



Conservation Campaign Aims to Save Water. For Life.

The next time you are tempted to ignore a leaky faucet or toilet, thaw frozen food with running water, or sprinkle the lawn mid-day, please remember that every drop is precious -- it takes years for nature to produce the water we get from our taps.

On an average, it takes about 25 years for water to go from mountain top to tap. Water, in the form of rain and mist, soaks into the ground and is naturally filtered by Oahu's volcanic rock base through an underground network of geological structures. These formations and the cracks, crevices, and pockets between them channel, purify, and store the water that we eventually drink.

Over the years, rain continually replenishes our groundwater resources through these natural processes, so we need to give nature time to do its work to ensure healthy and adequate supplies for generations to come.



BWS reminds water users to preserve and protect Oahu's valuable water resources.

As a result, the Board of Water Supply (BWS) is working to remind island water users, through various means, to preserve and protect this valuable resource now. This includes public outreach through tours and classes, social media postings, television and radio spots, and a new "Save Water. For Life." webpage, www.boardofwatersupply.com/conservation/save-water-for-life, on its recently redesigned website.

This webpage features information about BWS monitor well levels and water-saving tips, as well as useful links to rainfall forecasts and other information to provide users with a view of Oahu's current water situation and what you can do to help.

Any action taken to promote efficient water use is meaningful. It helps contribute to the larger conservation effort and provides nature with the time needed to replenish our groundwater supplies. If we each save a little, together we save a lot. [Save water. For life.](#)

Arbor Day Spotlights Aloha for Oahu's Watersheds



Plant a tree for Arbor Day -- and our watershed.

In Hawaii, Arbor Day is November 4th. Hawaii began observing Arbor Day in 1905 when Territorial Governor Carter recommended that all public schools participate with part of the day being devoted to planting trees and shrubs on school grounds. In recent years, Arbor Day in Hawaii is celebrated with free tree giveaways, legacy tree plantings, gardening demonstrations, and woodworking and craft exhibits. For more information on Arbor Day in Hawaii, visit www.arbordayhawaii.org.

Arbor Day also serves as a reminder to protect Oahu's watersheds so that they will continue to sustain the natural cycle of water and support our need for a reliable water supply. Tall trees shade other trees and plant life and slows the rain as it falls, while shrubs block wind and stabilize soil, allowing water to seep into the earth to recharge the

underground aquifer or to flow in streams.

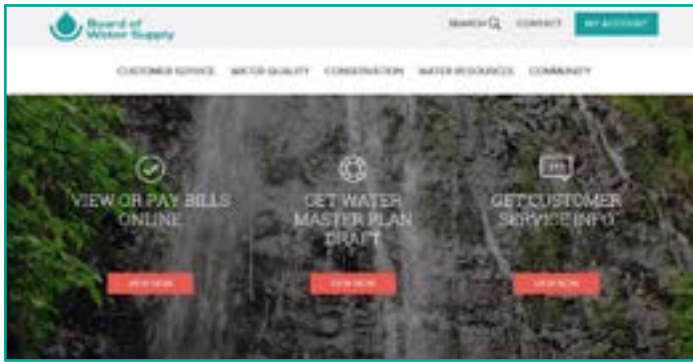
In an effort to help protect our watersheds, the Board of Water Supply (BWS) reminds hikers to stick to paths on public hiking trails and to be aware of the potential risk of introducing weeds and pathogens into natural areas on your footwear and gear. A good practice is to scrub shoes and gear with water and a brush after each hike to prevent transporting weeds and possible pathogens from one area to another. Remember to scrub straps, pockets, laces and fabric mesh of shoes and backpacks.



Scrub shoes to prevent transporting weeds from one area to another.

For more information on watersheds, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com/water-resources/watersheds-on-oahu

BWS Launches New Website



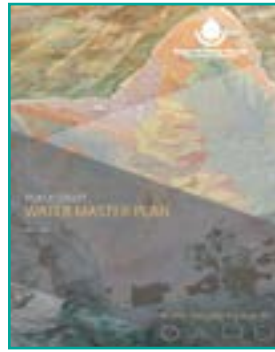
The Board of Water Supply (BWS) is pleased to announce the launch of a new look and layout for the BWS's website.

The new BWS website has a new, modern design that prominently features our most-searched-for content: customer service and billing information. The site also features a mobile-friendly display that scales to fit mobile devices. The site also offers more features and provides a more secure and reliable system. The BWS hopes these solutions will provide customers with an improved and more user-friendly online experience. Check it out at www.boardofwatersupply.com.



New BWS website:
Mobile view

Water System Improvements Public Draft Released



The Board of Water Supply (BWS) has completed a draft of its long-term Water Master Plan, a comprehensive program that evaluates the entire water system, identifies necessary improvements over the long-term, and balances needs and costs to provide Oahu residents with safe, dependable, and affordable water.

The Draft Water Master Plan is available for public review. A Stakeholder Advisory Group of nearly 30 highly respected local residents, who represent community, environmental, and business interests, has provided input to the Water Master Plan's development and implementation.

To provide public access to the plan, the BWS has posted the plan, a two-page brief of key points, and other supplemental material at www.boardofwatersupply.com. Hard copies of the plan are available at the BWS's Public Service Building, 630 S. Beretania Street, and at the 24 State libraries on Oahu. Informational presentations about the plan may be arranged for community groups and organizations. For more information, email BWSWaterMasterPlan@hbws.org or call 748-5347.

Lingering Concerns for Red Hill Despite A.O.C.

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) remains concerned about the presence of petroleum contamination in the groundwater underneath the Navy's underground fuel storage tank facility which rests only 100 feet above the groundwater aquifer. This aquifer is a key source of Oahu's drinking water, providing 25 percent of urban Honolulu's supply. On-going testing by BWS, shows that its [water sources in the area are safe to drink](#); however, the BWS remains very concerned about the structural integrity of the 70-year-old tanks due to their age and condition.

The BWS continues to monitor the implementation of the Red Hill Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) and is an active participant as a subject matter expert in the meetings between the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the State Department of Health (DOH), and the Navy as they work on a remediation plan for the storage tanks.

Meanwhile, in June, the BWS Board of Directors received an EPA status update on the implementation of the AOC,

and in July, the BWS submitted comments regarding location changes for new monitoring wells being considered by the Navy. In August, the Sierra Club of Hawaii held a public meeting and invited the State DOH and BWS to participate. BWS expressed concerns that included the 20+ years being given to the Navy to make improvements, and the need for more transparency and public and stakeholder participation in the process.



Public meetings allow for public engagement related to ongoing work under the A.O.C.

For more information on Red Hill, including details about the BWS's position on this issue, please visit our website at www.boardofwatersupply.com/redhill.



www.boardofwatersupply.com



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