

Honolulu Board of Water Supply

# News Release

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## **LEARN TO LOWER OUTDOOR WATER USE AT THE HALAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN OPEN HOUSE AND UNTHIRSTY PLANT SALE**

HONOLULU – The Board of Water Supply (BWS) invites everyone to enjoy a fun-filled day at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale on Saturday, August 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All of the activities at this free event will be focused on xeriscape, an innovative way to conserve water through efficient landscaping. By incorporating xeriscaping techniques BWS customers can reduce water consumption, which equals to money saved!

Xeriscaping is based on seven fundamental principles that serve as guidelines on how to plan, plant and maintain a garden that takes advantage of natural climate conditions to make efficient use of irrigation. Some of the principles include growing “unthirsty” plants, using mulch, and installing proper irrigation. To learn more about xeriscaping, the Halawa Xeriscape Garden, or water-saving tips, visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).

“The Plant Sale is just one of the many ways the BWS shows its dedication to provide the community with opportunities to learn and embrace techniques to conserve our precious water resources,” said BWS Chairman Duane Miyashiro. “The activities at the Plant Sale will show people they can have beautiful green gardens, while using less water.”

More than a dozen local nurseries will offer a variety of drought-tolerant, less-thirsty plants at reasonable prices. Free educational workshops and classes on earth friendly home gardening techniques will also be part of the festivities. Additional activities included keiki games, keiki garden planting, a cactus display from the Cactus and Succulent Society of Hawaii, and a free compost giveaway courtesy of Hawaiian Earth Products.

“The BWS is thankful to be able to continue our partnership with the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden to put on this wonderful event,” said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. “This is a valuable partnership that helps residents and visitors alike take strides to preserve our precious water supply now and for future generations.”

Proceeds from the plant sale will support educational programs and classes at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden. The open house is co-sponsored by the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, a non-profit community group that supports educational programs related to water conservation in the landscape.

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## **About the Board of Water Supply**

The BWS, a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu’s municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of “Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*”—to provide a safe and dependable water supply, now and into the future. The BWS works to accomplish its mission and strategic objectives while striving to maintain the public trust to protect the quality and sustainability of our precious water resources. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – “When the heavens weep, the earth lives.” For more information, visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).

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