

**MS-4 STORM DRAIN INSPECTION
FACULTY/PARENT/COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION**

DATE: December 12, 2014

Dear Faculty, Parents, Students, and Community Members:

In compliance with our annual MS-4 Annual Storm Drain Inspection, we have ascertained that all storm drains on campus are clear and without obstruction. Our faculty has been inserviced as to the requirements and importance of Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPP).

Please refer to the fact sheet below on Storm Water Pollution Prevention. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our school at 293-8950.

**PROTECTING WATER QUALITY
Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS-4) Program**

What is MS-4? Who does it affect?

The small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS-4) Program is part of the Environmental Protection Agency's effort to preserve, protect, and improve the Nation's water resources from polluted storm water runoff. Department of Education (DOE) schools on Oahu will incrementally comply with this requirement by initiating programs such as education, monitoring, enforcement, clean-up, and annual reporting. This program affects everyone who uses a DOE campus on Oahu, including staff, students, and all community users.

Although Oahu is currently the only island to initiate this program, (due to its urban density and higher concentration of pollution) all schools can benefit from good housekeeping practices.

Why is this important?

Clean water is essential to life. When it rains, litter, pesticides, green waste, and other pollutants are washed into the storm drain system and eventually flow into our streams and ocean. Large quantity of debris can clog the drain system resulting in flood damage to our schools and neighbors. Small organic and chemical waste can poison our food chain and contaminate our water supplies. Pollution control benefits the environment, wildlife, and people.

How can we help?

The following list suggests a dozen things we can all do to minimize pollution from getting into our water resources. Additional information is available at the EPA's website: www.epa.gov. The contact number for the City & County's Environmental Concern Line is 692-5656.

- Place litter in trash bins.
- Reduce waste. Buy products with less packaging.
- Recycle cans, bottles, and paper products.
- Reduce chemical usage such as fertilizers and pesticides.
- Compost green waste. Do it yourself or utilize City green waste collections.
- Protect loose stockpile of soil, fertilizers, and other materials from washing away.
- Report violators of illegal dumping.
- Maintain storm drain systems. Inspect periodically and clean as needed.
- Restrict washing of cars and other vehicles on school campuses.
- Practice proper handling of household hazardous waste and automotive fluids.
- Volunteer for litter and stream cleanups.
- Inform school principal of pollution hazards on campus.