

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Corps of Engineers Hosts Event in Observation of 2003 World Water Monitoring Day

(HONOLULU, October 16, 2003)--On October 17, thirty Washington Middle School students in grades 6-7-8 will get a snapshot of the steps necessary to assess water quality as they participate in a sampling and assessment of Makiki Stream. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is hosting this event in support of World Water Monitoring Day along with Washington Middle School science teacher Debbie Jensen and local partners from the U.S. Geological Survey, City and County of Honolulu Environmental Services Department, University of Hawaii Department of Oceanography, University of Hawaii Urban and Regional Planning and Public Policy Center, and the Hawaii Nature Center.

Students will learn about the *ahupuaa* as a watershed, hydrological measurement information, measurement of a multitude of water quality parameters, water quality sampling, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and assessment of stream conditions by participating in a stream walk. The data collected will be uploaded into a global database at http://worldwatermonitoringday.org/.

The two sites on Makiki Stream are at the Makiki Pumping Station and the South King Street bridge. The following people will participate in the event:

Steve Yamamoto (Project Manager), Mark Arakaki, Joy Anamizu, Iwalani Sato, US Army Corps of Engineers

Randall Wakumoto, Scott Murakawa, City and County of Honolulu Environmental Services Department Eric DeCarlo, University of Hawaii Oceanography Department

Michael Wong, U.S. Geological Survey

Ramsay Taum, Hawaii Nature Center and Ala Wai Watershed Improvement Project Sharon Miyashiro, University of Hawaii Urban and Regional Planning and Public Policy Center

World Water Monitoring Day was initiated by America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF) in 2002 as a significant part of the events held in observance of the 30th anniversary of the United States Clean Water Act. It serves as a global educational platform for watershed leaders, educators and trained volunteers to help those with little or no experience better understand how the actions of individuals in a watershed can impact many others. According to ACWF, last year more than 5,150 monitoring sites were registered across the country as citizens, volunteer monitors and government officials joined together as they followed through with testing on over 70% of the sites initially registered.