

**LEARN HOW TO CONSERVE WATER OUTDOORS AT
THE 28TH ANNUAL HALAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN OPEN HOUSE
AND UNTHIRSTY PLANT SALE**

HONOLULU – The warm summer months are here and the Board of Water Supply’s (BWS) 28th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale is a great opportunity for the public to learn how they can conserve water outdoors. The event will be held on Saturday, August 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All of the activities at this admission-free event will be focused on xeriscape, an innovative way to conserve water through efficient landscaping. By incorporating xeriscaping techniques BWS customers can reduce water consumption outdoors!

“The Halawa Xeriscape Garden is an excellent venue for everyone to learn and gain insights on a variety of ways to practice water conservation outdoors,” said BWS Chairman Duane Miyashiro. “This event demonstrates that it is possible to have beautiful green gardens, while remaining water efficient.”

More than a dozen local nurseries will offer a variety of drought-tolerant, less-thirsty and native plants at reasonable prices. Some of the activities to be offered include xeriscape workshops by garden experts, an Instagram contest, keiki activities, educational booths, plant crafts, a cactus display from the Cactus and Succulent Society of Hawaii, delicious food, and a free compost giveaway.

“With warm weather upon us, we all need to be mindful of how we use our precious water resources,” said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. “The Plant Sale provides event goers with invaluable knowledge about water conservation that can be practiced almost anywhere. No effort is too small when it comes to preserving our water supply now and for future generations.”

Xeriscaping is based on seven fundamental principles that serve as guidelines on how to plan, plant, and maintain a garden that takes advantage of natural climate conditions to make efficient use of irrigation. Some of the principles include growing “unthirsty” plants, using mulch, and installing proper irrigation. To learn more about xeriscaping, the Halawa Xeriscape Garden, or water-saving tips, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com.

Proceeds from the plant sale will support educational programs and classes at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden. The open house is co-sponsored by the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, a non-profit community group that supports educational programs related to water conservation in the landscape.

About the Board of Water Supply

The BWS, a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu’s municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of “Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*”—to provide a safe and dependable water supply, now and into the future. The BWS works to accomplish its mission and strategic objectives while striving to maintain the public trust to protect the quality and sustainability of our precious water resources. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – “When the heavens weep, the earth lives.” For more information, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com.