



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[2/2/2022]

00:00:08:15 - 00:00:24:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

Hello everyone, and welcome to the daily water update for February the 2nd. I'm Capt. Darren Guenther, chief of staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. Today, we're beginning the in-home flushing phase for the residents at Kapilina Beach Homes at Iroquois Point.

00:00:25:06 - 00:00:51:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

So to explain more about that process and what residents can expect. We're going to have on Lt. Cmdr. Marjorie Gruber. She is the commanding officer for Naval Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303. Her Seabees in her unit are supporting the in-home flushing efforts at Iroquois Point, and so she'll cover some of the specifics of that operation and what residents like you can expect.

00:00:51:14 - 00:01:20:09

CAPT. GUENTHER

Before we speak with Lt. Cmdr. Gruber, though, I want to remind you of the CDC, Department of Health survey to assess potential health impacts on our community, by the water. That survey is still open into Monday, and anyone who's impacted can take that survey at the following website its: go.usa.gov/xtg8v.

00:01:20:09 - 00:01:46:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

Now let's go to the map, for our map update. Our map, again, the latest map is posted online at our water website. That's navy.mil/jointbasewater, and you can see from the map, being majority of it in shades of blue and most of it in, sort of blue stripes.

00:01:46:10 - 00:02:07:02

CAPT. GUENTHER

Those indicate all of the areas that are complete with their flushing. So we have 15 of our 19 areas, which are our neighborhoods broken up, are complete. We have four that are in work, and as of this morning, we have zero neighborhoods awaiting starts for any of that flushing.

00:02:07:09 - 00:02:33:18

CAPT. GUENTHER



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So active flushers today, first and foremost, Aliamanu neighborhood. So that area, broken up into three different zones. Southernmost zone, we've completed 218 of 230 homes. The Central Zone, we've completed 848 of 918 zones, and the northernmost zones in the Aliamanu neighborhood.

00:02:33:28 - 00:03:05:24

CAPT. GUENTHER

We've completed 284 of 379 homes. So that's proceeding really well. I think we'll be complete with that, probably into tomorrow, but between today and tomorrow, we should be able to finish out the Aliamanu neighborhood, and starting this morning, Kapilina Beach Homes, Iroquois Point, the home flushing got started. That flushing is going to proceed through the end of the week and likely into Saturday, as well.

00:03:05:24 - 00:03:28:22

CAPT. GUENTHER

As for the other neighborhoods, they are all post flush. So that's post system flush, as well as post residents and facility flushing, and they are in the sort of the waiting game for system and home drinking water test and sample results coming back from our laboratories on the mainland.

00:03:29:01 - 00:03:44:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

Now, once all that, all that information is received here in Hawaii. That's when those neighborhoods are eligible to move to the next step in the Drinking Water Restoration Plan, which is for the Interagency Drinking Water Team, to review those results.

00:03:44:24 - 00:04:09:29

CAPT. GUENTHER

So most of the neighborhoods are in that phase right now, waiting those test results before making that next step in the next phase. So that's our map update for today. So we're seeing a lot of progress in our in-home flushing efforts, and what I'd like to do is bring on Lt. Cmdr. Gruber.

00:04:10:27 - 00:04:39:29

CAPT. GUENTHER



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We started the flush today, in Kapilina Beach Homes at Iroquois Point. It's our last neighborhood and Kapilina Beach Homes, it's actually a former Navy neighborhood. A Navy housing area that's now currently, privately owned. We've been working with the owners there to remediate the water system and come up with a plan for that, and that started this morning, and so thank you for coming on to help us explain what's going on in that neighborhood.

00:04:39:01 - 00:04:40:01

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir.

00:04:40:01 - 00:04:49:03

CAPT. GUENTHER

So, the first question I would have is what flushing has been accomplished already out in Kapilina Beach Homes, Iroquois Point area.

00:04:49:03 - 00:05:03:20

LT CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir. So to date, we've completed the system flushing. So the distribution system has been completed out there in Kapilina, Iroquois Point, and then as you mentioned, as of today, we've started the home flushing and expect that to go on for about four days.

00:05:04:01 - 00:05:10:09

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, so what can residents in Kapilina Beach homes expect from the home flushing portion?

00:05:10:09 - 00:05:36:18

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir. So each team that goes out into a resident will be two people. They can expect about a two-hour flushing time, and the team will come with a very detailed checklist already approved by the interagency that includes the Department of Health and the EPA, with the goal of doing, going through all of our steps correctly and safely.

00:05:36:18 - 00:05:48:10



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LT. CMDR. GRUBER

The first time, of course, and so the detailed steps, so immediately we go in, introduce ourselves and we are following all COVID protocols.

00:05:48:28 - 00:06:18:12

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

So personnel walking in, we'll have facemasks, booties, gloves. The next thing after that is identifying the faucets and fixtures, opening up windows, and after that, they will actually start the cold system flush. Following that, they will start draining the water heater in the expansion tank, and then they will go outside and open up the spigots and flush for about 15 minutes.

00:06:18:12 - 00:06:41:07

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Afterwards, they'll go and look at all of the major appliances. So refrigerators, dishwasher, freezer. Anything that water would go through and then that's pretty much the end of the checklist, and so it would just be the cleanup and verifying that with the resident that they've completed everything in the checklist.

00:06:41:24 - 00:06:50:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and while this is going on while the flushes is being conducted, if residents have a question or concern, who should they go to?

00:06:50:10- 00:07:16:13

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir. So on site, I have personnel that have been here since December flushing, so I would consider them subject matter experts if they need a immediate questions answered, but there's also the Emergency Operation Center from joint base, and so phone number and email can be found on the water resources website for any of that information

00:07:16:13- 00:07:25:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and does the in-home flushing portion of this? Does that equate to the water being safe to drink?



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00:07:25:13 - 00:07:42:16

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

So following the flushing, not immediately. The intent is we would get the samples first. Those samples will be collected and then analyzed by certified labs off island. These are the same labs the Department of Health uses.

00:07:43:11 - 00:08:07:13

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Once those samples come back, after the testing, they're reviewed here by the interagency and then the final review is done by the Hawaii Department of Health, and then that is when the release of the amended health advisory will be sent out to the Kapilina homes in Iroquois Point to say that water is fit for consumption and all other uses.

00:08:07:13 - 00:08:26:22

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, so just because, if I could summarize. Just because the home is flushed, that doesn't necessarily change the advisory, residents need to wait for that change, which will be put out by the Department of Health following the testing and the results from those tests coming back being evaluated.

00:08:26:25 - 00:08:27:26

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir, that is correct.

00:08:27:26-00:08:31:11

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and when will the water be tested after the flush?

00:08:31:11-

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

So water is tested immediately after the flushing, 10% of the homes in all facilities will be sampled and tested, and then there's follow on longer term.

00:08:42:26 - 00:09:03:16



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LT. CMDR. GRUBER

So from months one through three, we will be doing an additional 5% of homes and facilities in the Kapilina and Iroquois Point area, and then from four through twenty-four months. So up to two years, every six months, there will be another 10% of homes and facilities that will also be sampled.

00:09:03:16 - 00:09:14:21

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

So Kapilina homes, Iroquois Point can expect to have over 50% of the facilities, including the homes sampled across two years.

00:09:14:21-00:09:24:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and that's, and that testing percentages in expanded testing for two years is also the same for the rest of the Navy neighborhoods.

00:09:24:23 -00:09:25:30

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir.

00:09:25:30-00:09:26:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

On the Navy water system? Is that correct?

00:09:26:10-00:09:28:10

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

That is correct.

00:09:28:10-00:09:32:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and will residents be able to see those results after the in-home flushing?

00:09:32:13-00:09:38:22

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir. So as soon as they are approved by the Department of Health, they will be posted on the website.



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00:09:38:21 - 00:09:48:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, thank you very much for coming in. I appreciate the work of your team out in the Kapilina homes area today, doing that flushing and through the rest of the week.

00:09:48:14- 00:09:51:23

LT. CMDR. GRUBER

Yes, sir. Absolutely. Very happy to be here to help out.

00:09:51:23 - 00:10:20:09

CAPT. GUENTHER

Thank you. That was your daily water update for today. Please come back tomorrow, same time. We're monitoring your questions on Facebook, and you can also email those questions to cnrhpao@gmail.com. Please go to our water resources website for all the latest updated information.

00:10:20:23 - 00:10:37:18

CAPT. GUENTHER

That's navy.mil/jointbasewater, and don't forget to check out the good stuff at greatlifehawaii.com/wegotyou. Please remember we're all in this together as one community and ohana. Stay safe.

00:10:37:25 - 00:10:41:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

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