

NEWS RELEASE



DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2013

CRACKED SEWER PIPE LEAKING INTO KEEHI LAGOON

(Fri., Feb. 15, 2013) – The City's Department of Environmental Services responded today to a broken wastewater pipe leaking intermittently into Keehi Lagoon.

A call came in Feb. 13 at noon from a state security guard who noticed toilet tissue and the odor of sewage in the vicinity of the Nimitz Highway viaduct near Kakoi Street. ENV crews conducted water sampling Feb. 14 but could not verify the source. At 8:52 a.m. today, the crew confirmed a crack in the 42-inch gravity main.

A conservative estimate of 3,000 gallons of untreated wastewater made its way into Keehi Lagoon. The spill is intermittent while crews work to repair the pipe. No one is sure what caused the pipe to crack.

ENV notified the state Department of Health. Warning signs have been posted in the vicinity and water sampling is underway. Residents are asked to stay out of the lagoon until the warning signs are pulled.

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Contact: Markus Owens, ENV Public Communications Officer, 351-6305



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