



JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

www.navy.mil/jointbasewater

[1/18/2022]

00:00:16:20 - 00:00:21:03

CAPT GUENTHER

Hello, everyone, and welcome to the daily water update for January the 18th.

I'm Captain Darren Gunther, Chief of Staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. I hope you will. You were able to spend some time commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Over this past weekend and his legacy of service and contributions to our country. I'd also like to thank our flushing teams and our supply teams that worked through the weekend supporting our community. We understand this process is trying and we appreciate your patience.

00:00:53:17 - 00:01:03:05

CAPT GUENTHER

Today. We're going to answer some of the many questions that you've been putting in and that we've received so far. In some cases, we're going to combine some of those answers just so we can get through as many topics as possible. But before we answer those questions. Let's give you a map update on our progress and where we're at. This chart is uploaded through the Navy water page that's Navy.mil/JointBaseWater and you know reflecting the situation in most of our neighborhoods, there sort of a hashed sand color. They are awaiting sort of the testing results from our sampling.

00:01:41:02 - 00:01:57:18

CAPT GUENTHER

However, a flushing update in a couple of our neighborhoods, we've got Hale Na Koa, Officer Field and Onizuka portion of Hickam. They are complete with all 1,577 homes, and we're working through the final facilities out there. So, we've done 159 facilities and we've got about 60 to go out of a total of 220 facilities there. On Ford Island. We've completed all 411 homes and we're focused on the rest of the facilities. We're through 34 of those facilities out of the 112 total facilities on Ford Island. Upcoming starts. So yesterday, residents in the Earhart area should have received a letter saying that the Interagency Drinking Water Team had reviewed the results for the system water testing and had given the go ahead to proceed to home-to-home flushing.

00:02:44:27 - 00:02:57:10

CAPT GUENTHER

So, Earhart is scheduled to start on the 19th. That's tomorrow and that'll run through two days of home-to-home flushes and the facilities will be flushed. Alongside the homes in that time span. All right, some updates. Interagency Drinking Water Team is expecting to receive a number of results from the system tests and samples that they've put in recently, and they're going to be reviewing those samples in a number of neighborhoods.



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00:03:20:04 - 00:03:42:03

CAPT GUENTHER

So today they're going to be receiving and taking a look at the results from Halsey, Radford, Catlin and for a possible start on the 21st. And then they're also going to be taking a look at the results from Camp Smith for a possible start on the 21st. Also, Hale Alii hospital point in the shipyard. They're going to be doing a pending review over the next couple of days of those results for a possible start on the 22nd. Also, we have a number of neighborhoods that are post flush and awaiting their home-to-home and facility testing, and that's Pearl City Peninsula. They've been waiting for a bit, Red Hill neighborhood, NEX, Moanalua Terrace area, as well as Hale Moku and Hokulani awaiting those drinking water results in those neighborhoods.

00:04:20:09 - 00:04:38:22

CAPT GUENTHER

That's your map update for today. OK. What I'd like to do now is work through some of the questions that you all have been asking over the last couple of days and get some answers out to you.

00:04:40:10 - 00:05:04:00

CAPT GUENTHER

So, Andrea had a question about the in-home flushing process, and in particular, she had some concerns that whether some of the steps might be repeated in, if steps were missed. And so, she says the flushing the flushing teams are completing flushing and thousands of homes as an answer and doing their best to follow that required checklist.

00:05:04:08 - 00:05:28:03

CAPT GUENTHER

They should be following that checklist. In some cases, if they have an issue with like a water heater or whatnot, they may return to complete that if they have to do further maintenance. However, if you have questions or require further assistance concerning flushing in your home after the teams have concluded their work, please contact either the housing representative or the EOC to coordinate that support.

00:05:28:27 - 00:06:33:22

CAPT GUENTHER

Andrea also noted that the ice was not dumped in the automatic ice maker waterline was not changed. Residents are asked to dump the ice from their ice makers for at least two to three cycles, and there is not a plan to change the water line for that ice maker. The dishwasher and washer were also not flushed, run or rinsed. The recommendation is should residents wish, they should run rinse cycles of their dishwasher and washing machine with an empty load with some soap to ensure their cleanliness. And a note, thank you for letting us know about the teams and your sense that they did not fully comply with some of the procedures pertaining to opening



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windows or doors and the use of PPE. Very important to us, we've addressed with our leadership to address with those teams to ensure that flushing is taking place procedurally in accordance with the checklist and standard operating procedures.

00:06:33:22 - 00:06:55:27

CAPT GUENTHER

For those of you that might be having your homes flushed coming up. If you have any concerns regarding those flushing procedures, we'd ask you to address that with that team on site.

However, you can also let our EOC know such that we can take that up on your behalf.

As a final note, if residents would like to conduct additional flushing, they're encouraged to do so.

00:06:56:01 - 00:07:06:11

CAPT GUENTHER

Whether that's running faucets or whatnot. And if they'd like to request any additional support, they can coordinate with their housing representatives or the EOC for that follow on support.

00:07:06:28 - 00:07:24:19

CAPT GUENTHER

OK, here's a separate question Megan has asked about flushing at a specific location. She asks "Are you flushing the Navy Lodge on Ford Island?" The answer is yes. The Navy Lodge at Ford Island will be flushed in accordance with the checklist and standard operating procedures.

00:07:26:04 - 00:07:36:01

CAPT GUENTHER

All right. Testing and test results questions. Many of you have asked about the flushing process and in particular test results. And at what point you will be able to see the post flushing test results.

00:07:38:02 - 00:08:33:19

CAPT GUENTHER

So as... You can find more details on this answer in the press release, which was put out last week, titled "Drinking Water Restoration Timeline and Data Release Process", which is on the water resources page. However, as the Interagency Drinking Water Team goes through the steps on the flushing process. System flushing, system test, home and facility flushing, home and facility test. They are meeting to go through those results before they go on to the next stage. However, it is in the third and final step. Which is the amended health advisory and residents return home step. In which the Department of Health will be releasing the full system testing and home and facility test results.



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00:08:34:12 - 00:09:23:09

CAPT GUENTHER

So once that Interagency Drinking Water Team agrees that the drinking water meets the criteria for safe drinking water for that zone, then the Hawaii Department of Health will do an independent final review of all of that data and, if satisfied, will issue an amended drinking water advisory deeming the water fit for human consumption. And at that time, that DOH action will then trigger a number of notifications, including; they will allow for the posting of information at our water website as well as their own. That will include a summary of test results and a link to the complete test results for all of that zone's flushing and sampling activities. Ok. So, that is when all of those test results will be posted.

00:09:28:19 - 00:09:44:02

CAPT GUENTHER

All right. Here's a question on bulk drinking water. It's a composite of questions from Robert and Dee, concerning bulk drinking water. My wife has discovered that the water to fill up our jugs has a sheen on it. Where's that water coming from and how do we know it's safe?

00:09:44:26 - 00:09:59:23

CAPT GUENTHER

So first and foremost, if you see a problem with the water you've received from a bulk water supply tank, please do not use it and please notify our Emergency Operations Center, EOC, so that our logistics cell can take action.

00:10:02:20 - 00:10:14:01

CAPT GUENTHER

Bulk water comes from Schofield Barracks and their water system there. Which is independent from our Navy water and takes from water wells in that area.

00:10:14:16 - 00:10:36:15

CAPT GUENTHER

Preventative medicine technicians test every bulk water container for pH and chlorine levels daily, and they test for bacteria weekly. Each bulk water tank is also refreshed with potable water, either on a daily or every other day schedule, depending on usage.

00:10:37:19 - 00:10:40:15

CAPT GUENTHER

If technicians find anything abnormal, they have protocols to treat that water and drain and clean the tanks if needed.



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00:10:46:14 - 00:11:05:11

CAPT GUENTHER

OK. Question on TLA payments. Jamie has a comment and a question about TLA payments for those who just arrived and says, "What about the families that just PCS'd here and have been staying in the hotel for two months and are paying thousands of dollars out of pocket with no reimbursement yet?"

00:11:06:03 - 00:11:32:21

CAPT GUENTHER

So TLA payments for PCS is handled slightly differently than water TLA, which has a dedicated team and some separate authorities. However, if you find yourself in a PCS status and you're finding yourself in the hole here, we ask you to contact your command pay and personnel administrator to try to expedite that process to get you paid. Such that you're not getting in a pinch there.

00:11:37:11 - 00:11:40:21

CAPT GUENTHER

There are some, some actions that the command has to take for a PCS TLA claim. And so, we need to make sure that your command is involved, such that they're covering those sorts of things, such as being gained and other things which allow the Navy to pay those payments out. But if there's a delay, we ask that you get with your command so that we can expedite this and then we'll get with our PSD experts to ensure their tracking and can expedite and make up those payments. OK.

00:12:12:11 - 00:12:36:12

CAPT GUENTHER

All right. In a final question on health impacts. Some of you again expressed understandable concern about short- and long-term health impacts for those exposed to contaminated water. As we mentioned during previous updates, the Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control, CDC, are conducting a health survey for civilians and DOD affiliated individuals to better understand health issues in the Navy water system. And this includes people who live, work, visit or attend school or whatnot. Participation is voluntary and confidential, and the results will be shared at the end. The survey is available online until February seventh at go.usa.gov/xtg8v. And recall we had the Department of Health state toxicologist.

00:13:09:26 - 00:13:17:04

CAPT GUENTHER

Dr. Diana Felton on last week to talk about this very survey, and so I'd encourage you to participate. OK. Those are our questions for today, I'd like to cover one letter, so those of you in Earhart Village should have gotten this letter yesterday in your, from your housing provider. And it is the letter talking about home-to-home flushing, which is scheduled to begin tomorrow,



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January the 19th, and it has a street-by-street listing across the dates of the 19th and 20th. In which that work will be completed. So, thank you for your participation there.

00:13:59:25 - 00:14:37:20

CAPT GUENTHER

OK. That was your water update for today. Please join us tomorrow, same time. We're monitoring your questions on Facebook and you can email those questions as well to CNRHPAO@Gmail.com. Don't forget our water info website Navy.mil/JointBaseWater. And make sure 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. Take care of yourself. Take care of each other. And we'll see you next time.