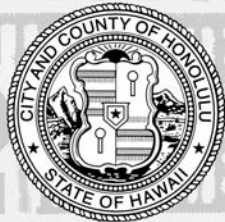


NEWS RELEASE



CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2007

AIEA HIGH SCHOOL EIGHTH-GRADERS TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE AIEA WATERSHED

The City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services will host an educational field day for 120 eighth-grade students and teachers from Aiea Middle School on Thursday, September 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The field day in the Aiea watershed is a hands-on, real-world experience featuring:

1. data collection to measure water quality parameters for nitrate, phosphate, temperature, pH, chlorine, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity in the lower watershed, in partnership with the Department of Environmental Services's Storm Water Quality Branch, and
2. natural history of the Aiea watershed and identification of invasive plant and pest threats in the upper watershed, in partnership with the Oahu Invasive Species Committee.

Matt Zitello, an eighth-grade science teacher at Aiea, said, "This is the third year of Aiea Intermediate's watershed project and partnership with the City. Our goal is to foster an awareness of watershed issues, ecosystem management, and stewardship for the Aiea watershed and adjacent areas. The field day will provide a 'real world' perspective to support topics covered in our classroom."

Field Day Schedule

Time	Activity
8:30-9:45	Station 1: Upper watershed with Oahu Invasive Species Committee. Meet at first parking lot and start at Aiea Loop Trail.
	Station 2: Lower watershed with Storm Water Quality Branch. Meet in parking lot of Aiea Bay State Recreation Area off Kamehameha Highway near McGrew Point.
9:45-10:15	Group rotation
10:15-11:30	Station work
11:30-11:45	City and County of Honolulu Good Neighbor Award to Aiea Intermediate School and the Pearl City Lions at the Aiea Bay State Recreation Area.
11:45-12:15	All meet for lunch at Aiea Bay State Recreation Area
12:15 -12:30	Return to campus

Background

Iwalani Sato of the Storm Water Branch said, “This educational program is an outgrowth of an effort that began a couple of years ago, when the Storm Water Quality Branch provided technical expertise for a summer water sampling workshop co-sponsored by the State Department of Health and Army Corps of Engineers. Aiea teachers Matt Zitello, Trisha Wakumoto, and Melodie Patton and others subsequently integrated eighth-grade standards for science, social studies, and English into the program, then introduced the watershed and Adopt-A-Block service projects to their students.”

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Contact:

Iwalani Sato, 780-8872