RESEARCHING LOCAL TOPICS

Topics of local interest will require you to use locally produced resources such as books and journal, magazine, and newspaper articles.

Keep in mind that often the best information on a local topic may be a phone call or email away. A great deal of information is available in state and county government offices. Need a statistic on the number of boat-related accidents that have occurred on Hawai‘i beaches? The State Boating and Ocean Recreation Office might have the answer. Need information about a specific Maui County bill or law? An email to your County Council Representative might yield the answer.

- Federal, State, and County phone numbers are available at the front of all phone books, in what’s usually called the “Government Pages” or “Blue Pages.”
- Names and contact information for County Council Members are available from the Official Maui County website: www.mauicounty.gov

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Researching Local Topics in the Library:**
www.mauihawaii.edu/library/search/

**Search Our Collection**

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**General Current Events & Hot Topics:**
CQ Researcher is an excellent, full-text resource for researching nation and world wide topics that might impact or shed light on local topics and issues.

**Hawai‘i Newspaper & Scholarly Articles:**
Search these collections for citations and full text articles of local interest. (See Page 2 of this handout for additional advice on searching local newspapers).

**Books:**
Search Hawai‘i Voyager for books, music, and DVDs. Remember to conduct a “broad” search, using only one or two keywords.
Local Newspapers Online

Most Hawai‘i newspapers provide some sort of full-text archive of their past articles online. Some of these newspapers also provide a search option for searching their archives. Other local papers might allow you to view their archives by clicking (or browsing) though their past issues online. Here’s a bit more information about the searchable archives of some of our local newspapers:

The Maui News
www.mauinews.com
Archives go back to 2004. Use the search box at the top of the page. Keep keywords to a minimum (use only one or two). Search results are based on relevance.

The Honolulu Advertiser
www.honoluluadvertiser.com
Archives go back to 2001. Use the search box at the top of the page. Default search results are based on relevance. You can re-sort the results by date (use the Sort By option to do this). Advanced Search is also available. Because the Honolulu Advertiser now charges for most of their archived articles, it’s best to search the Honolulu Advertiser database available from the Library’s Search our Collection page (see instruction on Page 1 of this handout).

Honolulu Star-Bulletin
www.honolulustarbulletin.com
Archives go back to 1997. Use the search box at the top of the page. Search results are based on relevance. Use the Alternative Search to restrict your search to a specific month or months.

Some researchers find it easier to retrieve relevant newspaper articles by searching within a specific newspaper website using Google.

To perform a site specific search in Google, type in site:[URL] then add your keywords. For example, if you wanted to search The Maui News for articles about snow on Haleakala, you could try this search in Google: site:www.mauinews.com snow haleakala (note that there is no space between the colon and the URL).

More Useful Websites

Ulukau: The Hawai‘ian Electronic Library
http://www.ulukau.org
Lots of valuable full-text resources available for the use and enhancement of the Hawai‘ian language and for a broader and deeper understanding of Hawai‘i.

University of Hawai‘i Digital Collections
http://library.manoa.hawaii.edu/research/digicoll.html
Includes historical and cultural materials and projects in digital form.

Native Hawai‘ian Data Book
http://www.oha.org (select the Media/Publications link at the top of the page)
Statistics on Native Hawai‘ian demographics, land holdings, education, health, human services, housing, economic development, and public safety. In addition, maps of islands/counties indicate areas of Hawai‘ian concentration as well as lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Hawai‘ian Home Lands.

There is also the broader scoped Hawai‘i State Data Book:
http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/economic/databook and the Maui County Data Book: