

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

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<u>NEWS RELEASE</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Water Supply to Hold Kona, Hilo Public Events Celebrating Drinking Water Week, May 5-11

The Department of Water Supply (DWS), County of Hawai'i, invites the public to learn more about drinking water, the need to use it wisely, and the waterworks professionals who keep it flowing by attending Kona and Hilo outreach events to be held in celebration of the annual Drinking Water Week, May 5-11.

Stop by the DWS display booth for free toilet leak-detection tablets, a low-flow showerhead, and other water-related materials, while supplies last, by testing your drinking water knowledge to win prizes. Information about waterworks careers at DWS will also be available.

DWS will staff a display booth at the following times and locations:

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 8 at the West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway, Kailua-Kona
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 10 at the Hawai'i County Building, 25 Aupuni Street, Hilo

DWS joins communities across the country in celebrating Drinking Water Week, an annual observance led by the American Water Works Association, of which DWS is a member. Drinking water week serves to highlight the importance of safe drinking water and reaffirms DWS' mission to provide an adequate and continuous supply of safe drinking water in a financially responsible manner to all of its customers. This year's events also coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act, which is a landmark federal law designed to safeguard the public by setting drinking water quality standards and regulations for public water systems.

DWS is also celebrating 75 years of serving Hawai'i Island water customers. Founded in 1949, DWS is a semi-autonomous Hawai'i County agency governed by the Water Board. Using revenues generated from water customers, it operates and maintains 23 public water systems that together deliver 25 to 30 million gallons of safe drinking water daily to more than 125,000 people.

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