



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

00:00:06:02 - 00:01:23:10

CAPT GUENTHER

Hello, everyone, and welcome to the daily water update for January the 11th. I'm Captain Darren Guenther, Chief of Staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. Since we began these updates, you've heard a lot about the Navy working collaboratively with interagency partners. There's a team consisting of the Navy, the Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency, and they're all working hard together on behalf of our community and on behalf of clean drinking water. Today, we'll be speaking remotely with several important members of that interagency team. The first is Dr. Diana Felton, she's the state toxicologist with the State of Hawaii Department of Health. And we'll also be speaking with Mr. Benjamin Gerhardstein, he's a public health advisor with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry at the United States Center for Disease Control, or CDC. They'll be discussing an important public health survey to investigate potential health impacts on our community by the contamination in the water. But before we speak with them, I'd like to give you an update on our flushing progress.

00:01:28:04 - 00:03:50:14

CAPT GUENTHER

So going to the chart here, this chart is posted on our water page, that's Navy.mil/JointBaseWater. What I'm going to do is I'm going to talk through where some of these neighborhoods are sorted by category this time as opposed to going sort of clockwise neighborhood by neighborhood through this. So, we have one neighborhood remaining in our system flush. That neighborhood is Aliamanu. So, Aliamanu has been broken up into three different, distinct zones for their system water flushing, one of those zones is complete. The second zone, which is a fairly large one, is 75% complete and the third and final zone is going to start its system flush today. We also have several neighborhoods that are in that home flush process currently. So, the first one that's in the midst of it, actually, let's go up to Red Hill here. So, the Red Hill neighborhood is 59% complete, a fairly small area, but 135 homes that they're working through up in the Red Hill neighborhood and then one of the larger neighborhoods that we're working through is the Hickam neighborhoods of Hale Na Koa, Onizuka Village and Officer Field. That area of Hickam has 1577 homes. We are complete at this moment with 1048 of them, so that's about two thirds. Now that area also has a lot of facilities associated with it where folks are working or service facilities. There's actually over 200. We are complete with 22 of those facilities, so we have some time that we'll need to work through those facilities as well. There is obviously a school in a CDC in that area. If you're familiar with it, we're complete with that CDC and school flush in that zone. Working up to the next neighborhoods, up for the home-to-home flushing. We have Ford Island. So, Ford Island is scheduled to begin its home flushing tomorrow morning at 8:00 am. It should take us one day to get through all of Ford Island. So that's the plan for all of y'all on Ford Island.

00:03:50:16 - 00:05:28:00



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

CAPT GUENTHER

And finally, the next neighborhood coming up is our Moanalua Terrace NEX area, so one of our larger areas that is scheduled to begin on the 13th. However, I want to caution you that we are still awaiting some final results from the laboratory for our system testing that was accomplished, so we're still awaiting those results and then once those results come to us, we need to get our interagency drinking water team to be able to evaluate those results and take some time on them before we start that home flush. So, while scheduled for the 13th, we do have a couple of gates that we have to go to before we actually start that flush. All right, and then we have some neighborhoods that are complete with our home flushing and we're waiting on sort of test results and testing. So, Pearl City Peninsula, we are still awaiting the final test results from the various homes there, which are at the laboratory and coming into our team. Once they come in, then our interagency team will have a chance to review those results. And Hale Moku, Hokulani home to home and facilities flushing is complete where we've taken some samples from that area. We have some more samples to take today and then they will be off to the lab on the mainland for evaluation. That is our map update for the day and again, you can see this on our water page posted.

00:05:28:12 - 00:06:41:24

CAPT GUENTHER

Okay. So, what I'd like to do now is move to a couple of our really important interagency partners who are joining us, our Interagency team is comprised of experts from the field and both locally and nationally. To help us through this process to ensure clean drinking water and the safety and health of our community. And so, I'm being joined by Dr. Diana Felton, who is our state toxicologist with the Hawaii Department of Health and Mr. Ben Gerhardstein, who is an environmental health scientist with the CDC. And here to talk about the health survey that's coming up, you know. This information from this survey is very important because it will help us understand the impact of this crisis on the health of our Hawaii residents. And so, Dr. Felton, Mr. Gerhardstein, welcome and thank you for coming on. My first question is for Dr. Felton, first of all, welcome, and why are we conducting this health survey? What's the purpose of it?

00:06:42:16 - 00:07:32:20

Dr. Felton

Sure, thanks for having me today. We know that many people, both civilians and military, have concerns about their water quality, odor, sheens and the health effects related to the water contamination. This event has disrupted many people's lives and led to considerable stress for families. So, we really, really want to better understand the full range of the health symptoms that people have experienced. That have occurred to them and their families, and this will help us determine what steps are needed to protect people's health, and so to help with this project, the Department of Health asked the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, ATSDR for Assistance through their assessment of Chemical Exposure or ACE program.



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

00:07:35:29 - 00:07:49:14

CAPT GUENTHER

Mr. Gerhardstein, welcome to you. And I wonder if you could tell us how the CDC and ATSDR are helping in this effort that Dr. Felton just described.

00:07:51:07 - 00:08:14:22

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

Absolutely, and thank you for having me on. So, one of ATSDR's core activities is to help investigate environmental health threats and to use that information to protect the health of communities. One of our programs, the assessment of chemical exposures program, can really bring in a wide range of environmental health experts to deploy folks out into the field in response to chemical exposure events and emergencies. So, we now have a team of ten folks that are on the ground in Hawaii. We're working closely with the Department of Health, and that team includes epidemiologists, toxicologists and environmental health scientists.

00:08:32:07 - 00:08:45:14

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

Meanwhile, we're backed up in Atlanta at our headquarters with others, with other types of expertise and our focus is to reach as many people as possible to fill out this survey that we're going to talk about today.

00:08:47:14 - 00:08:48:02

CAPT GUENTHER

That's great. Mr. Gerhardstein, who can participate in the survey.

00:08:54:03 - 00:09:18:11

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

So, we're very pleased to share the news today that the ACE survey is now open to all people who are served by the Navy water system, both civilians and military. So, this includes people who live in affected housing areas and people who work but don't necessarily live in those housing areas or in the area overall served by the water system. And we also want to be clear that parents and guardians can complete this survey for children who attend schools or early care facilities that are served by the Navy water system. We encourage everyone who's eligible to participate, whether or not you experienced health symptoms, and folks should know that this is a voluntary effort and your identity identities will be kept confidential.

00:09:44:02 - 00:09:47:19

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, Mr. Gerhardstein can you tell us how people participate in this survey? Where do they go?



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

00:09:52:24 - 00:10:12:27

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

Yeah, there's a few different ways the best way to participate is to take the survey online. We've recently posted it up and it should be available. The URL should be available on the banner that you're seeing come across this Facebook Live feed. The survey will be available until February 7th. You can also access information or the link for it through the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Facebook page, the DOH web page about the contamination response, and I'm sure the Navy website as well, in addition to that online mechanism, we are conducting some surveys by phone and in-person.

00:10:35:20 - 00:11:00:27

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

You can contact our team by phone or email for more information, and our contact information is... will be posted at those same locations that I just mentioned, the web pages. Finally, I should note that you may see our team at water distribution points and other central locations in housing areas and commercial areas, and distributing information about this survey.

00:11:03:04 - 00:11:05:29

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, good info. Can you tell us what kind of questions are on the survey?

00:11:09:04 - 00:11:32:13

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

Yes, this survey is all about people's health experience, so we have included questions about ways people were exposed to the contaminated water, health symptoms that they may be experienced, medical care that they sought and we're also trying to cover the impacts that people observed on their children and their pets.

00:11:33:17 - 00:11:41:12

Mr. GERHARDSTEIN

This is a rather comprehensive picture they were trying to gain an understanding of. And so, the survey should take around 30 minutes to complete.

00:11:43:11 - 00:11:44:07

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, thank you.

00:11:44:28 - 00:11:50:01

CAPT GUENTHER

Dr. Felton, I wonder if you could answer this question, what happens after the survey closes?



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

00:11:51:12 - 00:12:10:03

DR. FFELTON

Sure, so after the collection of the data and the survey closes, the Department of Health and the CDC, ATSDR team will analyze the data and summarize the findings to report, they'll be shared with the community. And in addition, will use the information to determine any follow up steps that might be needed.

00:12:11:20 - 00:12:12:16

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, thank you. And some of us have heard that there's a DOD survey through the Department of Defense health care system also ongoing. What are the differences between these two surveys?

00:12:26:19 - 00:12:46:01

Dr. Felton

Yeah, that's a great question, so the Department of Health, CDC, ATSDR Health Survey that we're talking about today will provide a baseline assessment of the health impacts related to the water contamination. And it really complements the DOD Incident Report Registry, which has been created through housing and employment records.

00:12:46:12 - 00:13:00:09

Dr. Felton

So, what we learn from this health survey could really help DOD determine the next steps for the registry. And there's more information on the DOD registry available on the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Water Updates Web page.

00:13:01:25 - 00:13:10:25

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, wonderful Thank you very, very important information for our community and an important registry for us to understand the issue.

00:13:11:05 - 00:13:13:06

CAPT GUENTHER

And so, Dr. Felton, Mr. Gerhardstein, thank you so much for being with us and thank you for your service to our community and helping us through this.

00:13:22:23 - 00:13:24:00

Dr. Felton

Thank you so much for having us.



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/11/2022]

00:13:26:23 - 00:14:08:13

CAPT GUENTHER

Thank you. That was your daily water update for today Please come back tomorrow and join us same time. We're monitoring your questions on Facebook and you can email those questions to CNRHPAO@Gmail.com. Don't forget to visit our water info website 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, take care of yourself, take care of each other, and we'll see you next time.