

## CONSERVATION (Water)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Conservation is the careful management, use and preservation of natural resources and the environment. It requires using what we need to perform our jobs and live healthy, comfortable lives without being wasteful.

Fresh water is the most finite of Earth's resources. There is no more water on Earth now than there was 2,000 years ago when the human population was less than 3 percent of its current size. In Hawaii, the primary drinking water supply comes from underground aquifers fed by rainfall. One of the most important ways to help meet our water supply needs for today and in the future is through conservation. Water conservation means finding ways to use less water. It includes engineering practices based on modifications in plumbing, fixtures, and water supply operating procedures as well as behavioral practices based on changing water use habits.

USAG-HI pumps about 5 million gallons of water per DAY. Pumping the water out of the ground and distributing it to the end users cost the Garrison approximately \$150,000 per day in electricity.

We all have a responsibility to help the installation reduce these numbers by taking actions to conserve water.

### WHAT YOU MUST DO

*The following practices will help conserve water:*

- Keep your eyes open! Report broken pipes and sprinklers, open hydrants, and excessive waste. Don't be shy about pointing out leaks to your coworkers, friends and family members. They might have tuned out the dripping sound a long time ago.
- Outdoor water use is the #1 place the water goes for irrigation, washing cars, etc. Don't overwater your lawn, use a nozzle when washing your car, use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and parking areas.
- A dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day. A leaking toilet can use 90,000 gallons of water in a month. Don't let go of the flow - Report leaking water fixtures!
- Don't use toilets as ashtrays or trashcans. Each unnecessary flush wastes water.
- Take showers instead of baths. Even a one or two minute reduction can save up to 90 gallons per month.
- Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.



For more info contact: DPW Engineering Branch (Energy & Water Conservation)