

Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Community Initiative – Waianae Valley Hawaiian Homestead

The Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap Initiative provides no-cost technical assistance to communities with failing septic systems, cesspools, or without existing wastewater infrastructure. Through the technical assistance initiative, EPA and its contractors help communities evaluate technical options and apply for funding through various entities, like the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program which provides low-cost financing to communities for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects. Portions of the Waianae Valley Hawaiian Homestead lack adequate wastewater infrastructure and are a risk to public health and the environment. Hawaii Act 125 requires the replacement of all cesspools, which do not provide wastewater treatment, by 2050.

This project is intended to help Department of Hawaiian Homelands apply for federal and state funding to perform wastewater system improvements that meet the needs of the Waianae Valley Hawaiian Homestead community, Department of Hawaiian Homesteads (DHHL), Hawaii Department of Health (DOH). This is not an enforcement action by DOH, EPA, or others.

What to expect:

- Community meeting for project team to provide information and listen to community concerns and ideas.
- Engineers and project team site visit to observe land features, topography, infrastructure, etc. (Two days in February, Kaupuni Neighborhood Park and surrounding streets – Kaneaki St., Puhinalo Place, etc.)
- Engineering study with alternatives and recommendations for wastewater improvements will be developed and used to apply for funding. (by the end of 2025)
- DHHL will use the study to seek funding to design and build the recommended improvements (2027-2030)

Residents from the Waianae Valley Hawaiian Homestead are encouraged to participate. The project addresses Hawaiian Homelands parcels on the following roads:

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|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| • Kaneaki St. | • Koolina St. | • Halapoe Pl. |
| • Kumaipo St. | • Kepauala St. | • Kolealiilii St. |
| • Kaneilio St. | • Kepauala Pl. | • Haleahi Rd. |
| • Kapaekahi St. | • Punaaula St. | |
| • Kamaileunu St. | • Puhinalo Pl. | |

Mahalo for your participation as we work towards the best solution for the community.

