

THE WATER SPOT

HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH • SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH

SYMPHONIES & OVERTURES

I am inspired by the music of the Kaimuki Middle School Symphonic Winds ([Link](#)) and Hawaii Youth Symphony ([Link](#)). A symphony cannot be enjoyed without many participants - the audience, musicians, private music teachers, support organizations, sponsors, parents, and instrument makers. The musicians perform for the audience while under the direction of the conductor. Each musician plays an important part in the overall symphony. The percussion section maintains the tempo of the piece while the woodwinds, brass, and strings provide the melodies and harmonies.

Likewise, the SDWB Symphony consists of many participants – the consumers; water system owners, board members, and operators; engineering and environmental consultants; technical assistance providers; well drillers; Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 and Headquarters; professional organizations; many County, State, and Federal Government agencies; and Department of Health-SDWB, Environmental Management Division, Environmental Resources Office and Water Revolving Fund Staff, Environmental Information Management team, Environmental Planning Office, Administrative Services Office, and Human Resources Office.

Each organization participates in the SDWB mission 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. The SDWB technical sections carry out the Safe Drinking Water Program, Public Water System Supervision, Underground Injection Control Program, Groundwater Protection Program; and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) while the administrative section maintains the rhythm of SDWB.

Highlights of our 2013 Symphony

- ♪ Sample Collection and Reservation System Online
- ♪ Unliquidated Obligations Under Microscope
- ♪ Office of the Inspector General conducted inspection of Hawaii DWSRF Program
- ♪ Retirement of Chauncey Hew in April, Welcome to Bob Whittier in June, and Transfer of Shirley Mariano in December

2014 Overture

- ♪ Implementing the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act of 2011 effective on January 4, 2014
- ♪ Filling vacant positions
- ♪ Continuing Action to Reduce Unliquidated Obligations
- ♪ Initiating the Management Study and Developing the Loan and Grant Tracking System
- ♪ Reorganizing the SDWB Webpages
- ♪ Conducting the 2nd Annual Joint State Water Conference in August
- ♪ Preparing for the move to Waimano Ridge in 2015

The conductor relies on the principal musicians to lead their respective sections. Our SDWB symphonies continue to be melodious because of the dedication of our SDWB Supervisors, Mike, Ann, Dan, Norris, and Mary, and the entire SDWB orchestra. We are constantly rehearsing to become better at harmonizing the music from each of our sections.

Please send your critique of our symphonies to me so that we may provide the tunes that you enjoy (suggestions for improvement of SDWB processes). We are striving to create SDWB Overtures in 2014 which are as beautiful as those performed by our young musicians. Happy Harmonious New Year!

Joanna Seto, Chief, Safe Drinking Water Branch

NEW LEAD-FREE REQUIREMENTS - JANUARY 4

The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act (RLDWA) was enacted by Congress to amend Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) respecting the use and introduction into commerce of lead pipes, plumbing fittings or fixtures, solder and flux. The effective date of these changes is January 4, 2014.

The RLDWA redefines lead free to

- ◆ Lower the maximum lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products such as pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and fixtures from 8.0% to a weighted average of 0.25%;
- ◆ Establish a statutory method for the calculation of lead content; and
- ◆ Eliminate the requirement that lead free products be in compliance with voluntary standards established in accordance with SDWA 1417(e) for leaching of lead from new plumbing fittings and fixtures.

The RLDWA also creates exemptions in SDWA Section 1417(a)(4) from the prohibitions on the use or introduction into commerce for:

- ◆ “pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings or fixtures, including backflow preventers, that are used exclusively for nonpotable services such as manufacturing, industrial processing, irrigation, outdoor watering, or any other uses where the water is not anticipated to be used for human consumption;” (SDWA 1417(a)(4)(A))
- ◆ “toilets, bidets, urinals, fill valves, flushometer valves, tub fillers, fire hydrants, shower valves, service saddles, or water distribution main gate valves that are 2 inches in diameter or larger.” (SDWA 1417(a)(4)(B))

What does this mean for drinking water purveyors?

- ◆ All pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and fixtures installed on or after 1/4/14 must meet the new lead-free requirements, including replacements parts: pipes, fittings or fixtures.
- ◆ The temporary removal or pipes, fittings or fixtures for repairs, storage, and/or calibration and reinstallation to their original location would not trigger the new lead free requirements.
- ◆ If you are repairing pipes, fittings or fixtures after 1/4/14, you must use new pipe, fittings or fixtures meeting the new definition of lead free.

What do I do if I have spare materials or parts in my baseyard that doesn't meet the new definition of lead free?

You may not install these materials in your drinking water system after 1/4/14, nor may you sell or give away these materials for use in a potable water system or plumbing supply. You may use them to repair irrigation or other non-potable water systems or plumbing supplies.

Are fire hydrants exempt from the lead free requirements?

Yes, the Community Fire Safety Act of 2013 was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on 12/2/13 and the U.S. Senate on 12/17/13. Once signed into law by President Obama, fire hydrants would be exempt from the lead free requirements of section 1417(a).

The RLDWA can be found at [Link](#) and the EPA has issued Frequently Asked Questions at [Link](#). Please contact Jennifer Nikaido at jennifer.nikaido@doh.hawaii.gov if you have questions.

QUARTERLY CALENDAR

◆ **1/2 Operations & Emergency Plan Due**
Surface Water Systems

◆ **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

◆ **1/22 DSO Applications Due**
April 2014 Examinees

◆ **1/27-28 WTPO Exam**
Maui, Kona, Oahu, & Hilo

◆ **2/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems

◆ **2/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests

◆ **2/21 DSO Exam Registrations Due**
April 2014 Examinees

◆ **2/25 Board of Certification Meeting**
SDWB Honolulu, 10:00 am

◆ **3/10 CT Report Due**
Surface Water Systems

◆ **3/10 TCR Report Due**
Systems who complete their own tests

JANUARY 2014

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

FEBRUARY 2014

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 HOLIDAY	18	19	20	21 DSO Exam Registrations Due	22
23	24	25 Board of Certification Meeting	26	27	28	1

MARCH 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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					

86% GRADE 1 PASS RATE

The October Distribution System Operator (DSO) examination was held at five locations across the state: Maui, Oahu, Kona, Hilo, and Kauai. The results were similar to last July's results with the overall DSO exam pass rate at 44%. The Grade 1 examinees had an excellent pass rate of 86% which is the highest ever recorded for that grade level. The table to the right provides a breakdown by grade.

Grade	Passed	Examinees	Passing Rate
1	12	14	86%
2	2	9	22%
3	0	3	0%
4	1	8	13%
Total	15	34	44%

Congratulations to those who passed the exam!

For those who would like to re-take the exam, please review your Individual Mastery Report which provides information on the areas you need to improve upon. Reference books are available to borrow from the Operator Library to help you study. Math problems were again the number one area in need of improvement. Time should be spent reviewing the Math Study Guide provided in the examination notification letters sent to all examinees. You should also review the latest Formula/Conversion Table copyright 2013.

CEU Training Program for Water System Operators

See next page for Course Listing

HRWA
808-495-0264



hrwaoffice@hawaiiirwa.org

If you would like to re-take the DSO exam, the next scheduled exam will be in April 2014. The due date for exam registration and payment is February 21, 2014. Late registration and payment will not be accepted. Examinees registering late will be scheduled for the subsequent exam. There will be no exceptions. Please contact Jodi Yamami at 808 586-4263 for more information.

IMPORTANT EXAM UPDATES

Two important changes are being implemented to exam practices starting with the January 2014 examination.

(1) With the anticipated update to bound test books in the year 2014, exam registration due dates will not be flexible as they have been in the past. **Only those examinees who have submitted their exam registration form and fee by the due date will be allowed to sit for the exam.** The due date for exam registration forms and payment is 2 months prior to the exam date. In addition, there will be no "carrying over" of exam registration fees after the due date passes. These changes are being implemented since the Association of

Boards of Certification (ABC) will be charging for each bound test book ordered whether utilized or not.

(2) Another new Formula/Conversion Table will be introduced. The new table, with copyright date 2013, expands the section on pie wheels for various equations. This supersedes the table dated August 7, 2012. This new table will be provided for use during the examination and a copy will be sent to all registered examinees with the exam notification. The new table may also be found on the website: www.abccert.org/testing_services/formulas_conversion_tables.asp.



Hawai'i Rural Water Association



Continuing Education Training Program for Water System Operators Course Listing January 2014 through March 31, 2014

Course	CEU's	Date & Time 8:30am to 3:30pm (1 hr. lunch break)	Location	Tuition Fee		
				Public Water System Employee	HRWA Member (non-water system employee)	Non-member
Overview of Distribution System Operations	0.6	1/29/2014	Kona	\$125	\$240	\$490
Overview of Distribution System Operations	0.6	1/30/2014	Oahu	\$125	\$240	\$490
Preventative Maintenance Overview	0.6	2/19/2014	Kauai	\$125	\$240	\$490
Overview of Distribution System Operations	0.6	2/25/2014	Molokai	\$125	\$240	\$490
Overview of Distribution System Operations	0.6	2/26/2014	Maui	\$125	\$240	\$490
Distribution System Control Valves O&M & Troubleshooting	0.6	3/4/2014	Hilo	\$125	\$240	\$490
Distribution System Control Valves O&M & Troubleshooting	0.6	3/11/2014	Oahu	\$125	\$240	\$490
Distribution System Control Valves O&M & Troubleshooting	0.6	3/18/2014	Maui	\$125	\$240	\$490
Distribution System Control Valves O&M & Troubleshooting	0.6	3/25/2014	Kauai	\$125	\$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





To the American Backflow Prevention Association Hawaii Chapter, Board and Members,

Another great conference held at the Pacific Beach Hotel on November 13, 2013. Kudos to you all. As we are all aware, the fragile economy has everyone taking a second and third look at how they are spending their money. In spite of that fact your group was able to fill the house, which is a testimony to your hard work and commitment on behalf of ABPA and in support of our shared goals. Looking forward we must continue to seek out and bring forward the information and educational opportunities in support of the founding principles of ABPA. Keeping the information fresh and relevant is our biggest challenge as it is the technical session information that needs to attract our audience.

One of the topics at the Hawaii Chapter conference featured Mike Miyahira from the State who discussed the State of Hawaii's attempt to rewrite regulations pertaining to backflow prevention and cross connection control. My suggestion would be to contact Mr. Miyahira and see if it is possible for ABPA to have representation in their stake holder's group from the Hawaii Chapter and possibly ABPA National. We could then use that experience as a focus for the next conference: the state of regulations as they were, the progress that has been made within the stake holder's group, the challenges faced when changing regulations and the ultimate goals for rewriting CCC regulations for the State of Hawaii. Along with this we could add the expected test procedure review and any other standard information the chapter requires. It has been my experience that it is always a core group of individuals who drive the process. I believe that becoming involved with the State of Hawaii in the process of rewriting regulations will be an enormous benefit not only to the State but to the public water systems in the form of safer drinking water, while also helping to increase membership and participation in ABPA.

Again, great job you guys. You are awesome hosts. As usual we all felt very welcome and part of the family. Please express our gratitude to Ken Ota at Pacific Pipe for allowing us to disrupt his place of business. Ken definitely goes above and beyond to help us by providing classroom space for theory and baseyard space for hands-on practical testing and deserves the recognition.

A special thanks to Bill Wong, Gary Kong and Earl Ichimura whose assistance was indispensable. Plus the presenters from the HBWS, Guy Yasuda, Hawaii DWS, Milton Hughes-Okada, Maui DWS, Jay Nakashima, Kauai DW done by Earl Ichimura and Eric Okazaki with a case study. A super thank you to the mainland presenters, Henry Chang, Ken Ashlock and Jim Pierzycki.

Please remind everyone that ABPA has launched a new website, www.ABPA.org. It has a new look, lots of new features, as well as internal areas for chapter use. Please take a look and give us your feedback.

Looking forward to next time. Please contact me any time you want. It's never too soon to start working on the next conference. I would be happy to help in any way I can. Aloha.

Sincerely,

Mike Ahlee, ABPA Region 6 Director

bkfloguy@sbccglobal.net

619-444-7781



**HAWAII STATE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
SAFE DRINKING WATER
BRANCH**

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NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor of Hawaii

GARY GILL

Acting 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!

<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.



In memory of our Health Director Loretta Fuddy, we hope to continue her life's mission of promoting lifelong health and wellness for all the children and people of Hawaii. Her commitment to public health made a tremendous difference. She will be greatly missed by us all.