

Honolulu Board of Water Supply
News Release



Contact: Kurt Tsue
Telephone: 748-5320

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**FREE GARDEN MULCH AVAILABLE AT BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY'S
HALAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN ON SATURDAYS**

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) continues to offer free mulch every Saturday at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 pm. The community is invited to shovel and bag their own mulch, which is a soil covering that keeps plants healthy and conserves our precious water resource.

Using mulch is an effective way to conserve water and aid the growth of healthy plants through increased water filtration. Mulch reduces any pooling of water and unnecessary evaporation, so plants can be watered less often. Additionally, mulch supplies beneficial nutrients to the soil.

Visitors interested in collecting free mulch should come prepared with their own containers and shovels. Garden staff will not be able to assist with carrying and loading collected mulch.

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) and the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden have welcomed guests for landscaping workshops, garden tours, and an annual plant sale featuring native Hawaiian and drought-tolerant (or unthirsty) plants since the garden opened in September 1989. Previously, the BWS used to offer free mulch only at the annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden open house and unthirsty plant sale, but now offers free mulch year round during public open hours, pending availability. Xeriscaping is based on seven principles that promote planning, planting, and maintaining a garden that takes advantage of natural climate conditions to make efficient use of irrigation.

The garden is located at 99-1268 Iwaena Street in Halawa Valley's Central Industrial Area. For more information about the Halawa Xeriscape Garden and the workshops offered, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com or call 748-5041.

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