

## Protests about ocean dumping having positive effect

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The exposure of the dumping of sewage into Maui waters by the tour boat operators has begun to bring some encouraging results.

Recently the Pacific Whale Foundation invited members of the “Pump It, Don’t Dump It” group to the Maalaea Harbor to show how they have started using a truck pump-out system for all their operations, including Lahaina. They now have stopped the practice of dumping into the ocean the sewage from their boats. Their actions should be recognized and they should be applauded for becoming part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Trilogy Excursions has been using pump trucks for sometime and Jim Coons is trying to get other harbor operators onboard. By having two large operators doing their own pump-outs, we have begun to see progress.

Public, visitors, hotels and people who book the snorkel and dive trips and the government now need to know they can make a difference. By utilizing operators who are solution oriented, they can put their money into correcting this problem.

Write or call governmental agencies and the mayor, governor and County Council and demand they stop this practice of dumping human wastes in the ocean. No one is going to accept jurisdictional – federal or state or county – issues for lack of action.

Demand action before the whales return in December. This can be done and has been shown to cost as little as 25 cents per passenger to protect our waters.

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Makawao

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