

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM

PROUDLY SERVING
DISTRICT 14



KALIHI-PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD COMMUNITY REPORT

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Any community association interested in adopting a Community Wildfire Protection Plan can apply for funding to assist them in planning for wildfire risks.

Contact Michael Walker—the Fire Management Officer at the Dept. of Land & Natural Resources to inquire about assistance with filling out the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Grant application form.

Deadline to submit is Sat., Oct. 21, 2023 up to 12pm.

Contact: michael.j.walker@hawaii.gov/ (808) 587-4188.

The DLNR is accepting Grant Applications open for wildfire risk reduction and landscape scale restoration for landowners across Hawaii

Landscape Scale Restoration Community Wildfire Defense

Grant (Deadline Oct. 16)

- Reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfires.
- Improve fish and wildlife habitats, including habitats for threatened and endangered species.
- Maintain or improve water quality and watershed functions.
- Mitigate invasive species, insect infestation, and disease.
- Improve important forest ecosystems; and
- Measure ecological and economic benefits including air quality and soil quality and productivity.

Grant (Deadline Oct. 21)

- Restore and Maintain Landscapes: Landscapes across all jurisdictions are resilient to fire-related disturbances, in accordance with management objectives.
- Create Fire-Adapted Communities: Human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life and property.
- Improve Wildfire Response: All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions.

Wildland-Urban Interface

Grant (Deadline Jan. 5)

- Hazard fuel reduction in the WUI.
- Information and education.
- Assessment and planning; and
- Monitoring through community and landowner action.

Learn More and Apply at:
<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov>

JTF-Red Hill Navy Defueling Update

Sen. Kim attended a meeting last week with Navy Adm. Aquilino-- Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command --- and a small group of Hawaii leaders. We received a final update on Red Hill Defueling ahead of the defueling, which began earlier this week:

- Defueling will be done Mon. through Fri., starting Oct. 16.
- 99% of the fuel (100+M gal) up to the 10 ft. mark will be removed by end of Nov. (about 6 weeks)
- 2M gal. will remain and pumped out by 3rd week in Jan. (7weeks)
- 64,184 gal. (sludge) to be removed by end of April (13 weeks)
- 4,000 gal. residual fuel will remain. Removal will be dealt with as part of the Red Hill closure effort.

The Federal EPA and Hawaii Dept. of Health (DOH) approved the Navy Joint Task Force – Red Hill pre-defueling preparedness report. DOH has conditionally approved the Navy’s plan. See: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-approves-joint-task-force-red-hill-pre-defueling-preparedness-report>



Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218

Phone: (808) 587-7200

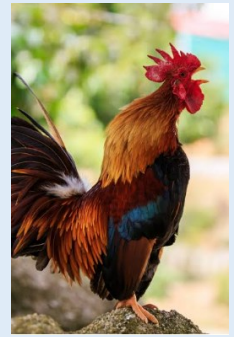
Email: senkim@capitol.hawaii.gov

KAPALAMA · ‘ĀLEWA · KALIHI · KALIHI VALLEY · FT. SHAFTER · MOANALUA GARDENS & VALLEY · RED HILL

October 2023

Problem with Feral Chickens?

The Feral Chicken Working Group's first meeting was held on August 17, 2023. We learned that the City is now working with Sandwich Isle Pest Solutions to fund a portion of the cost to private property owners to catch and dispose of feral chickens. The next working group meeting is targeted next month. The working group's membership consist of State and City agencies. They are charged with collaborating on effective ways to address the Feral Chicken issues and submit a report to the Legislature no later than 30 days before the next Legislative Session.



Hawaii Residents Can Help Stop the Spread of Invasive Fire Ants

The Department of Land and Natural Resources are encouraging residents to collect and submit ants from their properties to help detect and control the spread of invasive little fire ants that can pack a powerful sting, and other harmful pest ants that may be new to the state. You may request a free ant-collection kit through the website: www.StopTheAnt.org.



Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

WAP is designed to help low-income households reduce their energy consumption and costs. This is achieved through a home energy audit plus household-specific energy efficiency tips and education, and a selection of cost-effective energy efficient measures such as high-efficiency faucet aerators & shower heads, compact fluorescent lighting (CFL) or Light Emitting Diode lighting (LED), and/or an energy-efficient solar water heater, all provided free of charge. The HCAP Weatherization Assistance Program prioritizes services to seniors (60 and older), families with young children (19 and below), people with disabilities, households with high energy usage, and families experiencing a high energy burden. For more details, visit Hawaii Community Action Program at www.hcapweb.org.

2024 Complex Area Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to **Jackie Freitas of Leilehua High School** for receiving the state's top teaching award. Freitas edged out 16 teachers of the year representing complex areas and Public Charter School

She is a natural resources instructor who runs one of Hawaii's largest high school agricultural farms and will represent Hawaii in the National Teacher of the Year program. A national winner will be named in the spring.



Two Senate District 14 Complex Area Teachers of the Year were among the 16 finalist.

Congratulations:

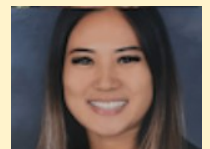
Norman Ray Sales



Farrington-Kaiser-Kalani Complex Area 2024 Teacher of the Year. He teaches at **Farrington High School** where he is the Strategic Planner and Academy Coach.

Marina Higa

Aiea-Moanalua-Radford Complex Area 2024 Teacher of the Year. She teaches at **Shafter Elementary School** where she focuses on Special Education.





Hawaii Medication Take Back Program

Oahu residents can bring their unused or expired prescription drug/medication for safe disposal at the “Take Back Day” on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Drop off site on Oahu include:

Hawaii State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street.
DEA’s National Prescription Drug Take Back Day reflects DEA’s commitment to Americans’ safety and health, encouraging the public to remove un-needed medications from their homes as a measure of preventing medication misuse.

Visit <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>



The Hawaii State Attorney General’s office has filed a lawsuit on behalf of the state seeking penalties, damages, disgorgement of profits, and injunctive relief against “the Big Three” pharmacy benefit managers CVS Caremark, Express Scripts, and OptumRx.

The PBMs collectively manage prescription drug benefits for hundreds of thousands of Hawaii residents.

The complaint alleges that the PBM defendants engaged in unfair methods of competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices in violation of Hawaii law.

Open House at University of Hawaii at Mānoa

The public is invited to tour the UH campus including the William S. Richardson School of Law and John A. Burns School of Medicine in Kakaako as part of the “Discover UH Mānoa” event to be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Free parking is available.



The tour includes meeting faculty and staff, current students, and more. To register for a tour, visit www.discovermanoa.org

Let's Connect!

Sign up to receive periodic district information and updates

Send your name and email address to senkim@capitol.hawaii.gov

or call
(808) 587-7200

Follow Sen. Kim on Facebook
[facebook.com/SenatorDonnaMercadoKim](https://www.facebook.com/SenatorDonnaMercadoKim)

State Roadwork Update

H1 Westbound Closed!
from the Kapl'olani Interchange to the Miller Street Pedestrian Overpass

Old Wa'alae WB On-Ramp Closed

Exit at Kapl'olani Off-Ramp

Started Oct. 1, 2023 - March 2024
Sunday - Friday Nights (except holidays)
From 8:30 pm to 4:30 am