

ABOUT THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU STORM DRAIN SYSTEM

The City's storm drain system is a vast network of underground pipes and open channels that were designed to prevent flooding. Runoff drains from the street into the gutter, and enters the system through an opening in the curb called a catch basin. Catch basins serve as the neighborhood entry point for the journey into the ocean.

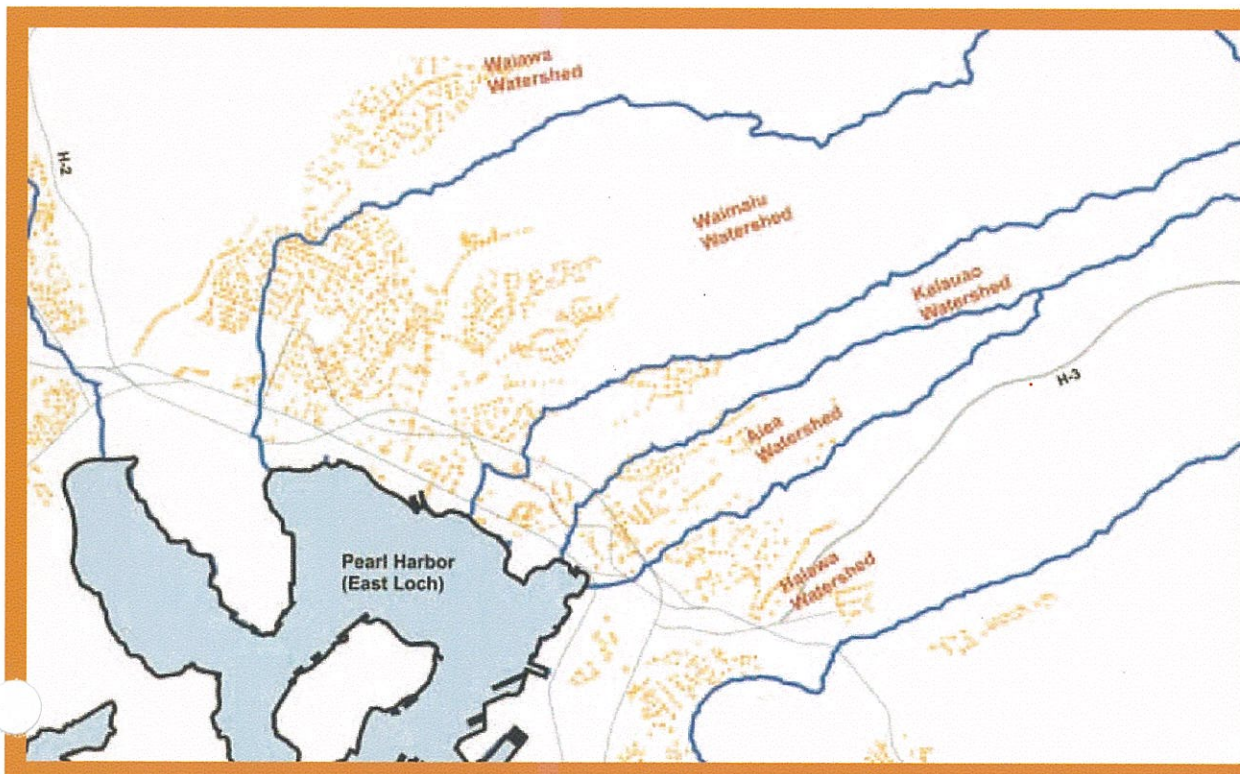
Water in the storm drain system receives no treatment or filtering process and is completely separate from the City's sewer system.

The graphics at right show the path sequence that urban runoff takes as it travels through the storm drain system.



1. Curbside catch basins are the primary points of entry for urban runoff. From there, runoff...
2. ...flows into pipes that empty into...
3. ...open drainage channels and eventually discharge to...
4. ...streams and the ocean.

The storm drain system is completely separate from the sanitary sewer system.



The City's storm drain system consists of more than 20,000 catch basins and other inlets and over 670 miles network of underground pipes and channels that discharge directly into our coastal waters.