As an island state, Hawaii is dependent on a finite supply of water. Recycled water is treated wastewater (also known as reclaimed water or reused water) and can augment limited water resources.

Recycled water is generally used for nonpotable purposes. In Hawaii, it is restricted to solely industrial and commercial applications in designated areas and requires a use permit.

The application of recycled water has several potential benefits that support ORMP objectives: decreasing the need to divert water from sensitive ecosystems, reducing treated wastewater discharges into the ocean, and lessening the need for fertilizer application to agricultural and landscape areas. The reuse of water may also reduce the amount of treated wastewater ‘injected’ into subsurface aquifers and can be used to supplement surface water reservoirs.

**MP #3 Goal 2: Improve coastal and stream water quality**

*Metric: Increase the percentage of wastewater recycled annually (DOH)*

Recycled water is measured in million gallons per day (MGD). Amounts supplied for reuse in Hawaii, 2015-2018:

- 2015, 16.3 MGD (12.1%)
- 2016, 17.2 MGD (12.8%)
- 2017, 18.3 MGD (13.6%)
- 2018, 18.8 MGD (14.0%)

**Questions?**

Contact Melanie Lander  
(808) 587-2877  
melanie.s.lander@hawaii.gov

**Resources**

- 2013 *Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP)*  
- ORMP Dashboard