



Dustin Yamamoto

**Environmental
Engineer
Class of 2000**

By Justin DelCastillo

It takes years to make clean water, but only a second to contaminate

it. Dustin Yamamoto's job is to make sure that the water you drink is clean, the air you breathe clean and the land you live on pollution-free. He is an environmental engineer.

One of Dustin's main focuses is dealing with water projects, which include storm water reclamation and reuse in agricultural endeavors and golf courses, clean water sampling and testing, and sewer condition assessment, such as preventing future leaks in Oahu's sewer system. For the past three years, he has worked for Brown and Caldwell, a mainland-based environmental engineering company with over 40 offices, including a Honolulu branch.

To become an environmental engineer you need a bachelor's degree in engineering. After graduating from Waiakea High in 2000, he earned a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Southern California in 2004. Then there were multiple tests to take to get a professional engineering license and proficiency in Autocad and safety regulations.

Dustin says that his job is "very rewarding, but it requires a lot of work and out of the box thinking". He enjoys fishing and going to the beach when he has the chance. He would like to move back to Hilo, but for the present time, except for the traffic and the population, Honolulu is home.

