

## Continuing Education for Water Operators



Mariana Islands  
Water Operator Association

February 2, 2011  
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan

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## Today's Agenda

- About Continuing Education
- Current Events
  - Haiti cholera update
  - DHHS changes fluoride recommendation
- Main Events
  - HRWA: Chemical Injection
  - T&T: Energy Efficiency
- Association Announcements

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## Continuing Education for Water Operators



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Is THIS training required?

➤ NO

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## Why have continuing education?

- DEQ Drinking Water Regulations require certified operators to have 10 contact hours of continuing education per year (30 contact hours in 3 years) to maintain certification.
- DEQ is not required to offer training (and no longer offers training – no \$\$\$)
- Where would operators get training?

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## Other training options

- Professional training provided by your employer (safety, pump maintenance, lab procedures, etc.)
- College classes
- Conferences or workshops by professional organizations or agencies
- Correspondence courses
- On-line opportunities

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## NOT continuing education

- Meetings with DEQ or EPA
- Surveys or inspections by DEQ or EPA
- Reading journal articles or textbooks by yourself
- Googling water operator stuff on the internet

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## When should training be offered?

- DEQ surveyed all certified operators
- Results
  - One 3 hour session every 3 months
  - In morning
  - On a Wednesday
- First session September 6, 2006

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## What subjects should be covered? (DEQ)

- September 6, 2006: Chlorination
- November 8, 2006: Using a Pump Curve
- February 7, 2007: Cross Connection
- May 9, 2007: Regulations - CCR, PNR
- August 8, 2007: Sizing Pressure Tanks
- November 26, 2007: PWS workshop
- February 20, 2008: Fluoridation
- May 2008: Process Controls (Robert Brokate)
- August 2008: Slow Sand Filters
- November 12, 2008: TCR and Control Valves

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## What subjects should be covered? (Mariana Is Water Op Association)

- March 25, 2009: Security and Filters
- May 13, 2009: Alt. Energy, CCR, Compliance
- August 5, 2009: Geology of Saipan, GWR
- October 9, 2009: GWR Workshop
- December 2, 2009: Valves, Spills, Walkerton
- February 3, 2010: Safety, Haz Materials
- May 5, 2010: BEH & DEQ, Cross Connections
- August 11, 2010: Waste Water Collection/Trmt
- November 3, 2010: Response to disease outbreak

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## THIS TRAINING IS FOR YOU!

We'll do what we can to make it  
what YOU want it to be!

Mariana Islands  
Water Operator Association

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## Suggestions for training

- Possible topics for upcoming sessions:
  - Backflow prevention device testing
  - Rainwater
  - Local Water System
  - How Reverse Osmosis Works
  - Energy efficiency
  - Storm water and erosion control
  - ~~Introduction to waste water treatment~~
  - ~~Field trip~~

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## Announcements

- 2011 Membership Dues \$10
  - Check your member info
  - Pick up your membership card
- Pick up certificates from November
- Nomination form for Board elections in May (return today)
- Lending Library suggestion form (return today)

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## Current Events

February 2011

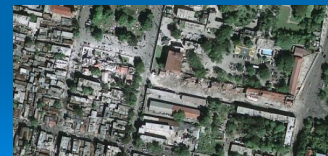
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## Haiti Cholera Update

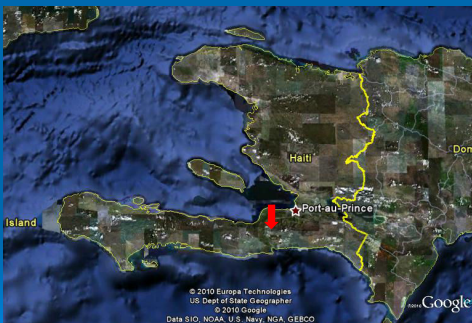
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## Earthquake Rocks Haiti

- Tuesday January 12, 2010
- 7.0 magnitude, 8.1 miles deep
- 15 miles WSW of capital



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## Earthquake Effects

- Estimated 230,000 dead
- 1,600,000 homeless
- 3,000,000 need assistance
- Did the earthquake cause the cholera epidemic?

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### Situation Report #11

- Haiti on high alert in preparation for Tomas
- As of 30 October:
  - 4,764 cases of cholera
  - 337 deaths
- World Food Program has distributed 2.1 M water purification tablets

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### Cholera outbreak in Haiti

- Outbreak first confirmed on October 21, 2010
- Situation Report #34 Jan 28, 2011
  - Fatality rates and number of hospitalizations continue to decrease
  - Some NGOs scaling back in some areas
  - Lack of waste evacuation sites problematic

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### Cholera outbreak in Haiti

- Since beginning of outbreak
  - 209,034 cumulative cases
  - 117,930 hospitalizations
  - 4,030 deaths

- [Link to Map](#)

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### Fluoride

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### Fluoride

- The US Department of Health and Human Services has proposed an adjustment in the recommendation for the optimal fluoride level in drinking water to prevent tooth decay.
- New recommendation: 0.7 mg/l
- Old recommendation: 0.7 – 1.2 mg/l

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### Fluoride

- Changes because more fluoride sources available now, than when recommendations were first introduced in 1962.
- Air conditioning

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## Main Event

T&T Electric  
Energy Efficiency

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## Break -10 minutes



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## Main Event

### Hawaii Rural Water

Chemical Injection  
Gary Byrd  
[www.hawaiiirwa.org](http://www.hawaiiirwa.org)

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## Association Business

Membership Renewal  
Lending Library  
Board Elections Results

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## Board Member Terms

- Chair: Derek Chambers – May 2013
- Vice chair: Bernard Keremius – May 2013
- Secretary: Mariano Iglecias – May 2011
- Treas: Cecilio Raiukiulipiy – May 2012

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## Contact Information

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