

Honolulu Board of Water Supply

Media Advisory

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FREE XERIC SEED FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AT THE HALAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN

Complimentary seeds are available for pick up on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

HONOLULU—Using Xeric plants, aka drought tolerant or hardy plants, in your landscape is not just a water wise decision it's part of a responsible solution to help reduce outdoor water consumption. To help you on your journey to create a drought tolerant landscape, each month the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) and the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden (FOHXG) are pleased to offer visitors to the garden a free Xeric seed or seedling.

A new seed or seedling will be unveiled on the first Wednesday of each month. To find out what's being featured, please visit Facebook at www.facebook.com/BWSHXG, Twitter at @BWSHonolulu and www.boardofwatersupply.com. If you don't have access to a computer or social media and need more information, you may call Halawa Xeriscape Garden at 808-748-5315. To receive your complimentary seed packet and information sheet about your future plant's origin, care, and interesting facts you may visit the garden at 99-1268 Iwaena Street, Aiea HI 96701, on Wednesdays and Saturdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Please note the Halawa Xeriscape Garden will be closed on Saturday, September 17th and Wednesday, September 21st while HECO works to replace utility poles in and around the garden. The Seed of the Month will not be available for pick-up on those dates.

The month of September features Hibiscus Koki'o ke'oke'o or Molokai Hibiscus. This plant is endemic to Hawaii and appears on the Federal Endangered Species Registry. It has a slight fragrance that is strongest in the morning. This hibiscus, because it doesn't grow as tall as some of the other native hibiscus creates a beautiful hedge, and may be used to screen an area for privacy and as a stand alone beautiful accent plant. Visitors receive one seed packet per household, while supplies last.

The BWS and the FOHXG services the community with conservation workshops, garden tours, volunteer opportunities and a fabulous annual plant sale! Native Hawaiian and drought-tolerant plants have been featured at the Xeriscape Garden since September 1989. Xeriscaping consists of 7 simple principles that promote water conservation through planning and design, efficient irrigation, minimal turf usage, soil improvements, wise plant selection, appropriate mulching and good maintenance. A Xeric landscape takes advantage of the natural environment, saves water, time and money for Oahu's homeowners. For more information on how you can take that first step in your xeric landscape journey, please visit, <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/cssweb/display.cfm?sid=1086>.

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