

SAILORS AND THEIR FAMILIES DIVE INTO HAWAIIAN WATERS

adventure park



(Top) Families can cool off at the Keiki Kove's mushroom shower.

JO2 Daniel J. Calderon photo

(Top right) Students get a chance to play balloon toss during a recent outing.

JO2 Daniel J. Calderon photo

(Right and Below) The Shaka is one of the most popular rides at Hawaiian Waters.

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(Bottom) Soldiers from the 322nd, out of Schofield Barracks, perform water rescue training in Hawaiian Waters' wave pool. The park offers special rates to military commands that wish to conduct training on their facilities.

Photo courtesy of Hawaiian Waters Adventure park



Oahu's only water park welcomes military

JO2 Daniel J. Calderón
Staff Writer

Sailors on Oahu have a cornucopia of options when it comes to off-duty recreation. One such option is Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park.

Nestled in Kapolei, just off the H-1 freeway, Hawaiian Waters enjoys its status as Oahu's only water park. There, Sailors can shoot down the seven-story drop of the Cliffhanger, slide through the Waianae Coaster or just relax on the Kapolei Kooler, Hawaiian Waters' meandering river ride. Sailors with families can take the kids to the Keiki Kove, into Waterworld or brave Hurricane Bay, the mega wave pool that boasts two-to four-foot waves.

MWR's Information Tickets and Tours department has reduced-price tickets available for Sailors and their dependents. According to Terry Nacion, Hawaiian Waters' Marketing/Event Coordinator, there are new coupons available to Sailors.

"We've got coupons for 20 percent off food and merchandise at the park for people who buy tickets through ITT," said Nacion. "For the military, we try to give them better rates because we know they're on a budget."

In addition to being the only water park for individual Sailors and their families, Hawaiian Waters also can serve as a venue for command activities.

"We've hosted from 50 to 3500 people for corporate functions," said Nacion. "In August, we're hosting the celebration for the Coast Guard's 100th birthday. We've also done training for the military here. The 322nd, based out of Fort Shafter, has come out here to do rescue training in our wave pool and then had a family day after the training is complete."

Nacion said the best times for such training is during the week when the park isn't as crowded. Another unit from Schofield Barracks is holding a seminar at the park soon and will then segue into a family day. Nacion and the staff at Hawaiian Waters are planning specials for the upcoming salute to military families in May, including the unveiling of the park's newest ride, Volcano Express. It will have four lanes and will be geared toward families.

I enjoy working with the military," Nacion said. "Personally, I like working with communities and helping families."

On Naval Station Pearl Harbor, the number for ITT is 473-1190. Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park is just off H-1's exit one in Kapolei. Commands interested in holding a function can call Terry Nacion directly at 674-9283, ext. 102. For more detailed information on park hours, a park map or directions, either call ITT or visit the park's website at www.hawaiianwaters.com.