



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL “MAUKA TO MAKAI EXPO” IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY 2011**

***\*FREE ADMISSION to Festivities including Moi release, Earth Month Clean Water Teen Videos and Native Hawaiian Plant Giveaway\****

HONOLULU (February 8, 2011) – In celebration of Earth Day, the City and County of Honolulu’s Department of Environmental Services will present the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mauka to Makai Environmental Expo, Saturday, April 9, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Waikiki Aquarium. The FREE expo will showcase the efforts of more than 30 city, state, federal agencies and private organizations to preserve and protect Hawaii’s environment, with an emphasis on the island’s unique water resources and storm water runoff pollution prevention from *mauka to makai*.

Admission to the Waikiki Aquarium’s Earth Day festivities is free. Sponsors are the City & County of Honolulu’s Department of Environmental Services – Storm Water Quality Branch and the state of Hawaii Department of Health – Clean Water Branch, Polluted Run-off Control Program. Free parking and shuttle service are available at Waikiki Elementary School beginning at 8:45 a.m.

(more)

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Fun For The Whole Family

Activities include hands-on educational displays, picture taking with Apoha the oopu and friends, water pollution prevention games and activity books, natural resource arts and crafts, and storytelling about Hawaii's environment. Water-related arts and crafts will be available for keiki. The first 500 families will receive a free native Hawaiian plant.

Earth Month Clean Water Teen Video Contest

The winners of the City's annual Earth Month Clean Water Teen Video Contest will be announced in the theatre at 11:00 a.m. for the most creative, original, and fully-produced 30-second video promoting clean water awareness. Sponsored by the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services, Lex Brodie's Tire Company, GeoTech Solutions and KHON2, the Teen Video Contest is dedicated to finding a new generation of talented teen filmmakers with unique ideas, energy, community connections, and meaningful storm water pollution prevention messages to meet the City's clean water goals and objectives. Video categories are sedimentation, nutrients and automobile fluids.

Moi Release

School children from neighboring Waikiki Elementary School will team up with the Waikiki Aquarium and Expo title sponsors, including the Mayor and officials from the City Department of Environmental Services and the state Department of Health, to release moi, raised by the Waikiki Aquarium, in the waters behind the aquarium within the Waikiki Marine Life Conservation District. The public is invited to watch and cheer them on between 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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### **About the Department of Environmental Services**

The mission of the Department of Environmental Services is to protect public health and the environment by providing effective and efficient management of the wastewater, storm water, and solid waste disposal systems for the City and County of Honolulu. For more information about the Department of Environmental Services and upcoming programs, please visit [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com).

### **About the State of Hawaii Department of Health—Clean Water Branch, Polluted Runoff control Program**

The mission of the Department of Health is to protect the public health of residents and tourists who recreate in and on Hawaii’s coastal and inland water resources, and to also protect and restore inland and coastal waters for marine life and wildlife. For more information about the Department of Health, visit [www.Hawaii.gov/health/](http://www.Hawaii.gov/health/) .

### **About the Waikiki Aquarium**

Founded in 1904 and administered by the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 1919, the Waikiki Aquarium is located on the shoreline of Waikiki Beach next to a living reef and across from Kapiolani Park. The Aquarium – third oldest in the U.S. – showcases more than 500 marine species, and maintains more than 3,000 marine specimens. Public exhibits, education programs and research focus on the unique aquatic life of Hawaii and the tropical Pacific. For more information about the Waikiki Aquarium, including membership, please visit [www.waquarium.org](http://www.waquarium.org).

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