

Honolulu Board of Water Supply  
News Release



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## WATER EMERGENCY TIPS

*Oahu residents urged to prepare for Hurricane Lester*

HONOLULU – [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com) - The Board of Water Supply (BWS) is actively monitoring Hurricane Lester which is expected to be closest to Oahu this weekend. We want to remind our customers that we are in the hurricane season and encourage everyone to be prepared by having an emergency preparedness kit.

Natural disasters, power outages, blackouts, or other unexpected events can disrupt the ability of the BWS to provide water service to the community. **Emergency preparedness kits should include at least one gallon of water stored, per person, per day for at least five to seven days, for drinking and sanitation purposes.**

### How to Store Water

To properly store water, you should:

- **Use clean containers.** Do not use containers that stored food with strong odors (mayonnaise, pickles, etc.) as the water will pick up the odor during storage.
- **Disinfect containers.** Wash containers thoroughly, then rinse it in a mild bleach solution (one capful of liquid bleach to one gallon of water), and then rinse thoroughly.
- **Fill container with water from the tap.** Fill the container to the top, keeping a minimal amount of air between the water and the cap. To ensure the water is safe to drink, add one drop of mild liquid bleach per gallon of water, cap and store it in a cool, dark place.
  - **If you plan to store water for four weeks or longer,** add one half cap full of mild liquid bleach per gallon of water, cap and store in a cool, dark place.

More emergency preparedness information and a [step-by-step video](#) on how to properly store water is available at [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com).

During an emergency, the BWS encourages residents to stay tuned to news reports. BWS will issue bulletins and advisories, including when to take precautionary measures to secure an adequate water supply. Residents may also sign up to receive email or text message alerts from BWS and other emergency response agencies at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). If everyone uses water wisely during the pre-emergency phase, the BWS's storage tanks and reservoirs will be better able to meet the essential demands of the community.

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

The Board of Water Supply (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, dependable, and affordable water supply, now and into



the future. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – “When the heavens weep, the earth lives.” For more information about the BWS, visit [www.boardofwatersupply.com](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com), follow [@BWSHonolulu](https://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu) or like the BWS’s Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu>.

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