

Honolulu Board of Water Supply
Media Advisory



Contact: Diane Moses
Telephone: 748-5363

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ECONOMICAL AQUAPONICS WORKSHOP

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

WHAT: The Board of Water Supply (BWS), the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden (FOHXG), and HappyPonics Farm are pleased to offer an “**Economical Aquaponics**” workshop. Participants will learn to recycle containers to create a backyard/lanai aquaponics system that raises edible fish and organic produce all while minimizing outdoor water consumption.

WHEN: Saturday, October 10, 2015, 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, and eating organic products? You can learn how to combine all three activities and save on outdoor water use by attending the Economical Aquaponics workshop.

Aquaponics is the symbiotic growing of plants and fish in a recirculating 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 HappyPonics Farm staff who are delighted 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 (depending on level of membership).

REGISTER: **Advanced registration is required.** Registration opens on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 and closes at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2015, or when all spaces are filled. Call 748-5320 or email workshops@hbws.org to register. For more information about xeriscaping or classes at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden, log on to www.boardofwatersupply.com. BWS security requires full name and address of all participants.

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