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Hawaii gets ready for Tropical Storm Ana

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HONOLULU — State, city and county officials are urging Hawaii residents be prepared for strong winds, heavy rain and potential power outages this weekend as Ana moves closer to the islands.

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"While it's a beautiful day today, I think by Saturday we're not going to be seeing this kind of weather, unless we are really lucky," said Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell.

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"The potential with Ana is that the system will have a lot more impact further down the island chain than what we saw with Iselle," said Chris Brenchley with the National Weather Service.

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Downed trees, flash flooding and large waves are also what officials are asking residents to prepare for as Ana makes it way across the state.

On Wednesday, [Gov. Neil Abercrombie signed an emergency proclamation](#) ahead of the storm and [all public schools on the Big Island have cancelled classes on Friday.](#)

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Residents in Ka'u are hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst. Workers are still building a shelter at Ka'u High School in Pahala. But, it won't be ready in time for this storm.

Residents, including some ranchers, say their biggest concern is flooding in the Kawa Flats area.

"Because of flooding on the highway, that'll limit people on the west side in the district of Ka'u to even access the hospital," said rancher Kyle Soares. "We'll be blocked off on the east side of Ka'u from this flooding."

"When it floods, basically, we're pretty much stranded. There's no way of getting out of the Ka'u district. We're basically stuck here," said Michael Andrade at Ace Hardware. "Quite a few years back, bridges got washed out. Hopefully, it won't happen with this hurricane here."

Soares says all the rain from Iselle damaged some crops, infrastructure and fencing earlier this summer.

On Oahu, preparations for the storm began in the early morning hours. Customers loaded up on emergency essentials, such as water and gas. Before sunrise, the line grew at the Costco gas station on Alakawa Street. Some customers say they don't want to wait in possibly longer lines as Ana gets closer to the islands.

"I don't want to wait until this coming weekend. Realize I need to fill up and the line's too and there's no gas," said Costco customer Harlan Kimura.

Home Depot managers at the Iwilei store say they sold out of generators on Tuesday. Emergency management officials say it's a good idea to have supplies ready for up to seven days without power.

PHOTOS: ANA PREPS, EFFECTS IN HAWAII



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On Tuesday, Oct. 14, the bottled water started to fly off of the shelves at the Safeway on Kaneohe.



[Click here to see more photos of Ana preps.](#)

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