



Water has no substitute... Conserve It!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WATER EMERGENCY TIPS

DOW advises residents to conserve water, prepare for tropical storms

LĪHU'Ē – The Department of Water (DOW) is advising all Kaua'i residents to conserve water and to have their emergency preparedness kits ready for the potential impact of the approaching Iselle and Julio storm systems. Residents should store drinking water now, in the event that high winds and/or flooding disrupt the power supply to water sources.

Emergency preparedness kits should include at least one gallon of water stored, per person, per day for at least five to seven days, for drinking sanitation purposes.

How to Store Water

To store water properly, you should:

- **Use clean containers, preferably those designed for water storage.** Do not use containers that stored questionable materials or food with strong odors (mayonnaise, pickles, etc.) as the water will pick up the odor during storage.
- **Disinfect containers.** Wash containers thoroughly, then rinse it in a mild bleach solution (one capful of liquid bleach to one gallon of water), and then rinse thoroughly.
- **Fill container with water from the tap.** Fill the container to the top, keeping a minimal amount of air between the water and the cap. Store it in a cool, dark place.
- **Optional – Boiling or bleach disinfection.** If you prefer, you can boil water before storing it. You should boil the water at a rolling boil for 1 to 3 minutes, let it cool down until it is slightly warm, fill the containers, and then seal and store immediately. Liquid bleach may also be used to disinfect water that has not been boiled. Add 1 to 8 drops of new, unscented liquid bleach with strength of 5% to 6% (like Clorox) per gallon of water. Seal and store immediately. For questions about boiling or bleach disinfection, please call DOW's Water Quality Division at 245-5446, 245-5447 or 245-5448.

What to Do in a Storm

If a storm hits Kaua'i causing a power outage, the following should be implemented:

- **Stay tuned to news reports.**
- **During an electrical power outage, keep water use to an absolute minimum.** If electrical service has been disrupted, the outage will also affect DOW's pumps and equipment. In the event of a power outage, the DOW may shut off valves and isolate tanks to reduce risk of damage and water loss. If this occurs, water will be restored as soon as it is safe for personnel to go out and make the repairs.

- Immediately begin water conservation measures. Use water sparingly. Water should be used for essentials: cooking, drinking and sanitation. Do not wash cars or water lawns.
- Turn off or disconnect any devices or fixtures that regularly draw water. Such devices include automatic icemakers and irrigation systems.
- **Keep toilet flushing to a minimum.**

The DOW is also asking customers to monitor news reports, and to sign up for the county's Connect CTY notification service. These will be the best ways for the public to be notified on any updates regarding the storms and its effects on Kaua'i's water supply.

To sign up for Connect CTY, please visit the county's website, www.kauai.gov, or call the Kaua'i Civil Defense Agency at 241-1800.

The DOW, in coordination with the Kaua'i Civil Defense Agency, will issue advisories if warranted.

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