



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/10/2022]

00:00:08:15 - 00:01:06:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Hello, everyone, and welcome to the daily update for January the 10th. I'm Captain Darren Guenther, Chief of Staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. I hope you all had a restful weekend. We're coming up on some fairly significant milestones in our recovery plan coming up in the upcoming weeks. First of all, we're into our final system flush for areas on the Navy water system and our focus is also going to shift to the home flushing over the next several weeks. As such, I'll have Captain Miguel Dieguez, he's with our Naval Facilities Command. He's an engineer with them. We'll have him answer some questions here in just a few minutes. Before that, I'd like to highlight a couple of items to share with you that have been of interest and that we've gotten questions on.

00:01:06:15 - 00:03:04:07

CAPT. GUENTHER

First, for our residents living in the Kapilina Beach homes, over the next few days, you'll be receiving an email from your property manager. That's going to give you some information that you need in order to file authorized expense reimbursements. So depending on your circumstances that may include hotel receipts or other expenses, or it may be for expenses you incurred because you were impacted by the water provided by the Navy. We appreciate your continued patience as we work through this process to resolve those claims. But I wanted to let you know that there is a way forward there. Another important note to share, currently, our CDC and SAC programs continue to operate our snack and meal services using mostly paper products. However, out of the utmost caution and because you, as parents asked, plastics used in the snack and meal service for food and drink prep service and consumption are in the process of being replaced at our child and Youth Program Centers that are served by the Navy water system. That includes over 9300 separate items, and we're using a mix of local and mainland vendors to acquire those items. Those new items, once we get them, will be washed in clean water that's being provided from external sources today and until the water system in that neighborhood associated with that Child and Youth Development Child Use Program Center is declared safe. So I wanted to provide you with that update as well today.

00:03:06:02 - 00:05:59:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Before I bring on Captain, I guess I'd like to give you an update of our flushing progress. This is posted on our map sort of web update page, our water updates page that would be Navy.Mil/JointBaseWater. And so you'll see some coloration changes across this. But let's go from sort of oldest to newest in terms of where we are on the drinking water recovery sort of spectrum. So Pearl City Peninsula, we are still awaiting the final results from the home of water tests that were taken in the various homes across that neighborhood. That's where we're at with Pearl City Peninsula. For Hale Moku and Hokulani. Over the weekend, thank you for your patience and thank you for your assistance in getting through that neighborhood in



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accomplishing our home to home flush. We are 508 of 508 homes complete, so we were complete with all of the homes. We still have some support facilities in that area that we're doing that facility flush currently, so we're complete with we have 31 of those facilities. We have 13 to go there. Should be able to complete those today and then we'll be on to home and facility sampling for that drinking water sampling and testing. All right, over to Hale Na Koa, Onizuka and Officer Field Area of Hickam. We started you all over the weekend and we have completed 154 homes. That's a pretty big zone, so we have 1577 homes. We also have a good number of facilities and CDC's and schools that we're going in to do those flushes for 100% flush there. So it's going to take us a little time to get through that but I wanted to give you the where we're at with that alright. And then let's go up to Ford Island. So Ford Island is complete, obviously with their system flush and we have received all of the results from that system water testing and the inner agency drinking water team has been able to take a look at those test results, give us the thumbs up to move to home to home testing. So the home excuse me home to home flushing. Home to home flushing will begin estimated on the 12th of January. That's this Wednesday and you'll see some correspondence here shortly trying to give you an idea on how long that's going to take and what streets. We're going to be targeting across that time period.

00:05:59:16 - 00:08:58:19

CAPT. GUENTHER

So coming up with an estimated start on Wednesday, the 12th. All right. Let's look at some system flushing. Aliamanu continues, we have broken that area up into three different sort of pieces or zones. One of those zones is complete, the second one, which is right there in the middle. It's sort of the biggest zone I would say is 90% complete and then there's a third zone in Aliamanu that's going to get started today. So that's the progress on that system flushing Aliamanu. And finally, a note about the Red Hill housing, the test results from the system test have come back for that as well Inter-Agency Drinking Water Team has taken a look at those tests and given the thumbs up to move towards home to home flushing. So they're going to be looking to get into home to home flushing and actually starting today at Red Hill neighborhood. All right, one final call out here, a number of the other neighborhoods, like we said, we are into or through all of our system flushing. So a number of the neighborhoods you'll see in sort of a yellow striped pattern. Those are all ones that we're waiting for test results. We took a ton of tests from the system flushes. We've sent all those over to the labs. Those labs are certified by the Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency. They are taking their due diligence with those tests running all of them takes. There are a number of them over there and so all of those neighborhoods are in wait for the results from those tests before they move on to the next phase, which is looking at flushing the home themselves. Now one thing I want to call out for Kapilina Beach Homes here. System Flush was completed over the weekend and again, you know, when we do a system flush that big carbon filter, all the water that we pull out of the system In that, goes through that carbon filter and that carbon filter cleans that water of contaminants before that water is then flushed to either the storm drains or elsewhere, so I want to make sure everybody understands that those carbon filters are tested and to ensure that they're



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doing their job removing anything out there that would be harmful to the environment before we put it out but one other note for Kapilina Beach Homes area out there, we are working towards identifying when the residential or home to home flush will occur. And there's a sort of a note you'll notice on our chart that says that plan is in development. The home to home flush will occur here in your homes as well. And that plan will have more info, hopefully in the next several days on when we anticipate that plan.

00:08:59:08 - 00:09:19:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

So that's your map update for today. OK, what I'd like to do now is bring in Captain Dieguez, so Captain Dieguez is the Public Works officer and works for NAVFAC in Kings Bay Georgia has been sent directly to us as head of our water recovery team. A wealth of experience you've been on with us a couple of times to answer questions, so welcome back. Thank you for coming.

00:09:34:13 - 00:09:35:18

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

It's great to be back.

00:09:35:18 - 00:10:04:16

CAPT. GUENTHER

And we have a lot of work over the weekend. Really a lot of progressions on this map that your team has been pushing forward and there are a bunch of questions that the community has asked, and I wonder if I could run them by you. So a lot of them are on flushing and testing and so the last step in system flushing is testing of water samples. First of all, what are we testing for?

00:10:05:04 - 00:11:14:12

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Yeah, great question, Darren. So to give folks a perspective, every zone gets two tests. We have a series of screening tests where we're looking for total petroleum hydrocarbons and total organics. Those tests are sent off to a lab in Seattle that does all those screening tests and then the next day, we take a series of drinking water compliance tests. Those tests today are being sent to labs predominantly in the Los Angeles area, and we found some other ones and another lab in Denver that has the full spectrum test in addition to a lab, a mobile lab that the Environmental Protection Agency has made available to us, and they're set up and been running now for a week. So we take kind of a mix of labs to make sure we have a variety of test results that the folks can, so we can have confidence that we don't have just one lab that we're using, but we test for all the things that DOH and EPA has specified in the interagency team and those results take about three or four days to run through very sensitive instrumentation and then we get those results back and give the interagency team an opportunity to review that.



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00:11:15:04 - 00:11:28:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

OK. And that answers one of the follow ons, at least, which was how long does this testing take, and who's conducting that testing? Let me move to flushing. Where are we with home flushing and are we on schedule?

00:11:29:01 - 00:12:25:17

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Yeah, we are so far. Thank you to the patience and the accommodations that the residents have given us. We've completed, as you know Pearl City Peninsula, we completed Hale Moku and Hokulani over the weekend and we're very aggressively working through the neighborhoods in Hickam, as you mentioned, there's over 1500 homes in there. We have somewhere between 90 and 100 two person teams working through those neighborhoods and hoping to complete about four to 500 homes a day. So with any luck later this week, we'll be complete there and continue to be on track. Results for the other zones have begun to arrive and the inter-agency team has given us a thumbs up, as you mentioned earlier. So we expect really over the next two weeks nonstop, seven days a week working through flushing homes and all of those nonresidential buildings, schools and CDCs. Our goal is for the next two weeks to get through that very methodically.

00:12:26:00 - 00:12:53:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

OK, so big next two weeks, really to do all the home to home flushing, and that leads us into the next question. So after home flushing is complete in a zone, how long until we know the results or the way forward? I know our chart is set up with dates for that home flushing and sampling, but after that, flushing is complete. How long do we have?

00:12:53:21 - 00:14:39:17

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Yes If I could go back to one point, Darren, I think folks, and they're very observant, right? We have teams out there with tablets going through home flushing. Those tablets are part of a technology that the Army exposed to us through the interagency team using an environmental data management system. So if you see tablets, don't be concerned, they're not surfing the web and playing games. We actually provide the checklist for them electronically on that tablet as a goes that follows the SOP that the interagency team approved, along with some training videos to help them make sure that each step is followed in the right sequence and carefully. And that allows us on our end to track that data real time so we can see every address is complete to make sure it's done, it's done right and then we have an auditable document that captures that for in the future, we want to confirm that. So you'll see those tablets and the Army is going to start using those as well. Great system but as we move forward, you asked about when the home flushing to complete the zone, how will that work? Those results will be sent back to the labs that we talked



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about earlier, the exact same labs and it's going to take about 18 days to work through the testing and then to bring those results back to the interagency team and really the Department of Health. There's a lot of data they're going to have to compile through and get confident in that the results meet criteria and meet the standards set forth by the team. So we think that's going to be about two weeks of really just combing through hundreds and hundreds of reports and sampling data. So later today, we're going to post an update on the map that tries to capture that timeline more accurately for our residents and share that with everybody to see.

00:14:40:14 - 00:15:19:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

OK, so it sounds like there's a lot of work to be done once we get all of those results back before sort of that final action, you might say, of declaring those residences and that neighborhood with safe drinking water, and of course, that needs to be done in in partnership and in lockstep with our Environmental Protection Agency, as well as Hawaii Department of Health experts to ensure that we've got that right and so it sounds like it does take some time, but it's to ensure that we've got that right. Is that right.

00:15:19:20 - 00:15:50:10

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Yeah and just to put in perspective, so Pearl City Peninsula, we're expecting those that group of sampling results to be back this week. It's over 70 samples that were taken through a representative number of homes so that, as you can imagine, will take some time for the interagency team to get through and kind of figure out the process in the quality control to make sure they get it right. As an entire system, we're talking over 1000 samples that will take across the Navy water system and just want to make sure we do that right?

00:15:50:13 - 00:16:14:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

OK So while it does take time, we definitely want to, you know, when we want to build everyone's confidence in the water first and foremost and and I appreciate, you know, obviously the the partnership and assistance of all those technical experts from the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the Department of Health helping us through this and making sure that we're seeing it clearly and correctly.

00:16:14:14 - 00:16:15:10

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Couldn't do it without them.



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CAPT. GUENTHER

OK and you know, I'll show this again. To you all, this is a sort of a graphic that was produced and it's a little more big picture. But it shows that system recovery plan, you can pull that off of our social media and give you a sort of an idea on how your team is working through this. So with that, I really appreciate you coming on.

00:16:39:02 - 00:16:40:13

CAPT. DIEGUEZ

Thanks. I love being here.

00:16:40:20 - 00:16:41:04

CAPT. GUENTHER

Thank you.

00:16:48:17 - 00:16:51:21

CAPT. GUENTHER

That was your daily water update for today. Please come back tomorrow at the same time. We're monitoring your questions on Facebook, and you can also email those questions to CNRHPAO@Gmail.com. Don't forget to check our water info Website at [Navy.Mil/JointBase Water](http://Navy.Mil/JointBaseWater) and make sure you check out the good stuff at GreatLifeHawaii.com/WeGotYou. Remember, we're all in this together as one community and ohana, stay safe, take care of yourself, take care of each other, and we'll see you next time.