



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/28/2022]

00:00:09:17 - 00:00:24:21

CAPT. GUENTHER

Hello everyone, and welcome to the daily water update for January 28. I'm Captain Darren Guenther, Chief of Staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. Today, we're going to answer several questions on our support to the community that we've received from neighborhood boards.

00:00:24:27 - 00:00:41:18

CAPT. GUENTHER

Many of these questions match some of the questions that you've been asking. So we hope these answers will help you better understand our efforts to restore reliable drinking water. Before we get to those questions, though, I'd like to update you on our progress on our map.

00:00:43:22 - 00:01:10:23

CAPT. GUENTHER

So this latest map update has been uploaded to our website navy.mil/jointbasewater. First and foremost, we still have an active flushing for homes and facilities in the Aliamanu neighborhood. So that Aliamanu neighborhood, pretty large neighborhood has been broken up into three different zones and we have commenced flushing in the homes for all three zones.

00:01:10:23 - 00:01:36:09

CAPT. GUENTHER

The first two zones are probably the biggest, we're 51 homes into the 211 in the southernmost zone, in that central zone we're 345 homes into the 918 that are there and we've really just started on that northern zone. So that flushing is going to go through the weekend and likely into early next week.

00:01:37:11 - 00:01:51:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

We're also doing some facilities flushing in several other areas that we've already gotten through the homes in some of those neighborhoods where some of these neighborhoods we're focused on right now don't really have that many homes, if any.

00:01:51:16 - 00:02:09:08

CAPT. GUENTHER

So facilities flush. We're focused on the Hickam Beach area and a lot of the buildings there. We're focused on the shipyard, a lot of buildings in the shipyard. Our sub-base area and finally Makalapa, that's where we're finishing out our facilities flush.



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CAPT. GUENTHER

Facilities in the other areas, for the most part are complete; and then upcoming flush for Kapilina Beach Homes. We've been talking about this all week. Those plans are still in development, but we're looking at mid to late next week.

00:02:27:27 - 00:02:54:27

CAPT. GUENTHER

So the first of next week, early next week, we'll have more information on the dates that that's actually going to commence, but again, for Kapilina Beach Homes shooting for mid to late next week to initiate the home flushing and facility flushing in your neighborhood there. Lots of other neighborhoods awaiting test results from the samples that were taken primarily in the homes and facilities there.

00:02:54:27 - 00:03:16:28

CAPT. GUENTHER

So that's our map update for today. So what I'd like to do now is move to some of the questions that we've been receiving. There are about 33 neighborhood boards on the island of Oahu and we receive a number of questions from some of these boards.

00:03:16:28 - 00:03:34:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

Occasionally we attend those boards, especially the ones that are adjoining various parts of our naval installations, but they've presented some good questions for us and we wanted to answer some of those. We've selected six of them. The first is about our support to the Department of Education.

00:03:34:10 - 00:03:59:00

CAPT. GUENTHER

What support are you providing our Department of Education Public Schools? The Navy is currently providing bulk and bottled water and hand-washing stations to each school that receives water on the Navy water system. So all those schools are also being flushed by our flushing teams and will have their water sampled following those flushes.

00:03:59:00 - 00:04:19:00

CAPT. GUENTHER

One-hundred percent of those schools will have water samples that get tested at our labs on the mainland. We also have a dedicated school liaison officer who works for the Navy, who's working side by side with those school officials on things like reimbursements and other entitlements.



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00:04:19:17 - 00:04:48:02

CAPT. GUENTHER

So that's an answer to that first question. Second question: what support is being provided for civilians without ties to the military? So families who are living in housing served by the Joint Base Drinking Water System or the Navy system who are not otherwise affiliated with the Department of Defense, who have elected to move to temporary lodging, may be eligible for meals, lodging and incidentals.

00:04:48:02 - 00:05:19:09

CAPT. GUENTHER

Those same nonaffiliated families who chose to remain in their homes but are on the Navy water system may be eligible for financial assistance for meal expenses. For additional information, please call this number 808-473-5729 or email jbphh_efac_auth_fct@navy.mil

00:05:19:09 - 00:05:53:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

That's on our water website. By the way, if you didn't get that and for the loss of personal property reimbursement claims for not affiliated families or others, please contact the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam Emergency Family Assistance Center at this phone number 866-525-6676 and the EFAC can take basic information from you and provide it to the navy claims office, who will then contact you.

00:05:53:13 - 00:06:06:08

CAPT. GUENTHER

All right, the next question is, a support to businesses who are affected question. Regarding businesses in Moana Lua Business Center, which is on the Navy water system.

00:06:06:18 - 00:06:26:18

CAPT. GUENTHER

Are those businesses being compensated for extra costs or lost business? Here's the answer. Business owners who do not have a current contract lease or other instrument or agreement with the Department of Navy and believe they may have a potential claim for damages or lost business, please contact the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam Emergency Family Assistance Center.

00:06:26:19 - 00:06:51:29

CAPT. GUENTHER

I'll give that number again at 866-525-6676. The EFAC will take in some of that information from you right into the navy claims office, who is going to get back with you. All right, here's a question on flushing. You talk about the GAC filters for flushing, those are big carbon filters.



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00:06:52:12 - 00:07:16:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Are you testing the water that comes out of the filters before it goes into the ground or elsewhere? The answer is as part of the Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit that was issued by the Hawaii Department of Health, the Navy is required to sample and provide monitoring reports on the GAC filtration systems.

00:07:16:28 - 00:07:41:15

CAPT. GUENTHER

So the short answer is yes. We do test out water that comes out of the filters prior to it being discharged. Ok, here's a question on testing. The question is this starts with the statement, concerned about 10% testing plan, 90% of others may wonder about the water or if they should be concerned.

00:07:41:25 - 00:08:03:05

CAPT. GUENTHER

Will leadership look to increase the 10%? Here's the answer. The approved drinking water sampling plan was developed and approved through and by the Interagency Drinking Water System Team, which is made up of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Health and the Navy.

00:08:03:14 - 00:08:26:02

CAPT. GUENTHER

The sampling plan was developed to both ensure that the distribution system, as well as the residences, would have fit for human consumption or safe and healthy drinking water in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The percentage of homes tested is designed to be a scientific sample representative of the entire neighborhood on a system.

00:08:26:16 - 00:08:46:04

CAPT. GUENTHER

Initially, 10% of residences will be sampled, and in addition to this, and out of an abundance of caution to be more protective of schools, child development centers and medical facilities, those facilities, schools, child development centers and medical facilities will all be sampled at 100%.

00:08:46:29 - 00:09:05:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

In addition, the navy will be required to complete long term monitoring of the residences for 24 months, which includes increased sampling. This additional sampling will cover approximately 50 to 60% of all of the residences over the monitoring period.



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CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, next question is on moving. When can families move back into their homes? What dates, timelines do you have so people can plan? It's a great question, and I know it's a question many of you all of you have if you're out of your home.

00:09:22:12 - 00:09:44:15

CAPT. GUENTHER

Families can move back into their homes any time they wish, but the Hawaii Department of Health Advisory, not to drink the water is still active, and we would ask you to please check that advisory. After home flushing is complete, water is still not fit for human consumption until the Department of Health amends their health advisory.

00:09:44:08 - 00:10:02:01

CAPT. GUENTHER

Of the approximately 8000 families in military housing on the navy drinking water system, approximately half are still in their homes. The interagency drinking water team is assessing the time it takes to flush, sample, test and then evaluate.

00:10:02:26 - 00:10:22:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

We are working to understand that timeline better so that we can inform you for your planning. Ok, those are the questions that we have today from the neighborhood boards, and that was your daily water update for today. Please join us on Monday, same time.

00:10:22:12 - 00:10:39:24

CAPT. GUENTHER

We're monitoring your questions on Facebook and you can email those questions to cnrhpa@gmail.com. Don't forget to check out our water info website with all the latest test results and flushing information and maps.

00:10:40:08 - 00:10:56:01

CAPT. GUENTHER

That's at navy.mil/jointbasewater, and make sure to check out the good stuff at greatlifehawaii.com/wegotyou. Remember, we're all in this together as one community and ohana. Stay safe.

00:10:56:01 - 00:10:59:23

CAPT. GUENTHER

Take care of yourself. Take care of each other and we'll see you next time.