

SDWB Staff Recognized with DOH Sustained Superior Performance Award

On July 18, 2008 at the Hawaii Department of Health's 2008 Incentive and Service Awards Ceremony held at the State Capitol Auditorium, David Kawahara, Steven Matsuda, and Theresa Takiue of the Safe Drinking Water Branch's Monitoring Section were among the Department of Health employees presented with a Sustained Superior Performance Award.



David was presented this award based on his work performance of his duties which include preparing monitoring schedules and forms, conducting drinking water monitoring, and drinking water sample tracking.

Over the years, David has gained extensive knowledge of drinking water requirements and has utilize that to initiate and develop a database system that determines and manages a water system's compliance sampling requirements and schedule for the three (3) year monitoring compliance period. In addition, he has also initiated the creation/development of programs which

will allow (1) monitoring staff to electronically enter and track samples that have been collected and submitted to the laboratory for analyses, and (2) samplers to access and download drinking water sampling forms electronically via the Internet. These systems have been instrumental in improving the drinking water monitoring program by being capable of better informing water systems of their monitoring requirements, making sampling forms/documents more readily accessible to the water systems, and allows for better tracking of samples. David's work has been key to the success of our monitoring program and he is most deserving of the Sustained Superior Performance Award.

Steven was presented this award based on his work performance of his duties which include conducting drinking water monitoring, drinking water sample tracking, and data management activities. In addition to monitoring section activities that he is assigned, Steven has made improvements to our monitoring program by improving the working relationship of staff and with the water systems and the development of new data handling processes/systems.

Through Steven's efforts, drinking water - chemical monitoring results are no longer sent to the water systems through paper copies but electronically. Water systems now receive their monitoring data via email, resulting in a significant reduction in paper copies, elimination of redundant filing of copies and the potential for missing file copies, and has made data dissemination more efficient and consistent.

These activities have been instrumental in improving the drinking water monitoring program and Steven's work has been key to the success of our monitoring program and he is most deserving of the Sustained Superior Performance Award.



Theresa was presented this award based on the work performance of her duties which include conducting drinking water monitoring, reviewing of plans, responding to investigations and complaints, and dealing with the public.

Not being afraid to use new methods and technology to accomplish her work has resulted in her being one of the first Neighbor Island staff in the Safe Drinking Water Branch to utilize Geographic Information System (GIS) technology in her work. Using GIS to assist in plan

reviews have cut down on the time required to complete each review. Additional, her willingness to work hard and learn new things have lead to many of the SDWB's monitoring program improvement activities being tested in her work area and the conducting of several special monitoring studies in East Hawaii.

Through her own initiative, she has made major efforts to conduct public education and outreach activities to further the awareness of safe drinking water. Over the past years, Ms. Takiue has participated in the Annual Hawaii County Fair (to disseminate drinking water information), Kamehameha Schools' Career Shadowing Program (in working with high school students interested in water quality careers), and through school presentations and contact with students and teachers. Ms. Takiue is currently working with the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Summer Enrichment Program in educating elementary school students about water quality issues.

Finally, her responsiveness to investigations and complaints and being cordial and thorough when dealing with these matters, as well as her willingness to volunteer and participate in other DOH activities such as the "statewide school immunization program" are further examples that exemplifies her commitment to the true meaning of "public service." She is most deserving of the Sustained Superior Performance Award.

PAST SDWB STAFF WHO HAVE RECEIVED DOH PERFORMANCE AWARDS

Past awardees of the Sustained Superior Performance Award from the Safe Drinking Water Branch include:

- ★ Thomas Arizumi, (DOH Manager of the Year)
(currently Environmental Management Division Chief)
- ★ Gail Masaki, Secretary, Clerical Section
- ★ Lorraine Asano, Clerk-Stenographer, Clerical Section (retired)
- ★ Melvin Hamano, Engineer, Compliance Section
- ★ Donald Yasutake, Engineer, Engineering Section
- ★ Chauncey Hew, Geologist, Groundwater Pollution Control Section
- ★ Norris Uehara, Geologist, Groundwater Pollution Control Section
- ★ Harold Eichelberger, Environmental Health Specialist, Kauai (retired)
- ★ David Higa, Environmental Health Specialist, Monitoring Section
(retired from the Department of Land and Natural Resources -
Commission on Water Resources Management)
- ★ Daniel Chang, Environmental Health Specialist, Monitoring Section





Operator Certification

July WTPO Exam Passing Rate Increases

The second Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) certification exam of 2008 was held in July on Maui and the Big Island, both Kona and Hilo. Ten operators sat for the exam, and five passed for a passing rate of 50%. The passing rate increased over the 25% passing rate of the

January 2008 exam. The breakdown by grade is shown in the table below.

Examinees who will be retaking the exam in the future are encouraged to study from the specified reference material given in the listing by the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC). Reference

material may be borrowed from the new Operator Library. See below for details.

Congratulations to all operators who passed!

THE BOARD

The next Board Meeting is November 25, 2008.

Submit your requests in time for review.

Congratulations!

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	2	6	33%
2	2	2	100%
4	1	2	50%
Total	5	10	50%

SHORT ON CEUs?

Check out our website for an already approved course listing. A variety of courses are available including quick new online courses.

2008 Renewal Deadline Coming Up

Check your DSO or WTPO certification expiration date. Renewal forms for 2008 renewals were mailed in January 2008. A second, final reminder will be mailed in September 2008.

If your certification expires on 11/30/2008, submit your renewal form and fee as soon as possible.

If you need more CEUs to

renew, submit your CEU Request Forms as soon as possible for the Board to review. The last Board meeting prior to the 2008 expiration is on 11/25/08.

After 12/31/08, the renewal fee doubles. After 11/30/09, you will not be able to renew and will need to re-take the exam to become certified again.

NEW

Operator Library

- ◆ Exam reference books may be borrowed from the new Operator Library.
- ◆ Reference books are specified by ABC, writer of the DSO & WTPO exams. Listing is available on our website and on the next page.
- ◆ Pick-up/return locations are on Oahu, Maui, Kona & Hilo. Kauai location is coming soon.
- ◆ Operators must contact Jodi Yamami first for book availability.
- ◆ A Borrowing Agreement will be emailed to the operator.
- ◆ A signed Borrowing Agreement must be submitted at the pick-up location in exchange for book.
- ◆ Borrowed books are due back in 2 weeks.

Exam Dates

Exam	Apps. Due	Exam Date
DSO	7/28/08	10/28/08
WTPO	10/27/08	1/27/09
DSO	1/28/09	4/28/09
WTPO	4/28/09	7/28/09

NRWA Training

There are only two more sessions of the free NRWA Operator Certification Training available in September. See next page for details.

Contact Us

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

We're on the Web!

For more information on operator certification requirements, forms & approved CEUs go to:
<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/sdwb/socert/operatorcert.html>

National Rural Water Association (NRWA) DSO & WTPO Certification Training



OAHU	KAUAI	MOLOKAI	MAUI	HILO	KONA
Monday 9/8/08	Wednesday 9/10/08	Friday 9/12/08	Monday 9/15/08	Tuesday 9/16/08	Thursday 9/18/08

Math II by Matt Holmes 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Advanced equations. Discussion of water related constants. Solving word problems involving areas, volumes, pumping rates, feed rates, and other related water issues will be a major part of this course. Practical application of math and the equations learned through this course will be stressed.

Disaster Preparedness by Belinda Green 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm This class will be devoted to the discussion of how to plan for and handle emergencies that may befall a water system. The impacts of hurricanes, tornadoes, flood, fire, power outage, and other emergencies will be discussed. How to develop an Emergency Response Plan will be discussed. Working with local, state, and federal agencies during and following an emergency will be reviewed.

OAHU - State Laboratories Division Auditorium, 2725 Waimano Home Rd., Pearl City, Oahu, 96782

KAUAI - Department of Agriculture Conference Room, 4398A Pualoke St., Lihue, Kauai, 96766

MOLOKAI - Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Kulana Oihi Bldg., 600 Maunaloa Hwy., Kaunakakai, Molokai, 96748

MAUI - State Building Conference Room B, 54 High St., Wailuku, Maui, 96793

HILO - Environmental Health Services Facility Conference Room, 1582 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo, Hawaii, 96720

KONA - Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, 73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy., Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

OPERATOR LIBRARY



LISTING OF REFERENCE BOOKS

Reference Book	Manufacturer	Exam Category
Math for Distribution System Operators	AWWA	DSO
Small Water System Operation & Maintenance	CSUS	DSO
Water Distribution Operator Training Handbook	AWWA	DSO
Water Distribution System Operation & Maintenance	CSUS	DSO
Basic Science Concepts & Applications	AWWA	DSO & WTPO
Manage for Success	CSUS	DSO & WTPO
Utility Management	CSUS	DSO & WTPO
Water Quality	AWWA	DSO & WTPO
Water System Security: A Field Guide	AWWA	DSO & WTPO
Water Transmission & Distribution	AWWA	DSO & WTPO
Water Treatment Plant Operation, Volume I	CSUS	DSO & WTPO
Water Treatment Plant Operation, Volume II	CSUS	DSO & WTPO
Water Quality & Treatment	AWWA	WTPO
Water Sources	AWWA	WTPO
Water Treatment	AWWA	WTPO


Pick-Up & Return Locations

Oahu - 919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308, Honolulu

Maui - 54 High St., Room 300, Wailuku

Hilo - 1582 Kamehameha Ave., Hilo

Kona - 79-1020 Haukapila St., Room 110, Kealahou

 Kauai - 3040 Umi St., Lihue

Contact Jodi Yamami for availability & borrowing instructions.

Phone: 808-586-4263

Fax: 808-586-4351

Email: jodi.yamami@doh.hawaii.gov

AWWA ACE08 - Pipe Tapping Contest - Big Island Men's Team

This year's men's representative at the AWWA ACE08 in Atlanta, Georgia was the County of Hawaii Department of Water Team. They were among the 22 mens teams that competed in this year's contest. Congratulations to Roy Miyasaki, Theodore Lindsey, and Norris Gonsalves, and coach Billy Yamamoto for representing Hawaii well!!



COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION PLAN

On August 28, 2008, the staff of the Commission on Water Resource Management submitted a recommendation to adopt the updated Water Resource Protection Plan (WRPP), at the Commission's meeting on Oahu. The updated Water Resource Protection Plan (WRPP) is available in the Commission on Water Resource Management's website at http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/cwrmp/planing_wrpp.htm

The WRPP is one of the five components of the Hawaii Water Plan. The other component plans are the Water Quality Plan, State Water Projects Plan, Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan, and County Water Use and Development Plans. The other four component plan are to be prepared by other agencies, as specified in the State Water Code. The Hawaii Department of Health is responsible for preparing the Water Quality Plan.

SDWB TO PARTICIPATE IN OUTREACH EVENTS

On September 6, 2008, the Safe Drinking Water Branch will be participating with the Clean Water Branch in the September Splash event being held by the Family Club of Nana's House, a Child and Family Service Program. This event will be held from 10:00am - 2:00 pm at Lucy Wright Park in Waimea, Kauai. The theme for the event is "Water, a Resource to be Used, Conserved and Enjoyed!". September Splash will highlight water use and conservation, safety at the beach or in the water.

The Department of Health's Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water Programs will be represented with displays, demonstrations, and/or activities on water as well as information for participants. Poster and prizes will be given away to children who actively participate. It will be a great booth for all students/children interested in science.

SDWB COMPLETE MORE OUTREACH EVENTS

On July 7, 2008, Theresa Takiue and Belia Rivera-Poy made a presentation to Mrs. Malia Perry's 2nd grade class at Kamehameha School - Big Island.



WEST & EAST HAWAII CHLORINE PROFICIENCY TESTING

The State Department of Health will be conducting its annual chlorine proficiency testing for West and East Hawaii water systems. The schedule is as follows:

KONA:

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

Place: Department of Water Supply Kona Baseyard
At Tanaka Quarry in Keauhou Mauka

Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

WAIMEA:

DATE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2008

Place: Department of Water Supply South Kohala Baseyard
Opelu Road

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

HILO:

DATE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2008

Place: Department of Water Supply
Operations Conference Room
889 Leilani Street, before Hilo Landfill

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

All purveyors performing chlorine testing of drinking water encouraged to participate in this annual event.

Please bring your own chlorine test kit (appropriate testing reagent or test packets, calibrated functioning colorimeters or color wheels, etc.).

Any questions can be referred to Belia Rivera-Poy at (808) 974-4245.

On the Spot:

<i>SDWB Staff Recognized with DOH Sustained Superior Performance Awards.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Past SDWB Staff Who Have Received Sustained Superior Performance Awards.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Operator Certification Examination Results</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>NRWA Operator Training</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>SDWB Opens Reference Library for Operators.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>AWWA ACE08 - Pipe Tapping Contest - Big Island Men's Team.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>CWRM - Water Resource Protection Plan</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>SDWB to Participate in Outreach Events</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>SDWB Complete More Outreach Events</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>West & East Hawaii Chlorine Proficiency Testing</i>	<i>7</i>

Please send your suggestions, ideas, questions or comments to:

THE WATER SPOT 2008
Safe Drinking Water Branch
State Department of Health
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Fax us at (808) 586-4351,
Attn: "THE WATER SPOT 2008"

SDWB WEB SITE:
<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/sdwb>



LINDA LINGLE
Governor of Hawaii

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
Director of Health

LAURENCE K. LAU
Deputy Director for
Environmental Health

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.

The Water Spot 2008 (August 2008)
Safe Drinking Water Branch
Environmental Management Division
Hawai'i Department of Health
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 308
Honolulu HI 96814

