

3 WAYS

Small Farming Smarter



Many of Hawaii's new farmers are small farmers working on a few thousand square feet or a few acres. Strategic practices and partnerships can dramatically improve your efficiency and increase yields, reduce water & synthetic fertilizer use, facilitate compliance with the law, and increase returns.

This tip sheet is a quick look at resources. For more information:

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Know Your Partners

Small farmers often farm because of the lifestyle. Proactive partnerships can reduce stress and improve results. Some key partners who support farmers with planning, technical assistance, funding, training, etc. include:

- GoFarm Hawaii
- Kohala Center
- NRCS
- Oahu RC&D
- UH CTAHR
- West Oahu SWCD

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Plan Your Future

Every farm and ranch has its own unique resource concerns and management goals. Proactive planning increases productivity and reduces negative outcomes. **808 Planner** is a free online tool that can identify conservation practices based on your resource objectives. It may help you qualify for financial support, too.

Understand Land Use Rules

A grading permit is required when excavating or filling rock, coral, gravel, soil, recycled asphalt pavement:

- greater than 3 feet in height or;
- greater than 50 cubic yards in volume or;
- to re-direct existing surface run-off patterns with respect to adjacent properties

A grubbing permit is required when uprooting or dislodging vegetation from the ground surface across an area more than 15,000 square feet.

Regardless of whether a grading permit is required, Best Management Practices (BMPs) to contain storm water on-site and prevent the discharge of pollutants from the site are required.

Source: City and County of Honolulu: <http://www.honolulu.gov/AboutDPP/CivilEngineeringPermits.aspx>