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*Water has no substitute...Conserve it!*

## News Release

For Immediate Release: May 4, 2020

### **KBWS acknowledges DOW employees in honor of National Drinking Water Week**

LIHUE – The Kaua’i Board of Water Supply (KBWS) acknowledges all employees at the Department of Water (DOW) during National Drinking Water Week (DWW), which is celebrated nationally May 3 to 9, 2020.

DOW employs 90 service professionals that manage critical water utility functions within eight divisions including; Water Resources and Planning, Engineering, Construction Management, Fiscal, Administration, Water Quality, Information Technology and Operations. Together, they operate and maintain nine water systems, over 400 miles of underground pipeline and provide the necessary customer service functions to ensure safe, affordable, sufficient water service for approximately 22,000 customers and growing. Employees work around the clock, whenever necessary to ensure drinking water remains safe and that water service is there when customers need it.

“From the office staff to field crews, we are grateful for the daily commitment, sacrifice and tireless efforts of our water employees and are proud to acknowledge them during this nationally recognized celebration,” said Kurt Akamine, KBWS Board Chairman. “Drinking water plays a vital role in our lives and water service would not be possible without water utilities and the employees that work to provide such quality services.”

Drinking Water Week was introduced and is celebrated nationally by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) for more than 40 years as an opportunity to honor both water professionals and the communities they serve.

DOW staff have postponed its employee-oriented DWW activities this week due to COVID-19 however, DOW is partnering with the AWWA to honor DWW by participating in a social media campaign on its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/KauaiDOW](https://www.facebook.com/KauaiDOW). Facebook users are invited to participate online, by posting an appreciation comment or by sharing a water service acknowledgement on DOW’s Facebook page in honor of DWW.

For more information about AWWA or Drinking Water Week, visit [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org) or contact the Department of Water at 245-5461.

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Photos by Department of Water

Photo 1 Caption: DOW crews work throughout the night to replace a damaged water line on the north shore.

Photo 2 Caption: DOW conducts water testing on a continuous schedule to ensure drinking water is safe and in compliance with state and federal drinking water standards.





Photo 3 Caption: DOW employees conduct community outreach programs throughout the year to help promote the importance of water conservation in our community.



Photo 4 Caption: DOW employees gather in their base yard for a staff meeting in 2019. KBWS acknowledges all DOW employees during National Drinking Water Week May 3 – 9, 2020.

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