

The  
Journey  
Home  
PART 2



[WWW.CLEANWATERHONOLULU.COM](http://WWW.CLEANWATERHONOLULU.COM)



"Welcome back, Apoha, my friend!  
It's so nice to see you again."

"Aloha Opae! I'm happy to be back in the stream.  
Come with me on my journey, be part of my team."

Apoha is an O'opu, a native Hawaiian goby.  
'Opae is a native Hawaiian shrimp.

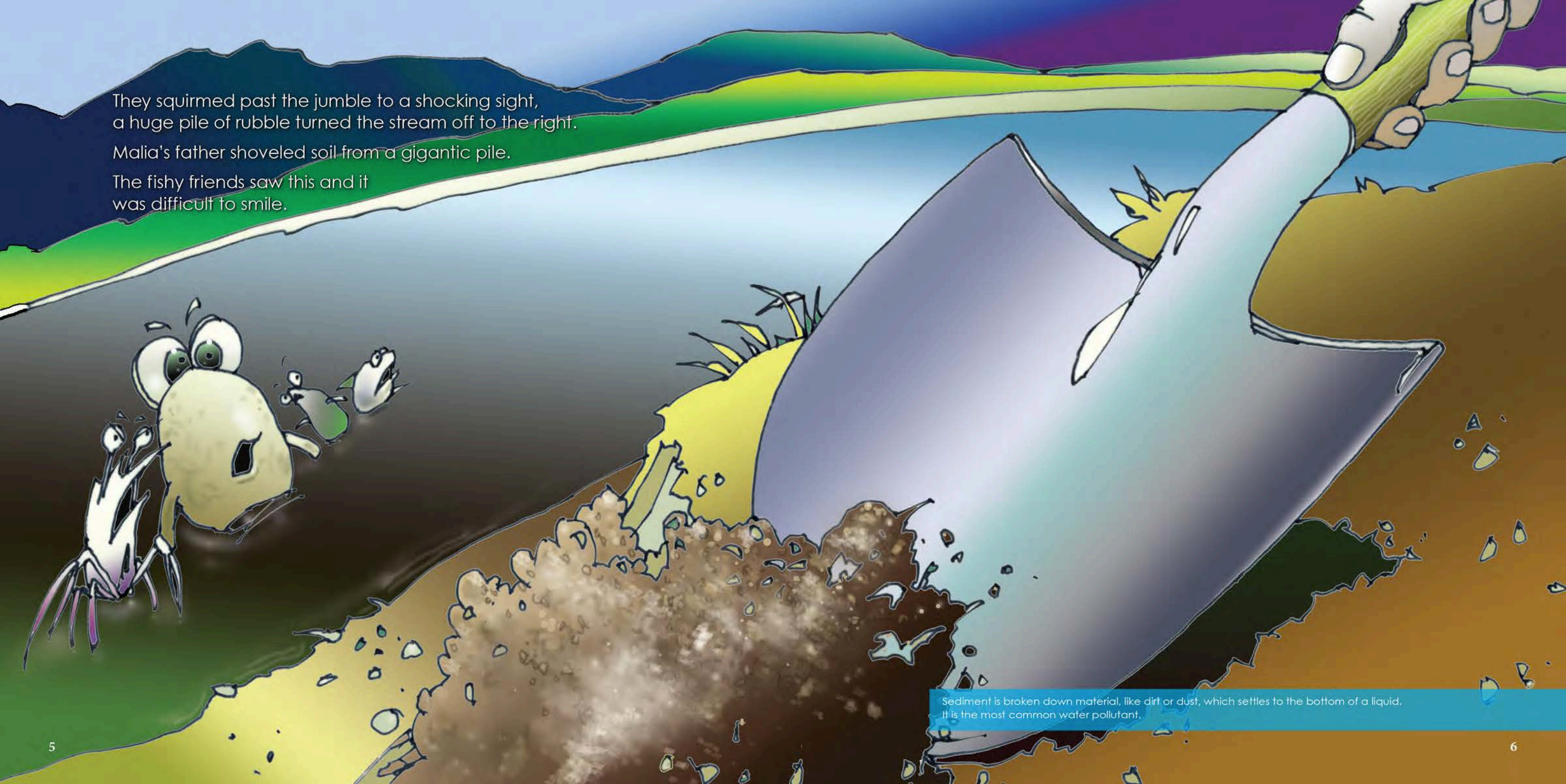


Under the bridge was a mountain of rubbish.  
"Who did this terrible thing?" said Apoha, the fish.  
Malia walked on the bridge holding a bag of trash.  
"I think I know who did," Opae said in a flash.



Debris is a collection of loose materials, like bags, bottles, sticks and leaves. It is the most visible water pollutant.





They squirmed past the jumble to a shocking sight,  
a huge pile of rubble turned the stream off to the right.

Malia's father shoveled soil from a gigantic pile.

The fishy friends saw this and it  
was difficult to smile.

Sediment is broken down material, like dirt or dust, which settles to the bottom of a liquid.  
It is the most common water pollutant.



Everything turned green as they swam upstream.  
The water was thick as melted ice cream.  
Opae couldn't see and Apoha needed air.  
Keoni held a garden hose. It saddened the pair.



Algae blooms are overgrowth of water plants that take up oxygen. Organisms like fishes and shrimps need to breathe, but they are unable to breathe when water runoffs from fertilized yards enters into the streams and ponds.



They swam into water that was clear and clean.  
Malia, Keoni, and their father were  
on the banks of the stream.

"Are you going to hurt the stream?" Apoha asked.

Malia said, "No, I pick up rubbish whenever I  
walk past."

"I moved the dirt pile away," her father  
explained.

Keoni said, "I turned off the water hose  
to stop its flow to the storm drain."

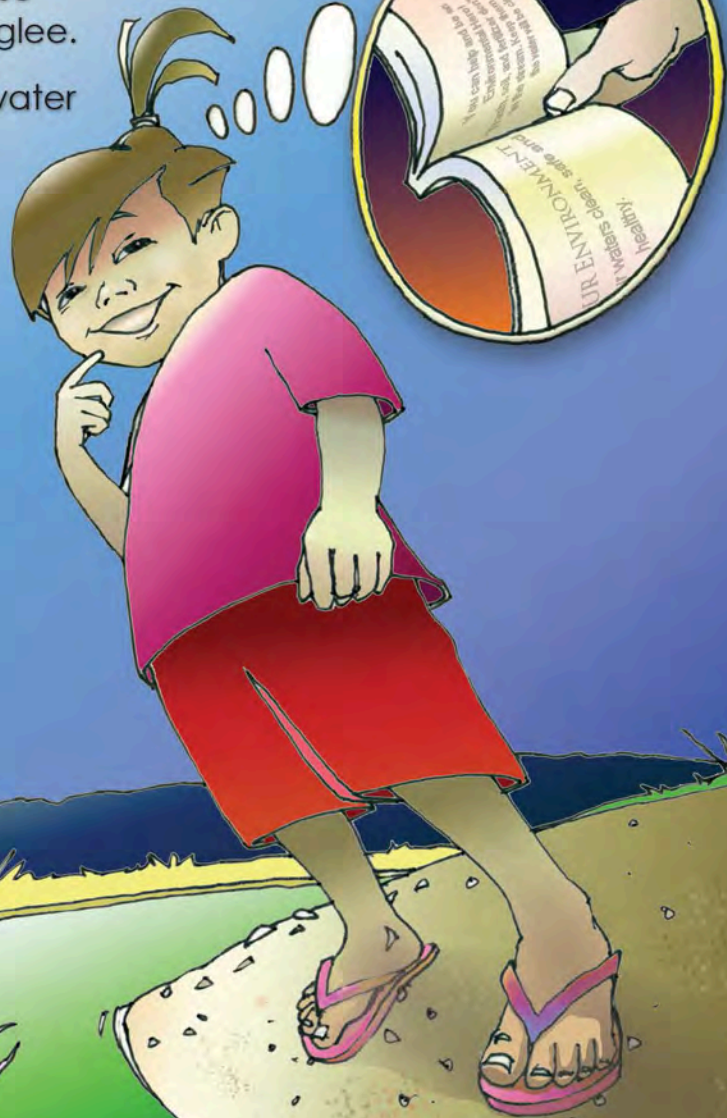


"Where did you learn to do these things, Malia?" Opae said with glee.

"They taught us in school that water in the stream runs to the sea.

Trash, soil, and fertilizer don't belong in the stream.

Keep them out and the water will be clean."





We share this world to  
live in, you see.

We need to keep it clean,  
safe and healthy.

If we don't do it now,  
the stream life could be zero.

You can help.  
Be an Everyday Clean  
Water Hero.





# PLEDGE TO BE AN EVERYDAY CLEAN WATER HERO

To submit your pledge:

Fill in, tear off and mail the form provided  
(first class letter postage required)

OR

Visit our web page at

[www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com)



We pledge to be everyday clean water heroes who will protect and conserve water starting with these simple practices (check your commitments):

- Story Teller** - I will share my knowledge of storm water runoff and pollution prevention practices with at least one neighbor or co-worker.
- Organic Gardener** - I will use only natural fertilizers and pest control measures in my yard.
- Street Sweeper** - I will clean the curbs and gutters in front of my property at least once a month and dispose in appropriate waste bins.
- Yard Hydrator** - I will install a low flow garden hose nozzle.
- Mud Preventer** - I will cover, move or plant any dirt piles or patches in my yard.
- Green Engineer** - I will install Low Impact Design (LID) materials to limit the amount of rainwater runoff from my property. Visit our website for more information on LID materials.

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Your Name

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Parent or Guardian Signature



**H**elp the little rain drop decide whether to flow through the storm drain and to the ocean or stay in the yard to help the garden grow.



**W**hen it rains, water flows from rooftops, lawns and driveways, to streets, gutters, catch basins, storm sewer pipes, and out to our streams and ocean. There are simple things, called LIDs, that can be put in your yard to stop or slow rain water from running off, which decreases pollution to our streams and ocean.



Everyday Clean Water Heroes use different tools to save our waters.

Draw a line matching tools on the left with the pollutant on the right.



w a t e r s h e d j p m  
 m b n a q t s t u n b o  
 a n u d s f g h i j p n  
 t u b p e c s a u k o i  
 r t r d d f r h f j l t  
 a r i p i d s t u v l o  
 s i e d m f g r i q u r  
 h e o r e r m t a v t y  
 a n o d n **h e r o** i a l  
 m t o p t r s t u v n y  
 s s c d o f g s i c t l

Apoha wants to learn more!  
 Can you help him find these words?

(Circle each word when you do find them above)

hero  
 pollutant  
 storm drain

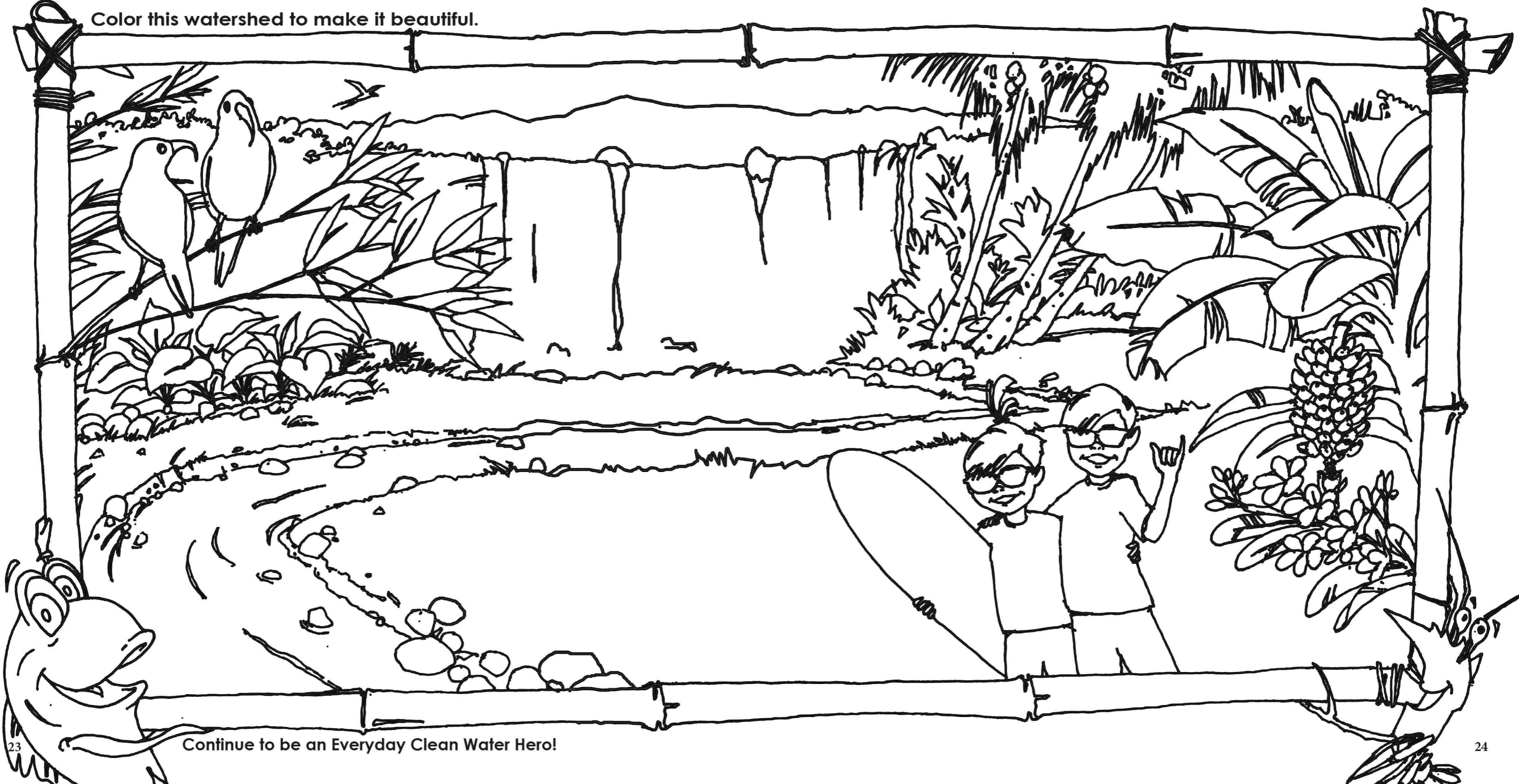
rain  
 nutrients  
 monitor

trash  
 sediment  
 watershed





Color this watershed to make it beautiful.





This booklet is designed to be a shared learning experience between adult and child. Throughout the story, examples of water pollutants from residential sources are presented. These pollutants affect the quality of our island waters, hurting the creatures that live there, our ability to enjoy recreating in them and potentially harming our drinking waters. This story also presents simple every day practices that will help to prevent these pollutants from reaching our waters as a way to encourage our youth and their families to be stewards of their environment and our island waters.

The pictures of the neighborhoods in this booklet show examples of the storm water system (storm drains, gutters, pipes, channels and streams). It is important that residents understand that anything that enters these structures goes untreated to our oceans.

### **Here are simple actions you can do around your home to be an Everyday Environmental Hero.**

- **Don't Be An Oil Drip** - Identify and fix oil leaks on your vehicles; purchase used oil change box, soak up spilled oil and dispose appropriately.
- **No Phos-For-Us** - Phosphates are commonly found in cleaners and increase nutrient loads to streams. Use plain water or cleansers sparingly.
- **Cover Up** - Prevent soil and debris from leaving your property.
- **Read The Label** - Use only the amount needed of pesticides and fertilizers; keep household cleaning products from becoming hazardous waste.
- **Yard Care** - Gather grass and tree cuttings and dispose as green waste; compost your yard trimmings.
- **Scoop Poop** - Remove and dispose of pet waste before you leave an area.
- **Keep It Clean** - Keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters in front of your property clean.
- **Get Involved** - Mark storm drains with the message, "No Dumping, Drains to Ocean", participate in Adopt-A-Stream, Adopt-A-Block cleanups, join a committee dedicated to healthy water.
- **Do It Right** - Use water based paint and be sure wash water doesn't go down the storm drain. Dispose of leftover paint properly.

### **You can make a difference, both on the job and in the community.**

- **Share your knowledge** with family, neighbors and co-workers.
- **Report illegal discharges**, call the City's Environmental Concern Line at 768-3300.
- **Volunteer** for a City project, call 768-3300 or visit our website at [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com).

