



## JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

[www.navy.mil/jointbasewater](http://www.navy.mil/jointbasewater)

[3/11/2022]

00:00:00 - 00:00:28

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Hello everyone and welcome to the daily water update for today, Friday, March 11. I am Commander Alia McHenry, Deputy Chief of Staff of Navy Region Hawaii. I will be filling in for Captain Guenther through Monday. I'm going to start out today by going through a couple of questions that have been asked, and by you through either email or Facebook comments.

00:00:29 - 00:01:37

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

The first question is, what do I do if my water still has a sheen? This question and answer is also available on the Joint Base Facebook page, but I'm going to read the response now. If you notice a sheen in your water, stir the water. If the oily film breaks into smaller sections, the cause of the sheen is likely due to natural causes. For example, minerals in the water. If after stirring the water, the oily film quickly forms back together into one uniform layer. Petroleum is likely the cause of the sheen. At that time, we would recommend that you smell your water. If you notice a rotten egg smell, the cause of the sheen is likely due to minerals or other organic chemicals in the water. If you notice a fuel like odor, stop consuming that water for cooking or for drinking the water immediately at that time and contact the Emergency Operations Center. That number is 808-449-1979. Again, this information is also on a Joint Base Facebook page.

00:01:37 - 00:02:17

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

The second question is, what do I do if I still get sick? Any resident who is experiencing medical issues should contact their primary care provider or medical treatment facility. If you have a problem getting an appointment, it would be appropriate if you're sick from the water to go to Tripler Medical Center immediately. Those with concerns related to their home's water quality after the Department of Health has determined their water is safe for all uses should contact the Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam Emergency Operations Center; Who will dispatch a rapid response team to investigate.

00:02:18 - 00:03:03

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So since the water crisis began, we have been fortunate to have members from across the world that have traveled here to support us both military and civilian. Today, we actually have somebody from the Rapid Response Team, who is a Sailor returning to Hawaii for the first time since visiting here as a child, and we'll talk to him later. His name is Steel Worker first class, Siamac Moghaddam. He is from the Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303, stationed in San Diego, California, and is currently the



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team lead for the rapid response team that's here. And we're going to talk to him a little bit about his responsibilities and how it feels to be back in Hawaii.

00:03:04 - 00:04:23

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Before we do that, we're going to go to the map and talk about what our progress is right now. So if you were looking at this yesterday, then you'll see that we haven't had any changes to our Department of Health amendments from yesterday, we still have seven zones that are under Department of Health Review, those zones are A3, C2, D2, F1, F2, H2 and H3, we still have three zones that are under IDWST review. And those are C1, C3, and D3. For our amendments, and really every day, we're just waiting on the Department of Health to review and evaluate those as they come available. This will be updated on both the Safe Waters page and the Joint Base Facebook page. So hopefully in the near future, as those are reviewed, we'll get that information out and we'll have additional amendments.

00:04:24 - 00:04:53

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So as I said before, we've gotten assistance from a lot of commands, really throughout the world, as many as 400 military and civilian members and experts have come to Oahu to help us and bring a broad range of skills to help address this very unique situation and problem that we've had. In the case of our guests today who are returning to Hawaii. So I'd like to welcome Petty Officer Moghaddam. How are you?

00:04:54 - 00:04:55

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Good, thank you.

00:04:55 - 00:05:03

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So let's talk a little bit about your background, and it and really so that our audience can learn a little bit more about you. So tell me, where are you from?

00:05:04 - 00:05:07

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

So I'm originally from Portland, Oregon. I grew up there in Oregon.

00:05:08 - 00:05:10

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Okay, and why did you join the Navy?



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PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Well, I joined the Navy because I was going to college at the time. And, you know, I was just looking for an opportunity to travel the world, I kind of had been on a couple of trips, and I had really enjoyed, you know, getting out there and traveling. So I was looking for a job that would pay me to do that. So I think I kind of found that.

00:05:27 - 00:05:28

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Alright, what year did you join?

00:05:29 - 00:05:30

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

2006

00:05:31 - 00:05:33

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So, what unit are you assigned to now?

00:05:34 - 00:05:38

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

I'm with Construction Battalion Maintenance unit. 303. We're homeport San Diego.

00:05:39 - 00:05:44

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Nice, not too far from here. And so this is a deployment for you currently?

00:05:45 - 00:05:45

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Yes, ma'am.

00:05:45 - 00:05:47

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Can you tell me when you arrived to the island?

00:05:48 - 00:05:56

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

So I arrived to the island on December 26. We flew in direct from San Diego, a small group.

00:05:57 - 00:05:59

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY



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So do you have memories of Hawaii before this deployment?

00:06:00 - 00:06:18

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Yes, actually, I have fond memories of Hawaii. I first took a trip to the islands of Aloha when I was five years old with my family. So we've got some pictures. I don't, I remember a little bit of that. I just remember like the beaches and how nice the weather was. But I do have some pictures that I look at from time to time. So.

00:06:18 - 00:06:23

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So is this what you imagined your deployment would be like?

00:06:23 - 00:06:44

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Well, initially, we had gotten the call that there was sort of crisis going on, and people needed support. And we were going to be tasked to you know lead the effort to get these homes flush, get people back into their homes and rebuild the trust within the community. So this is pretty much what I pictured. Yeah.

00:06:44 - 00:06:47

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So have you worked with more than one water restoration effort?

00:06:48 - 00:07:07

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

This is my first water restoration effort. I've definitely worked with the community before when I first joined the Navy. I had worked with teams that were going throughout Gulfport, Mississippi to help with Hurricane Katrina. So not exactly the same, but similar. And you're supporting people in the community, Americans not deployed overseas.

00:07:08 - 00:07:09

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

How long did you stay there for?

00:07:10 - 00:07:20

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

I was there for my initial school, my like tech school, my A-school. So, about three months, we did community projects, cleaning up parks, and I mean, it was just a mess after Katrina. So

00:07:21 - 00:07:28

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY



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Right. So can you talk a little bit about the stages in which you have supported and how they were all different?

00:07:29 - 00:08:15

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Yeah, when we first got here, we were on as part of like a giant kind of interagency, like DoD effort to get these homes flushed. So we were going door to door, we were flushing homes, we went, you know, to all these different zones, and just went in and you know, did the hot water flush, the cold water flush, did the the hot water heater, just speaking to residents addressing their concerns. So it's a pretty big effort. That was how it began, and then it now we've kind of morphed into this rapid response. So, we were just responding to concerns throughout the community of people like stuff you mentioned before, like the sheen in the water, if they have any issues, they smell something, we basically go to their house, and we talk to them and see if we can either take a sample or if we can reflash their home or whatever they need, really. So just supporting them.

00:08:16 - 00:08:27

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

Okay. And so I understand that you have another like a special connection to the island. And now you're talking about coming here as a child. Can you tell me a little bit more about that?

00:08:28 - 00:09:11

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

Yeah. So when I initially came here, everybody was so friendly when as I remember, as a child, what I remember. And then I had come back actually with the military using one of their space available flights. So we flew into Kaneohe, and I had the chance to travel all around Oahu, and then to Maui, and I just remember like fondly how nice everybody was and how welcoming everybody was. And while it has been frustrating, like people have been frustrated in their homes, and this is an extremely like stressful situation. People have really have that same sense of like welcoming and, you know, respect for what we're trying to do. So that's definitely meant a lot to me, because we are helping out service members, you know, fellow, you know, fellow brothers and sisters in arms. So.

00:09:12 - 00:09:17

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So, why is this mission important to you?

00:09:17 - 00:09:43

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM



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Like I said, it's just helping out these, service members and their family so they can get back out there. And we can, you know, kind of work on the mission that we're all doing. It's a dangerous world out there. We all have different jobs to do. So. Just being able to go into their homes and address their concerns, listen to what they have been going through, is very powerful, because it just reminds you of why you serve. And that's for the, you know, the citizens, ordinary citizens, the fellow service members, the United States.

00:09:44 - 00:09:50

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So, what would be your most valuable lesson learned from this event kind of being here?

00:09:51 - 00:10:33

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

So my most valuable lesson I would say is that if you can just have a little bit of patience, and you can learn to listen to what people are having to say, you know, when they're in these difficult situations, you can actually learn a lot. And you can develop a lot of patience and respect for what people are going through. Because it's been really tough to just go into these homes and seeing people using bottled water, you know, seeing people displaced in hotels with their families and their pets, some of our own members are displaced in our own unit, because we have a detachment here in Pearl Harbor. So it's been really tough, but definitely taking away just learning from, you know, having the patience, and also having the respect for people's circumstances and what they're going through.

00:10:34 - 00:10:49

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So it's been very stressful for sure, for our families. And I appreciate you saying that. Is there anything that you learned about yourself through this?

00:10:50 - 00:11:28

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

I would say that, I know it's like a lighter subject. But I've learned that I absolutely love Hawaii, I love the island of Oahu, I think this this place is magical. It's been really great. We haven't had much time off. But the time we have had off, I'd been able to explore the island. So I definitely learned a sense of like, you know, peace and calming being out here and in Oahu, and being able to hike and see some of the beaches. So I've definitely learned, you know, a sense of calm out here. So I appreciate that, you know, because being in the mainland or being in San Diego and California can be, you know, a lot of people there, it's a big population, big city. So it's definitely cool to come out here and see a different side of things.



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CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

So, is there anything that you're going to take away from this experience that you can take back with you or use for future deployments?

00:11:39 - 00:12:02

PO1 SIAMAC MOGHADDAM

It just gives me a renewed sense of dedication to why we serve and who we serve. And that's what I really take from this. I mean, that's the most important thing to me, as I'm nearing the end of my career, I've got, you know, 16 years in the Navy, I can retire at 20. And being able to be reminded at this stage of my career of why we serve and who we serve is super important to me.

00:12:03- 00:13:31

CMDR ALEAH MCHENRY

We appreciate you going into focus homes and especially with the kindness that you've displayed today for really taking care of our Ohana. So thank you for that. So thank you for sharing some of your personal stories with us as well. What I'd like to do then is to just kind of close out for today. We are monitoring your questions on Facebook. We can also take your questions via email at [cnrhpa@gmail.com](mailto:cnrhpa@gmail.com). And so please keep those questions coming in so that we can answer them in a timely manner. Don't forget our info at our website [navy.mil/jointbasewater](http://navy.mil/jointbasewater). You can check for the latest water updates there including the maps and really where the zones are on the safe waters page and the joint base page. Additionally, you can find MWR resources at [greatlife.hawaii.com/wegotyou](http://greatlife.hawaii.com/wegotyou). We are in this together as one community, and family, or Ohana until tomorrow. Please stay safe, take care of yourself and take care of each other. Thank you.