

## UPDATED OPERATOR TRAINING CD AVAILABLE

The Montana State University Water Center, one of the eight Federally-funded EPA Technical Assistance Centers, has announced that the long-awaited 2005 updated version of its successful Operator Basics training CD for operators of small drinking water systems is now available free of charge from the National Environmental Services Center (NESC) in May. Operator Basics 2005 contains three courses - Surface Water Systems, Ground Water Systems, and Wastewater Lagoons - and a "Water Exploration" showcase. The software also offers a math practice section with 500 animated math problems and solutions, 500 exam prep quiz questions, study games, a glossary and links to useful resources. Access to print and copy content is free. You can check the support site at <http://water.montana.edu/training/ob2005> to see if your state certification agency has approved this training for credit. For product support information, please email [watercenter@montana.edu](mailto:watercenter@montana.edu). You can also find out more at the NESC web site at <http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/ndwc>, or call (800) 624-8301

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TABLETOP EXERCISES FOR DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

EPA is making available a new CD product entitled "Emergency Response Tabletop Exercises for Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems". The tabletop exercises on this CD were developed to help train water and wastewater utility workers in the application of their emergency response plans. In total, twelve (12) unique exercises can be created from the CD from five basic event types: intentional contamination, security breach, cyber security, physical attack, and interdependency. Users are also encouraged to adapt the materials on the CD to meet their own needs and objectives.

The exercises also contain secondary roles for health officials, laboratories, fire, police, emergency medical services, and local, state, and federal officials. The training goal of the CD is to strengthen the relationships between a water supplier and their emergency response team members and to enable water suppliers to "test" their emergency response plans before an actual incident occurs.

In addition to the exercises contained on the CD, there are also "train-the-trainer" materials aimed at helping users to conduct their own successful tabletop training. Ready-to-go training presentations are provided with instructor notes. The presentations (which can be user-modified) include:

- (1) Background, Purpose, and Value of Exercises;
- (2) How to Set-up for an Enhanced Tabletop Exercise;
- (3) How to Conduct an Enhanced Tabletop Exercise;
- (4) How to Conduct an After Action Review;
- (5) The Incident Command System;
- (6) The National Incident Management System;
- (7) The Response Protocol Toolbox; and
- (8) The National Response Plan.

To get a copy of the tabletop exercise CD, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/watersecurity> and look under "Tools and Technical Assistance."

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Want to stay up-to-date with the latest on safe drinking water issues. Then subscribe to: [safedrinkingwater.com NEWS](http://www.safedrinkingwater.com) "The premier newsletter for the drinking water quality community".

The Quick Links Navigation will allow you to query various drinking water topics such as: Federal Updates, State Updates, Small Water System Funding, Water Warnings, Source Water Protection, Water Treatment, Groundwater News, and other topics.

To subscribe to safedrinkingwater.com NEWS, please visit the following address:  
<http://www.safedrinkingwater.com/subscribe/subscribe.php>

### ***DOH - PREPARING FOR TERRORISM AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN HAWAII***

The Department of Health has prepared a brochure entitled, "Preparing for Terrorism and Public Health Emergencies in Hawaii." To get a copy of the brochure, visit DOH's website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health> and look under "Bioterrorism Preparedness."

### ***AWWA HAWAII SECTION ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Ono Water Contest***

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual "Ono" Water Contest was held on May 11, 2005 at the Ilikai Hotel as part of the Hawaii Section - American Water Works Association (AWWA) Annual Conference. The category for this year's contest was small systems (serving less than 1000 people) and the following eight systems participated:

<u>System</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Approximate Population</u>	<u>Source</u>
Wood Valley	Hilo	75	Ground
Kukio Utility Co.	Kona	260	Ground
Kahakuloa	Maui	100	Ground
Maunaolu Plantation	Maui	60	Ground
St. Stephens Diocesan Center	Oahu	33	Ground
Mililani Memorial Park	Oahu	100	Surface
Kahili Mountain Park	Kauai	150	Ground
Kealia	Kauai	260	Ground

The five guest judges were: Marley Price (Immediate Past-President AWWA), Tina Shelton (KHON-TV News Reporter), Bruce Macler (EPA Region IX Toxicologist), Charmaine Tavares (Maui County Council Member), and Michael Victorino (Maui DWS). The Master of Ceremonies was the comedian, Rodney Villanueva, who as usual kept the audience fully entertained with his unique blend of local humor. Mr. Villanueva has become the main attraction of the contest and if you missed his performance, you missed a truly innovative and original show.

**The results of the contest are as follows:**

**1<sup>st</sup>      Kahili Mountain Park                      2<sup>nd</sup>      Kealia    3<sup>rd</sup>      Mililani Memorial Park**

**Congratulations to all the participants!**

## ***LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Legislature Passes HCR 222, HD1, SD1***

After considering House Bills 1035 and 1036 aimed at setting new statewide standards for heterotrophic plate count (100/ml), and House Bill 1503 proposing a grant for the construction of a treatment works to reduce the presence of pseudomonas aeruginosa to address problems encountered by water consumers in upcountry Maui, (these did not pass, but may be considered next session) the Legislature passed HCR 222, HD1, SD1.

Briefly, HCR 222, HD1, SD1 requests the Department of Health to do four things:

1. "...to review its water quality standards and practices, focusing on upcountry Maui, including standards and procedures for timely public notification by Maui water systems administrators of any violations or health concerns posed by system contaminants or additives; and
2. ...to work closely with the upcountry Maui community and the Maui County Department of Water Supply to address citizen concerns including plans for remediation of the system, the health impacts of any current or future additives and establishment of a system to receive and respond to citizen concerns; and
3. ...to petition the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review adherence to EPA lead and copper rules; and
4. ...to report findings and recommendations to the Legislature, including any necessary proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2006."

In response, the Department intends to prepare a report detailing 1) the history of problem, 2) our continuing efforts; 3) outside efforts to address the problem, and 4) if necessary propose legislation as requested.

## ***HEY! HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR SWAP?***

In April 2004, the Safe Drinking Water Branch disseminated the results of Source Water Assessments conduct on drinking water sources to the public water systems. For those systems that received their Source Water Assessment, reference to the availability of this report should be included in your Consumer Confidence Report (due July 1, 2005).

For new sources and those source who did not receive a report in April 2004, you should receive a copy of your assessment report sometime in June 2005. If you do not receive an assessment report for your drinking water source, please contact Daniel Chang of the Safe Drinking Water Branch at (808) 586-4258 to inquire if your source was included in this round of assessments.

With the completion of the assessments, the Safe Drinking Water Branch will be moving the program from assessments to protection. Within the next few months the SDWB will begin the process of creating Local Source Water Protection Advisory Committees in each County.

## ***WENDELL SANO MOVES TO CLEAN AIR PROGRAM***

On May 31, 2005, the Safe Drinking Water Branch lost another of its valuable staff as Wendell Sano, an environmental health specialist with the Monitoring Section, accepted a job with the department's Clean Air Branch in Kona.

Wendell joined the Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) as an environmental health specialist with the Monitoring Section in 1994 (when he transferred from the Clean Air Branch). Except for a short stint working in the Pacific Northwest, Wendell has been a member of the Safe Drinking Water Branch and was responsible for overseeing the branch's monitoring program.

The Safe Drinking Water Branch wishes Wendell a fond farewell and best wishes on his new job opportunity and move to the West-side of the island of Hawaii. In the interim, Bill Wong will be responsible for the oversight of the monitoring program.

## UPDATING THE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN PROGRAM

Hawaii's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program has loaned over \$21.3 million for 15 projects to the Water Departments for Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai Counties and the City & County of Honolulu, Board of Water Supply.

The Intended Use Plan (IUP) for State Fiscal Year 2006 has been finalized and hopes to be on the SDWB website soon or please contact the SDWB for a copy.

Appendix B of the plan is the DWSRF Priority List of Projects for SFY 2006. Please check the listing and contact Denise Dang at 586-4258 if your project(s) are in the planning stages. Also, please keep in mind that this coming October we will be working to collect project proposals for State Fiscal Year 2007 - - start working on identifying those projects for the next year!

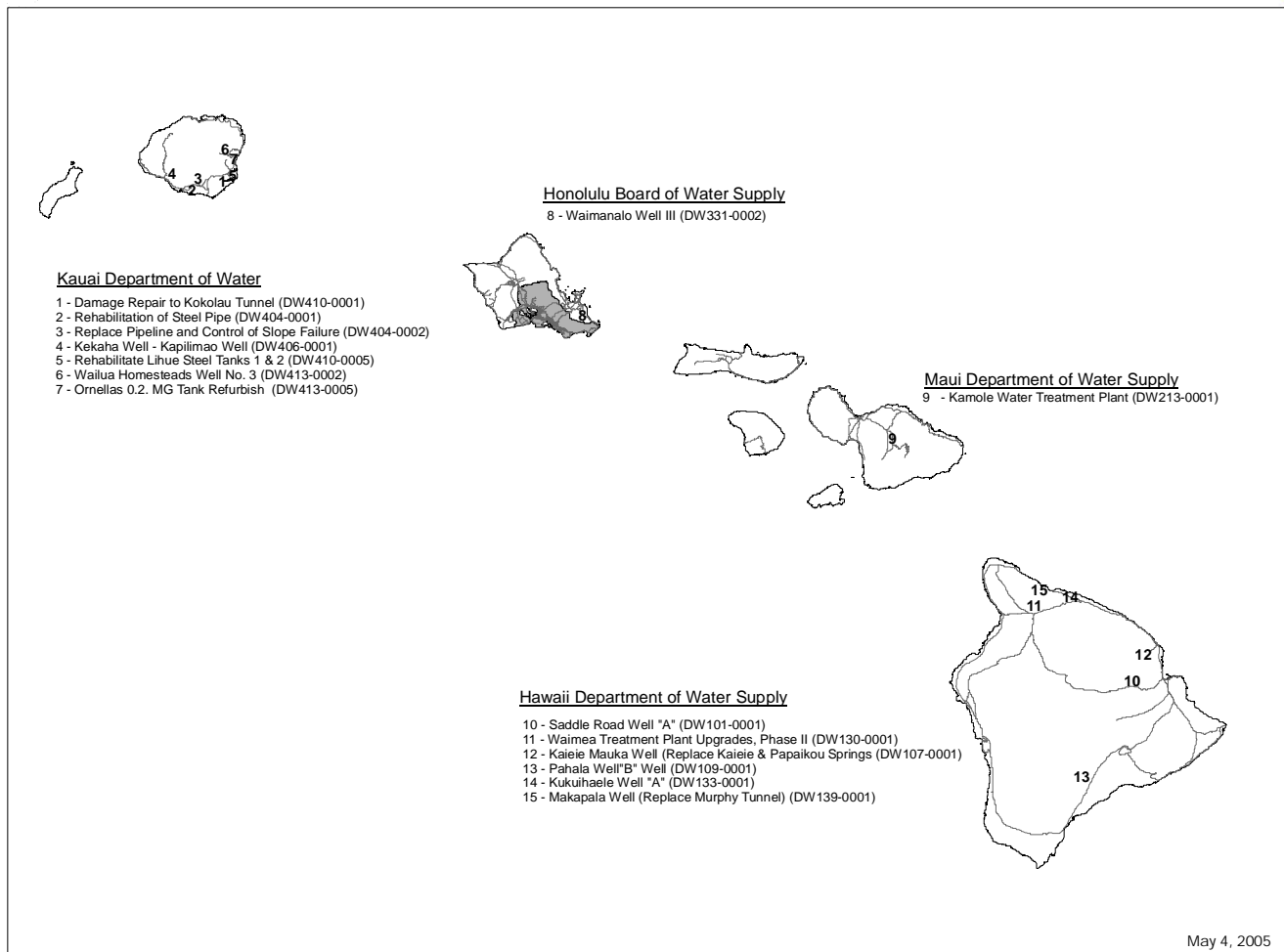


SRF staff (Denise Dang and Adrian Lau) meets with Representative Ed Case while attending a conference in Washington, D.C.



### HAWAII DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) PROJECTS

#### Executed Projects



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR - HWWA CONFERENCE WORKSHOP ON SOURCE WATER PROTECTION**

The Safe Drinking Water Branch will be sponsoring a half-day workshop on “Best Management Practices and Protection Measures” for protection drinking water sources. This workshop will be held on October 5, 2005 as part of this year’s HWWA Annual Conference.

This year’s conference is being planned by the Hawaii Department of Water Supply and will be held on October 5-7, 2005 at the Hilton Waikoloa Hotel. More information on the HWWA Annual Conference will be given later as the event gets closer.

CEUs will be granted for attending the workshop and the annual conference.

## **WEST NILE VIRUS BATTLE HEATS UP - DOH Release, May 12, 2005**

As mosquito season heats up on the mainland the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) is asking for the public’s help to prevent the potentially fatal disease, West Nile Virus (WNV), from spreading to Hawaii. Officials want residents to eliminate standing water - where mosquitoes can breed - around their property.

“Even if West Nile Virus comes to Hawaii, our hope is that without mosquitoes to transmit the disease it will not become established,” said Greg Olmsted, Vector Control Branch, Hawaii State Department of Health. “Getting rid of mosquito breeding areas just takes a little bit of effort and it has the huge benefit of protecting Hawaii’s delicate ecosystem and human health.”

Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed:

- Tip over pots, wheelbarrows and containers
- Hose bromeliads and other plants that collect water weekly or add dish soap or commercial larvicide
- Fix leaky faucets that create puddles
- Get rid of rubbish such as old tires

Oahu residents can dispose of bulky items that could hold water and breed mosquitoes by calling the City and County of Honolulu Refuse Division at 523-4685 to arrange for curbside pickup.

Hawaii residents can also help WV surveillance efforts by reporting and turning in dead birds for testing. Birds are susceptible to the disease so dead birds in an area may be the first indication the virus is here. To find the nearest designated collection site call 2-1-1 or visit [www.hawaii.gov.health](http://www.hawaii.gov.health).

West Nile Virus is a sometimes-fatal disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. It can infect people, horses, many types of birds, and some other animals. WNV is not transmitted from person to person or from birds to people.

Most people who become infected with West Nile Virus will have either no symptoms or only mild sickness characterized by flu-like symptoms. However, on rare occasion, WNV infection can result in severe and sometimes fatal illnesses.

To reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes DOH recommends the following protective measures:

- Keep areas around your property free of standing water where mosquitoes can breed.
- Avoid activities in areas where mosquitoes are plentiful.
- Keep mosquitoes from entering your home by repairing screens in windows and doors.
- Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts when possible.
- Use insect repellent that contain DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide)

Eliminating mosquito-breeding areas will also help guard against other mosquito borne diseases such as Dengue Fever.

Since WNV first came to the United States in 1999 almost 17,000 cases have been confirmed and more than 650 people have died from the disease.

For more information visit the Department of Health web site at [www.hawaii.gov/health](http://www.hawaii.gov/health) or consult the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) site at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm).

**SDWB NOTES: REMINDER TO OPERATORS!!**

Don't forget to complete and submit the University of Hawaii - Outreach College's operator training needs questionnaire, which was included in the last issue (April/May) of "The Water Spot 2005" or sent to operators by the Outreach College.

Your assistance in completing the questionnaire is greatly appreciated and 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). Your questionnaire should be sent to Noncredit Programs - UH Outreach College, 2530 Dole Street, Sakamaki D400, Honolulu, HI 96822 or faxed to (808) 956-9422 . 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).

For those operators who have submitted the questionnaire, thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

*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>**



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**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 (June/July 2005)**  
**Safe Drinking Water Branch**  
**Environmental Management Division**  
**Hawai'i Department of Health**  
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