ecology
Before You Dig
Before You Dig

HEER Public Record:
http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/publicrecords.html

SHWB Leaking USTs:
http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/waste/ust/data.html
HAZARD EVALUATION SECTION

- Establish acceptable action levels for contaminants
- Assess potential hazards to human health and the environment
- Assist the public with information concerning health effects of chemicals
- Environmental Hazard Evaluations

http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/ea12005.html
SDAR SECTION

- Site Discovery
- Department of Defense State Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA)
- State Sites
  - Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs
  - Fast Track Cleanup (FTC)
  - Voluntary Response Program (VRP)
  - Brownfields
Fast Track Cleanup Program

- Streamlined and expedited closure of sites
- Agreement between the State and participant
- Eligibility
  - Known or suspected spills or releases
  - Low or Medium priority site
  - No public outreach needs
  - Can be at any phase of investigation/cleanup
  - Contamination not likely to cross property boundaries
  - Not listed/proposed to be listed on NPL
  - No CERCLA orders/enforcement actions

http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/fasttrack.html
Voluntary Response Program

- Advantage – Liability Relief
- Goals include:
  - Stimulate socioeconomic improvements
  - Allow appropriate development to proceed
- Fees
- Eligibility
  - Property Owner
  - Willing and Financially Able
  - Prospective Purchaser (liability relief)

- [http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/voluntaryresponseprogram.html](http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/hazard/voluntaryresponseprogram.html)
Types of Brownfields Grants

- Assessment
  - Funding to assess, inventory, characterize
  - Funding for planning and community involvement
  - Community-wide or site-specific
- Cleanup
  - Funding for cleanup activities
  - Site-specific
- Revolving Loan Fund
  - Funding for assessment and/or cleanup activities
  - Community-wide

http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/grant_info/index.htm
More Benefits for Brownfields

- Targeted Brownfields Assessments
  - Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) or Phase II ESA
  - For property under consideration for development

- Brownfields Tax Incentives
  - Tax deduction of cleanup costs the year they were incurred
  - Expires December 2011
Questions?