

Report on CWG Wastewater 101 Interest Survey




Maui Wastewater Community Working Group members were asked to indicate their levels of interest in a wide range of wastewater-related topics. The responses gathered have helped shape presentations designed to support the group in providing well-informed recommendations for Maui's wastewater future. This report shows members' preferences in quantified form and also includes their written comments. The project team will continue to use the CWG's input on topic areas of interest, as the CWG process unfolds.

Possible Wastewater 101 Topics
(19 Responses)

	Radio Buttons		
	Very Interested	Moderately Interested	Not Very Interested
Water treatment process	7 (36.84%)	10 (52.63%)	2 (10.53%)
Reclaimed water systems	14 (73.68%)	5 (26.32%)	0 (0.00%)
Levels of treated water quality and allowed uses	16 (84.21%)	3 (15.79%)	0 (0.00%)
Financing process for County wastewater projects, operations, maintenance, and repair costs	10 (52.63%)	7 (36.84%)	2 (10.53%)
Wastewater collection system (where, size, age, testing, CCTV (closed circuit TV of collection system, etc.))	4 (21.05%)	11 (57.89%)	4 (21.05%)
Organizational structure of Wastewater Reclamation Division	3 (15.79%)	8 (42.11%)	8 (42.11%)

Permitting process and operating procedures process for underground injection wells	12 (63.16%)	5 (26.32%)	2 (10.53%)
Operations, maintenance and repair activities essential for system reliability	8 (42.11%)	9 (47.37%)	2 (10.53%)
Private sewer systems and treatment facilities	12 (63.16%)	7 (36.84%)	0 (0.00%)
Plans and costs of expanding service to unsewered areas/growth areas	10 (52.63%)	6 (31.58%)	3 (15.79%)
Legal and compliance requirements and process for developing new wastewater facilities	13 (68.42%)	4 (21.05%)	2 (10.53%)
Tour of a county wastewater facility	5 (26.32%)	9 (47.37%)	5 (26.32%)
Sustainable use (environment and financial)	14 (73.68%)	5 (26.32%)	0 (0.00%)
Environmental issues	14 (73.68%)	4 (21.05%)	0 (0.00%)
Sewer rates	8 (42.11%)	6 (31.58%)	5 (26.32%)
Community education	9 (47.37%)	8 (42.11%)	2 (10.53%)
Comparison of types of municipal wastewater treatment facilities	9 (47.37%)	8 (42.11%)	2 (10.53%)
What other municipalities of our size are doing with their wastewater	15 (78.95%)	2 (10.53%)	2 (10.53%)
Why are pumping costs so important?	9 (47.37%)	8 (42.11%)	2 (10.53%)
Qualifications needed to run a treatment facility	4 (21.05%)	8 (42.11%)	7 (36.84%)
Possible risks or impacts of increased treatment	13 (68.42%)	3 (15.79%)	3 (15.79%)

Are there any other topics you would like to learn about? If so, please add your suggestions below.
(11 Responses)

	very much interested in what other communities have done to eliminate injection wells and increase re-use.
	The overall system of water quality management implemented by DOH under Clean Water ACT and how any solutions we find need to fit into the picture of water quality-based controls for sewage effluents and runoff. Until the county understands and connects local actions and planning to this, we will continue to see degradation of water quality and aquatic ecosystems due to pollution from increased development and population. Also I would like the whole CWG to have the chance to see the UH and DAR research pictures of algae and dying coral that I have seen; and the evidence that it is associated with developed areas having large injection wells.
	1. How many of the roughly 40,000 new units of housing proposed to be built within Urban Growth Boundaries in the Maui Island Plan will have wastewater treatment incorporated into existing public facilities--and how many will involve new private facilities? 2. How many private injection wells and cesspools are there in Maui County? How many gallons of effluent are involved in these? 3. Would like complete listing and timetable for CIP projects. (Graph could not be read on the slide presentation.) 4. Would like to know who develops and pursues grant proposals for seeking State and Federal funding to increase reclamation capacity. 5. What grants has Maui County obtained in the last 5-10 years? How many are pending? 6. What grants have been obtained elsewhere in Hawaii in the last 5-10 years? 7. The figure 6.5 million was used at the first meeting to indicate receipt of Federal dollars for the Dept. Would like to see actual breakdown of this and where/how money was used. Who went after and secured this money? e.g. How did we get it? 8. Would like to know what the "goal" of the CWG actually is before we get any further into the process. 9. Would like to know more about the process itself

and when we will actually get around to group discussions, brainstorming, formulating strategies, etc.

Constructed Wetlands and other Ecological wastewater treatment systems (such as living machines) and permitting around these Residential Greywater treatment systems and permitting around these Septic systems and benefits and drawbacks of these Distributed treatment systems (i.e. decentralization) Blackwater treatment systems Implications of nutrient content and pollutants in injected wastewater Reducing use of potable water for non-potable uses Importance of water use efficiency to reduce demand

There should be presentations or materials provided on inventories of all wastewater on Maui both public and private. We also need inventories of all freshwater including rainfall, stream flows, aquifer pumping, recycled wastewater, surface release into the ocean and municipal distribution (residences, businesses and agriculture). Are there any plans to combine the county's wastewater and water departments?

The Water Department held meetings explaining the completed water study Upcountry and the plans to do a study in West Maui that inventories all water sources (there are many private providers in West Maui). That study could be used to identify potential users of recycled water.

I have been involved in this discussion for over two years and am not interested in talking about all the reasons why we cannot reach the 100% reuse goal (cost, sewer bills, etc). Instead, I would like to use the working group as an opportunity to start investigating ways to increase re-use and maybe even make it to the 100% re-use goal (identify necessary partnerships-both to use the water and perhaps help pay for infrastructure, etc). The mayor says she wants 100% re-use, so lets roll up our sleeves and start working on how to make this happen. enough talk! if some CWG members want more education, arrange a education day with field trips to the wastewater plants, etc, but with your once a month meetings, lets really get some work done. thanks for the opportunity to comment. see you all on the 3rd.

I understand our charge is to determine how we can reduce/eliminate the use of injection wells through the reuse of R-1 water. Therefore we need to examine the financial/legal ramifications of selling the rights to the current outflow of R-1 into the injection wells to a private entity for their distribution and resale to others for irrigation. Alternatively, we could examine the ability of the County to finance an expanded distribution system for R-1 water with subsequent increased income by selling water that we currently pay to inject into the ground. Let's keep the Committee focused on what we can do about the injection wells versus becoming sewer treatment facilities.

Present use of reclaimed water-are there restrictions on the use and to what degree must the effluent be treated? What are the current demands for reclaimed water-how is it used?

As I indicated in my response to the survey, given the extremely limited time available to the CWG and the challenging nature of the task that confronts us, I do not think a second briefing by the EMD is the best use of the CWG's time AT THIS TIME. I would strongly prefer us in the next meeting to have an extended opportunity (at least 2 hours) for conversation within the CWG membership about how we get: 1) a process in place for defining the agenda of the CWG in future meetings in accordance with CWG's perspectives on what needs to be done and how best to allocate the time; 2) a management committee of the CWG created to help interact with the facilitator and the EMD and Mayor's office in responding to pt 1 above and points 3 and 4 below and oversee development of a workplan and schedule for the CWG's work; 3) key working sub-committees promptly established to review/identify: (a) possible uses/users for the reclaimed water and necessary levels of treatment to meet users' needs; b) necessary technology, pumps, pipelines, facilities, and equipment to treat the effluent and get the water to potential users; and c) ways to raise the necessary funds for pay for construction and operation; and 4) feasibility and design study needs identified, a RFP developed, and estimated costs quantified. If the EMD wants to provide training or information sessions on the above topics, I would strongly prefer it did so at times other than the CWG meeting times. I respectfully request that these comments be circulated to all members of the CWG as soon as possible and that others be asked to advise whether they support allocation of time at the next CWG meeting to discuss any or all of the questions discussed in these 4 recommendations above. I am not asking for (and do not seek) personal attribution for these recommendations. I again reiterate my request for all CWG members to

be afforded prompt access to the email and phone contacts for those members of the CWG who have agreed to have this information released to the public or to the other members of the CWG. I am also requesting that the facilitator's contact information be provided to all CWG members.



Methods of cost-sharing and funding expansion and improvements among current and future projects/users of WW capacity and R-1 capacity. Regulation of potable, non-potable and desalination source wells near WWTPs and below the UIC line. How WWTP injection quality affects source wells.