

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## **News Release**

**LINDA LINGLE** GOVERNOR

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## STATEWIDE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS TO DISCUSS SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM

HONOLULU — The Hawaii Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch, will be holding public information meetings across the State in the next several weeks to discuss its Source Water Assessment and Protection Program.

Assessment reports for Hawaii's drinking water sources have been completed and the Safe Drinking Water Branch is scheduling a series of public information meetings to:

- (1) Present the assessment process and report components;
- (2) Provide information on access and security of the reports;
- (3) Activities being developed for moving from source assessment to source protection; and
- (4) Identify how the community can become involved with source water protection.

Meetings are open to federal, state and county agencies, public water systems, water customers, interested stakeholders and the public. Source Water Assessment results help communities understand potential threats and identify priority needs to safeguard water supplies.

Safe Drinking Water Page 2

The public information meetings, to discuss the source water assessment and protection program, will be held on Maui, Oahu, Kauai, and Hawaii (Kona and Hilo) at the following locations, dates, and times:

MAUI	September 13, 2004, Lihikai School Cafeteria, 335 S. Papa Avenue, Wailuku (6:30
	pm - 8:00 pm)
O`AHU	September 16, 2004, 919 Ala Moana Blvd, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Honolulu
	(5:30 pm - 7:00 pm)
	(Please enter and exit via the parking lot entrance.)
KAUA`I	September 23, 2004, Kaua`i District Health Office Conference Room, 3040 Umi
	Street, Lihue
	(5:30 pm - 7:00 pm)
HILO	September 27, 2004 Environmental Health Facility Conference Room, 1582
	Kamehameha Avenue, Hilo
	(5:30 pm - 7:00 pm)
KONA	September 28, 2004 Hawaii County - Mayor's Meeting Room, 75-5706 Kuakini
	Highway, Suite 103, Kailua-Kona (5:30 pm - 7:00 pm)

If you have any questions regarding these public information meetings or the Hawaii Source Water Assessment and Protection Program, please contact the Safe Drinking Water Branch at (808) 586-4258; or toll-free from your island by calling: 974-4000, ext. 64258 from Hawai`i; 984-2400, ext. 64258 from Maui, 274-3141, ext. 64258 from Kaua`i and 1-800-468-4644, ext. 64258 from Moloka`i and Lana`i.

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For more information, contact: Darcie Yukimura, Communications Department of Health Phone: (808) 586-4402 Email: <u>dayukimura@mail.health.state.hi.us</u>