

## STATE SCIENCE FAIR RESULTS

As part of our continuing effort to promote ground water and drinking water in the Hawaii Education System, the Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch participated in the Hawaii State Science Fair held April 4-6, 2005 at the Neal Blaisdell Center Exhibition Hall. One of the key elements to a successful ground water and drinking water program is the education and awareness of the public. One of the best ways to educate the public is by educating students about our water resources. By funding activities such as providing awards to the State Science Fair, we hope to further student interest in science and the utilization and protection of our water resources.

This year we have seen an increase in drinking water/ground water related projects and reviewed the following projects:

### Junior Display:

- (1) **Earth Science:** Devin Kuhns, St. Anthony Parish School, "There is Water and Then There is Potable Water."

### Junior Research:

- (2) **Chemistry:** Lauren Furumoto, Mid-Pacific Institute, "What Are You Drinking?"
- (3) **Environmental Science:** Elyssa Correia, St. Joseph Jr. & Sr. High School, "Water Taste & Quality."
- (4) **Environmental Science:** Ka`aina Ishimine, Kanu o Ka `Aina Charter School, "The Solar Still."
- (5) **Environmental Science:** Travis Motooka, Kamehameha School, Maui, "Which School Has the Saltiest Water?"
- (6) **Environmental Science:** Celine Taira, Highlands Intermediate School, "Analyses of Five Different Tests on Oahu and Maui's Drinking Water, Year 2."

### Senior Research:

- (7) **Environmental Science:** Andrew Abe, Pearl City High School, "Movement of Nitrates in Soil Profile."
- (8) **Microbiology:** Dianne Locquiao, James Campbell High School, "Is it Safe to Drink from James Campbell High School's Water Fountains?"

Each project reviewed received a Department of Health Public Health Week button and a Ground Water poster. They will also receive a Safe Drinking Water Branch "Ensuring Quality Through Diligence" t-shirt.



## Exploring the Wonders of Our Environment and Water Resources.

### On the Spot:

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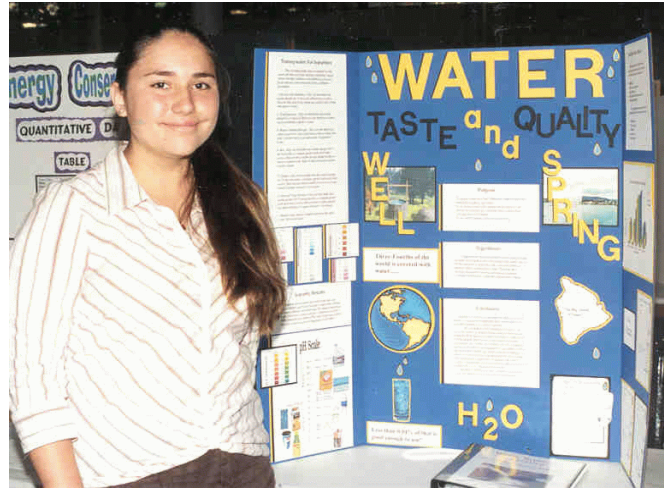
Now in our second year, the Safe Drinking Water Branch judges (Stuart Yamada, Mel Hamano, Michael Miyahira, and Daniel Chang) selected the following winning projects:

**Elyssa Correia**  
**St. Joseph Jr. and Sr. High School**  
**“Water Taste and Quality”**

Tested ground water and spring water from the Big Island for various parameters that may affect the taste of water. Conducted blind taste test of the ground water and spring water.

**Selected for: Outstanding Individual Junior Research Project in any subject category related to drinking water and ground water.**

**Received Certificate of Achievement, \$100 Cash Award.**

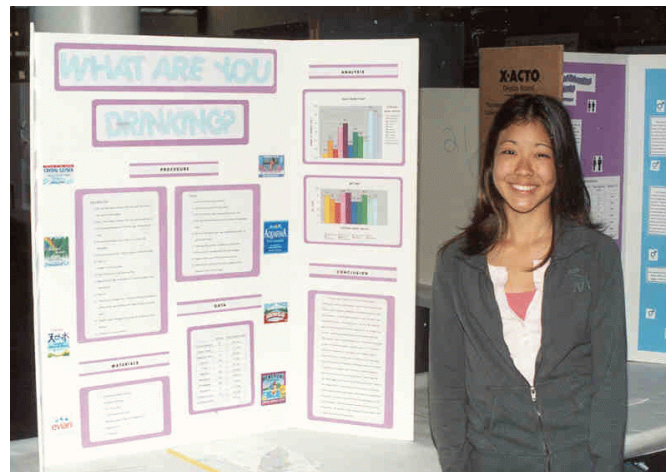


**Lauren Furumoto**  
**Mid-Pacific Institute**  
**“What Are You Drinking?”**

Tested bottled, tap, and filtered water for pH and hardness. Hardness tested by measuring the height of soap bubbles generated.

**Selected for: Outstanding Individual Junior Research Project in any subject category related to drinking water and ground water.**

**Received Certificate of Achievement, \$100 Cash Award.**

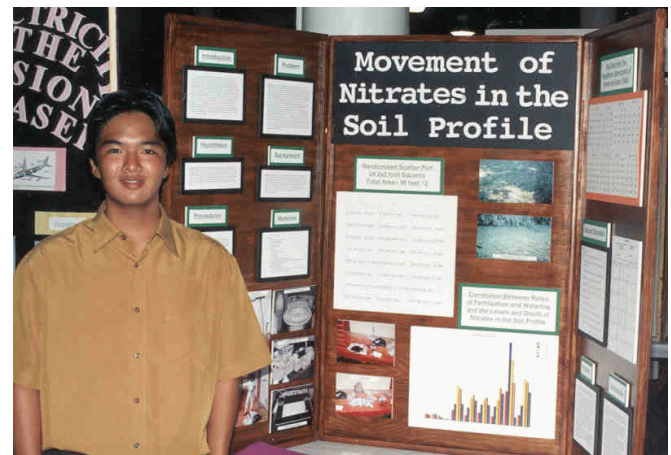


**Andrew Abe**  
**Pearl City High School**  
**“Movement of Nitrates in the Soil Profile”**

Determined the Correlation Between the Rates of Fertilization and Watering on the Concentration and Depth of Nitrates in the Soil Profile.

**Selected for: Outstanding Individual Senior Research Project in any subject category related to drinking water and ground water.**

**Received Certificate of Achievement, \$200 Cash Award.**



The Safe Drinking Water Branch will continue to work with the Hawaii Academy of Science, School Science Fair Coordinators, and teachers to increase interest in Environmental Science and Water Resources.

## ***EPA WITHDRAWS GROUND WATER RULE***

On March 24, 2005, EPA voluntarily withdrew the final Ground Water Rule from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where it was undergoing a 90-day review. The 90-day review period was to end on March 29, 2005. OMB raised several questions about some of the underlying regulatory support documents associated with the rule that could not be addressed within the review period. The Agency remains committed to addressing the issues raised by OMB, resubmitting the rule for their review, and promulgating the rule by the end of calendar year 2005 at the latest.

In withdrawing the Ground Water Rule, EPA issued a “desk statement” (press release) explaining their action. The “desk statement” reads as follows”:

### **EPA Desk Statement on Status of Ground Water Rule March 30, 2005**

Reducing the risk of exposure to fecal contamination that may be present in water provided by public water systems is important in ensuring that consumers receive safe drinking water. In 2000, EPA proposed the Ground Water Rule (GWR) to substantially improve public health protection by targeting public water systems that are vulnerable to fecal contamination and requiring them to take corrective action to reduce risks. The rule would apply to approximately 147,000 public water systems that collectively serve 114 million people.

EPA submitted the final rule to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on December 29, 2004 for a 90-day review pursuant to Executive Order 12866. OMB began meeting with the Agency to discuss the rule in February 2005. Because a number of issues concerning the underlying regulatory analysis could not be fully addressed within the 90-day review time (which expired on March 29, 2005), EPA asked that the rule be withdrawn from EO 12866 review to allow the Agency time for further consideration of the rule. The Agency will continue to work expeditiously to address remaining issues, with a goal of promulgating the final rule as soon as possible, but no later than the end of 2005. EPA remains committed to ensuring that customers of public water systems using groundwater receive safe drinking water.



## ***DOH HAS A NEW LOGO!***



In the March/April issue of “The Water Spot 2005”, you may have noticed a new logo on the mailing page.

After months of meetings and discussions, the Department of Health proudly presents its new logo.

The DOH hopes that you will agree that this logo represents the perpetuation of health or “ola” in Hawaii through the incorporation of elements that represent well-being to Hawaii; the kalo plant (taro) for sustenance, the ulu (breadfruit) used for practical purposes throughout the Pacific, and the ohia lehua tree representing life. Together, these elements remind us that when we care for and protect our mind, body, spirit and aina, we will have ola.

The Department’s goal is to be recognized as leader in health in Hawaii.

We believe that with consistent use of our logo in conjunction with serving our public in the best way possible, we can attain our goal.

Public Health is everyone’s kuleana. That means that we all are responsible for keeping ourselves healthy by eating right, going to the doctor and being physically active. It also means that every staff person in the Department of Health is critical to our mission which is to: ***“Protect and improve the health and environment for all people in Hawaii.”***

*Excerpts from Keeping In Touch, DOH - Communications Office Newsletter, April 2005.*



**AWWA-Hawaii Section Pre-Conference Workshop**  
**Tuesday, May 10, 2005**  
Renaissance Ilikai Hotel - Honolulu, Hawaii  
**Emergency Preparedness for Water Systems**

**PURPOSE**

Water systems from everywhere will gain an understanding of how to prepare for an emergency, what tools are available to help, who they must coordinate with, regulations affecting them, and lessons learned from other water systems. They will also have an opportunity to bring their emergency response plan with them, and speak with experts and other water systems about how the plan can be improved. Each presentation will conclude with a question, answer and interactive discussion period.

**AGENDA (TENTATIVE)**

**Morning:** Participant Registration, Introductions, Hurricane Madness - Lessons Learned from a Florida Utility, Preparing for an emergency - what you might not have thought about (Lessons learned from many utilities), Coordination and Communication-how to achieve an organized response to an emergency, and Tools to use during an emergency: iCIT (Intelligent Collaborative Integration Tools) allowing communication and real-time mapping

**Afternoon:** Regulations regarding emergency preparedness, The Incident Command System-what it is, why you must use it, and how to integrate into it, How an Emergency Operating Center Works (Someone from Hawaii Civil Defense), Open discussion and review of Emergency Preparedness Plans, and Conclusion

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**AWWA-Hawaii Section Annual Conference**  
**Wednesday-Friday, May 11-13, 2005**  
Renaissance Ilikai Hotel - Honolulu, Hawaii  
**“RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Key to Success”**

**Some of the invited speakers include:**

Larry Rice, BIF LLC,	“Quality Control: Is America’s Drinking Water Really Safe”
Joe Benoit, Exttech, LLC	“Innovation in Potable Water Tank Inspection & Cleaning”
Kevin Baughman, RCAC	“Circuit Rider Program (Provides free technical assistance to small water systems throughout the State” Contracted by the State DOH-SDWB)
Denis Guibert, ZENON Environmental	“Conception and Design of an Immersed Membrane Plant in the County of Kauai”
Steven Duranceau, Boyle	“Development of Lead Control Strategy for the Maui Upcountry Water System”
Barry Pollock, USEPA, Region 9	“Risk Communication” AND “EPA Regulation Updates”
Ryuchi Tsuchihashi, M&E Pacific	“Implementing Alternative Water Supply Strategies”
Bill Selle, USFilter	“Crash! Dealing with Chain and Scraper Equipment Problems”
Hina Williamson, HMSA	“Drugs in the Workplace”

*Subject to change, please see the AWWA Hawaii Section website at [www.awwa-hi.org](http://www.awwa-hi.org) for updated information.*

**For additional information and how to register, please contact Lorrie Shiraishi at (808) 748-5215 or (808) 550-9010 (fax) or [Ishiraishi@hbws.org](mailto:Ishiraishi@hbws.org) (E-mail).**

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container Law  
Segregation Rates**

State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch, 919 Ala Moana Boulevard, room 212, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814, is announcing the revised segregated rates for the Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container Law pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 342G, Part VIII.

**Segregated Rates**

Certified redemption centers may weigh loads of empty deposit beverage containers and pay out deposits based on a segregated rate. Consumers may request hand counts of container loads of fifty (50) or less. The loads must be segregated by material type and contain 100% Hawaii deposit beverage containers.

The segregated rates are as follows:

<b>Deposit Container Material Type</b>	<b>01/01/05-03/22/05 # of Containers per Pound</b>	<b>03/23/05 until Further Notice # of Containers per Pound</b>
Aluminum	30	30.0
Bi-metal	8	8.0
Glass	2	2.4
Plastic (PET & HDPE)	12	16.6

These rates are effective beginning March 23, 2005 and will be in effect until further notice is provided. For more information contact the Department of Health at (808) 586-4226 or visit [www.hi5deposit.com](http://www.hi5deposit.com).

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**Foodland to Host Mobile Redemption Centers, Joins Times Super Markets**

Beginning in May, four Oahu Foodland stores (Beretania, Ewa Beach, Kaneohe, and Laie) one Oahu Sack 'n Save (near Aloha Stadium) and two Maui Foodland stores (Pukalani and Kihei) will host mobile redemption centers on selected days of the week. The redemption centers staffed by RRR Recycling will offer vouchers for cash or in-store payments in exchange for beverage containers. Redemption will be available using both the reverse vending machines and bulk weighing.

Times Super Markets (McCully, Beretaina and Kahala) have been offering mobile RRR Recycling Centers two days a week each since February.

For more information and updates on the location of redemption centers near you, watch your local newspaper, call the 2-1-1 hotline or log on to [www.hi5deposit.com](http://www.hi5deposit.com)

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**For more information about the bottle bill law, see:**

**[www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/waste/sw/hi5/index.html](http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/waste/sw/hi5/index.html)**

**SDWB NOTES: ATTENTION OPERATORS!!**

To assist the University of Hawaii - Outreach College provide continuing education credits for public water system operators, they have prepared an operator questionnaire. This questionnaire will help the University of Hawaii Outreach College evaluate the training needs of Hawaii's public water system operators (water treatment plant operators and distribution system operators).

A copy of the questionnaire has been included in this issue of "The Water Spot 2005", your assistance in completing and submitting this questionnaire will help the University of Hawaii - Outreach College to better serve the needs of the public water system operators. The questionnaire will also be mailed by the Outreach College to all certified operators.

Your assistance in completing the questionnaire is greatly appreciated. Please contact Pamela Fujita-Starck of the University of Hawaii - Outreach College if you need additional assistance at (808) 956-2040 or via email at [pamelaf@hawaii.edu](mailto:pamelaf@hawaii.edu).

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

**THE WATER SPOT 2005**  
**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 2005"*

**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 2005 (April/May 2005)**  
**Safe Drinking Water Branch**  
**Environmental Management Division**  
**Hawai'i Department of Health**  
**919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 308**  
**Honolulu HI 96814**

