Metallic Balloon Safety Tips

If you do give or receive metallic balloons, please remember these safety tips provided by Hawaiian Electric and The Balloon Council a coalition of manufacturers, distributors and retailers working together to educate the public on balloon issues:

- Never release metallic balloons into the sky.

- Always attach a small weight to the end of the ribbon or string that holds the helium-filled metallic balloon to keep it from floating away. Some ideas for a weight include a mug, small stuffed animal or heavy toy.

- Use only non-metallic string and make sure it is tied securely to the balloon at the sealing point.

- Do not remove balloon weights until the balloon has been deflated.

- Each metallic balloon should be individually attached to a weight. Avoid tying the balloons together which has a greater chance of rising as a cluster and becoming entangled in power lines, increasing the chances of electrical problems or power outages.

- Properly dispose of metallic balloons; cut balloons with scissors directly above the knot or sealing point to deflate it and immediately put the balloon in the trash.

- If you see a metallic balloon caught in a power line, DO NOT attempt to climb a utility pole or pull the string to recover it. Leave it alone and call Hawaiian Electric’s trouble line at one of the following to report it:

  - **O‘ahu**
    - 1-855-304-1212

  - **Maui County**
    - Maui: (808) 871-7777
    - Molokai & Lāna‘i:
      - Toll-free 1-877-871-8461

  - **Hawai‘i Island**
    - (808) 969-6666

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