

January 14, 2014

Contact: Diane Moses Telephone: 748-5363

PRINCIPLES OF AQUAPONICS TO BE SHARED AT BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY WORKSHOP

Aquaponics systems use 90 to 95 percent less water than soil-based farming.

- WHAT: The Board of Water Supply (BWS) and the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden (FOHXG) are pleased to offer an "<u>Economical Aquaponics</u>" workshop. Participants will learn about water conservation and how to produce organic food in their own backyard or lanai.
- WHEN: Saturday, February 22, 2014 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- WHERE: Halawa Xeriscape Garden 99-1268 Iwaena Street Halawa Valley's Central Park Industrial Area
- **DETAILS:** Do you enjoy raising fish, growing plants, or eating organic products? You can learn how to employ all three activities to save on outdoor water use by attending the Economical Aquaponics workshop.

Aquaponics is the cultivation of plants and fish in a self-sustaining environment. Users simply feed the small fish, and their nutrient-rich water is pumped into a grow bed. The grow bed serves as a filtration system, where the plants absorb nutrients from the water. The recharged, oxygenated water is then returned to the fish tank and the cycle repeats itself over and over again. An aquaponic system uses 90 to 95% less water than a traditional in-ground garden and eliminates the need for chemical fertilizers.

The workshop will be led by staff members of the HappyPonics Farm who are extremely excited to present this highly sustainable method of agriculture, review backyard and commercial system designs, and demonstrate how to build a small, affordable home system of your own. Participants will learn to reduce their water footprint and put their newly learned skills to the test!

- **COST:** This activity is \$5 for the general public and free to FOHXG members.
- **REGISTER:** <u>Advanced Registration is Required.</u> Registration begins on Tuesday, February 4, and closes at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 21, 2014, or when all spaces are filled. Call 748-5363 or email <u>workshops@hbws.org</u> to register. For more information about xeriscaping or classes at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden, log on to <u>www.boardofwatersupply.com</u>. BWS security requires full name and address of all participants.