

Worker Protection Standard Training and Train the Trainer workshops are in November. Free wilt-resistant Koa Tree and residential tree planting workshop. Farmlovers Market seeking vendors in new Kaka'ako location. NASS survey results will guide federal disaster assistance. Conservation Stewardship Grant program - learn if it's a good fit for you and your farm or ranch.

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West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Working with Farmers and Community to Conserve Hawaii's Soil and Water Resources since 1950.



Together We Farm: Worker Protection Standard

[Register](#) by November 20 for the Worker Protection Standard workshop on November 25 from 3-6pm. The hands-on workshop will take place in Waialua at the Pioneer/Corteva site and GoFarm Waialua plots.

Jensen Uyeda of the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Esther Medrano with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and Michelle Gorham with West Oahu SWCD will share information. Each participant will receive a WPS kit thanks to our wonderful partners. Dinner is included.

Workshop Outcomes:

- Presentation of the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) with illustrated and written tools including the three stages of WPS: Inform, Protect, and Mitigate.

- Farm visit to experience WPS including: Proper signage in fields (Inform) How to protect yourself from pesticides demo (Protect) Care for yourself and staff if you are exposed to pesticides. (Mitigate)
- WPS Kit including secondary containment unit, eye protection, gloves, laminated signage for field use, flagging, and more.

This October, we hosted the first Together We Farm workshops in both Thai and English. The focus was soil health and nutrient management. The workshops were as educational as they were fun and we look forward to connecting with partners in November. Photos above.

Questions? Contact: Michelle Gorham: WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com or 808.729.1676

Registration Links:

November 25, 2018

https://togetherwefarm_wps.eventbrite.com

January 20, 2018 Pesticide Safety

https://togetherwefarm_safety.eventbrite.com



Date: November 25, 2018 3-6pm
Location: Waiāluā DuPont Pioneer/GoFarm
Language: English
Cost: \$15 - scholarships available
Includes: Workshop, dinner, WPS kit, optional farm consult

Workshop Content and take-aways:

- Presentation of the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) with illustrated and written tools including the three stages of WPS: Inform, Protect, and Mitigate.
- Farm visit to experience WPS including: Proper signage in fields (Inform) How to protect yourself from pesticides demo (Protect) Care for yourself and staff if you are exposed to pesticides. (Mitigate)
- WPS Kit including secondary containment unit, eye protection, gloves, laminated signage for field use, flagging, and more.
- 2 pesticide credits - pending HDOA Approval

Guest Speakers: Jensen Uyeda with University of Hawaii Extension Agent, Esther Medrano with Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture, and Daniel Carroll with GoFarm Hawaii



MORE INFORMATION: Contact: Michelle: WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com or 808.729.1676
 \$500 Mini Grant - available to those who participate in all 4 workshops
 Register: https://togetherwefarm_wps.eventbrite.com

Mahalo to our sponsors



NASS - crop survey.

Did you know that disaster payments, crop insurance rates, and relief aid benefits to farmers are calculated based on results from the NASS reports?

Farmers will receive the NASS vegetable survey within the next few weeks or

by completing the PDF in the link attached. Hawaii's response rate to NASS surveys is just under 60%; lower than the national average. Here in Hawaii, we have seen how weather events due to climate change and natural disasters can negatively impact production and farm function - from flooding to vog to lava flows. Federal assistance has been a great resource to many in reducing the impact of farm losses. Those who have not experienced loss may have friends and neighbors in ag who do. Farmer responses to the NASS surveys are critical in ensuring the health and perpetuity of Hawaii's farms and their financial future. [Complete the survey today.](#)

Contact Kathy King with NASS for more information:
808.522.8082 (office).



Conservation Stewardship Program

Your Stewardship Goals. Our Assistance.

Have you ever looked across your property and thought about some land management goals you would like to take to the next level? Maybe we can help.

No one knows more about your land than you do, and no one knows more about conservation than we do. Together we can develop a plan tailored to your land and your goals to help you increase productivity and protect the value of your land.

Our Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, or develop wildlife habitat, we can custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals. We can help you schedule timely planting of cover crops, develop a grazing plan that will improve your forage base, implement no-till to reduce erosion or manage forested areas in a way that benefits wildlife habitat. If you are already taking steps to improve the condition of the land, chances are CSP can help you find new ways to meet your goals.

Sustainable Production

CSP is for working lands. It is the largest conservation program in the United States with more than 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled in CSP. Thousands of people that have made the choice to voluntarily enroll in the program because it helps them enhance natural resources and improve their business operation.

CSP participants are seeing real results. Some of these benefits include:

- Improved cattle gains per acre
- Increased crop yields
- Decreased inputs
- Wildlife population improvements
- Better resilience to weather extremes

Please feel free to give the USDA-NRCS Oahu Field Office a call at (808) 600-2913.

Link: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>

Brandon Todd | USDA-NRCS District Conservationist | Oahu Field Office | 300 Ala Moana Blvd #4-118, Honolulu, HI 96850 | Cell: (808) 868-7586 | Office: (808) 600-2913 | brandon.todd@hi.usda.gov



Celebrate the Holidays with Trees

Offset your Thanksgiving tryptophan coma, remember a loved one with a dignified living legacy, or simply enjoy nature on your holiday by joining our Re-Tree Hawaii workshops. Get a tree during our alternative Black Friday, Cyber Saturday, and December 21-22 nature spree - Re-Tree workshops. All registered participants will receive a wilt-resistant koa tree, tree-planting protocol, and suggestions for soil health and testing. Family friendly and carbon positive, there is no need to shop when you can plant a tree and join in this alternative Black Friday and Cyber Saturday event. December events available as well.

Wahiawa Botanical Gardens (2 workshops): [Register](#)

Friday November 23, 2018 from 10am – 12:00pm – ReTree Hawai'i

Saturday November 24, 2018 from 10am – 12:00pm – ReTree Hawai'i

March 2019 Time and Date TBD – Koa health follow-up: Bring pictures of your tree as well as questions for the expert, Research Forester, Nick Dudley.

Foster Botanical Gardens: [Register](#)

Friday December 21, 2018 from 10am – 12:00pm – ReTree Hawai'i

Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens: [Register](#)

Saturday December 22, 2018 2018 from 10am – 12:00pm – ReTree Hawai'i

This program will develop community understanding of the value of urban and community tree planting for soil and water conservation, community well-being, agriculture awareness, and climate change mitigation.

The City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, West

Oahu SWCD and Kaulunani look forward to growing good this holiday season with you.

Register on Eventbrite today! \$5 hold fee will cover you pH test, Wilt resistant tree, education, tree tools, and snacks.



Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death update:

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) was scientifically identified on Hawaii Island in 2014. ROD was found on the island of Kaua'i in May of 2018. ROD has affected roughly 135,000 acres of native forest on Hawai'i Island. Teams are assessing the acreage impacted on Kaua'i.

With 50,000 acres of native Hawaiian forest on the island of O'ahu, you can help prevent the spread of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death to O'ahu in a few simple ways.

1. Don't move 'Ōhi'a wood or 'Ōhi'a parts inter-island.
2. Don't transport 'Ōhi'a inter-island – buds, flowers, wood, etc.
3. Avoid injuring live, standing 'Ōhi'a trees, this puts the tree at significantly higher risk of infection.
4. Clean forestry tools, hiking boots, chainsaws, etc. and then spray with 70% rubbing alcohol.
5. Wash vehicles (including the undercarriage and tires) with soap and water to remove mud after traveling off-road or in an area with ROD.

[For more about ROD](#)



What does Thanksgiving cost in Hawaii? Let the American Farm Bureau know and maybe win some \$\$\$\$. Submit by November 6, 2018. [Link to survey:](https://2018thanksgivingsurvey.questionpro.com/)
<https://2018thanksgivingsurvey.questionpro.com/>

From the Farm Bureau "Thank you for participating in American Farm Bureau Federation's special survey to track the cost of a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner. List the retail price for each item below. If a product is not available in the listed size, indicate the price and the product size you found. Sale prices and store brands are OK, but do not use promotional coupons or special deals (such as get a free turkey by purchasing \$50 or more in groceries or "buy one, get one free"). You may check

prices at any grocery store/chain or food warehouse through November 6. Contact Anna Burkholder at 202-406-3648 or anna@fb.org with questions."



FARMLOVERS MARKET - KAKA'AKO UPDATE

Are you a farmer or artisan interested in building community in Kaka'ako by bringing produce and products to Honolulu's urban core? Farmlovers Kaka'ako Market is moving locations to the corner of Ward and Ala Moana on November 17th and accepting new vendors. The Farmlovers Kaka'ako Market takes place weekly on Saturdays from 8-12pm.

Interested? Contact Pamela Boyar via email at alohafarmlovers@gmail.com or phone 808.388.9696 no later than November 10, 2018. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, so make sure to apply early.

Vendors who will be considered:

Farmers who sell produce grown in the State of Hawaii. (no non-local produce considered)

Artisans who craft their own products.

Food artisans selling handmade, healthy food with local ingredients. Food can be prepared for consumption on site, or pre-packaged as a value added product. Vendors must have all required licenses.

All vendors must have insurance and GET licenses.

<http://farmloversmarkets.com/>

[Watch this video](#) about the market and get involved today!



Calendar of Events

Events and Deadlines:

November 2, 2018: 9am - 12pm, 2018 - Federal Grant Writing Workshop

November 3, 9am at Wahiawa Botanical Garden: [Arbor Day Tree Give-away](#). Come check out our booth and register for Re-Tree events.

November 6, 2018

VOTE!

12:30pm, 2018 - West Oahu SWCD meeting at Nutrien Conference Room (former CPS workshop)

Submit American Farm Bureau Survey

November 8, 8am-11:30pm Worker Protection Standards Workshop with Hawaii Department of Agriculture

November 21-22 - 10am - 12pm: Wahiawa Botanical Gardens Re-Tree Hawaii, Residential Koa Tree Planting workshop. [Register](#)

December 11, 2018 - West Oahu SWCD December meeting.

December 21, 2018: Foster Botanical Gardens Re-Tree Hawaii - Residential Koa Tree Planting workshop [Register](#)

December 22, 2018: Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens - Residential Re-Tree Hawaii Workshop, [Register](#)

[Hawaii Farm to School Calendar](#)



Funding opportunities:

USDA FY 2019 Farm to School Grant RFA

The FY 2019 Farm to School Grant Program Request for Applications (RFA) is now open to applicants. Due to additional funding made available to the Farm to School Grant Program through the FY 2018 Omnibus Bill, the Office of Community Food Systems (OCFS) seeks to award approximately \$7.5M in FY 2019 funding. Applications are due Dec. 4, 2018. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

2019 Youth Garden Grant

Any nonprofit organization, public or private school, or youth program in the United States or US Territories planning a new garden program or expanding an established one that serves at least 15 youth between the ages of 3 and 18 is eligible to apply. The selection of winners is based on demonstrated program impact and sustainability. The top 5 programs will be awarded grant packages worth \$2,100. Grant packages worth \$500 will be awarded to 20 additional programs. Applications are due December 17. [Learn more here.](#)

National Head Start Association Garden Grants

The National Head Start Association and The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation have launched a new multi-year Garden Grants initiative, which seeks to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens to more Head Start children and families, increasing healthy food access and fostering a lifelong love of gardening. Grant recipients will receive \$5,000, plus a garden kit, to create or expand a garden in their community. Schools, community action programs, non-profits, hospitals, community centers and inter-generational groups that hosts Head Start programs are eligible to apply. Application deadline for the 2018/2019 program year is November 15, 2018. [Learn more here.](#)

West Oahu SWCD's Next Meeting: November 6, 2018 at 12:30pm. Agenda items due on October 23, 2018.

Location of meetings: Nutrien Conference Room (formerly Crop Production Services), Kunia Village 92-

1770 Kunia Road, Kunia HI 96759. Please enter through the side door.

West Oahu SWCD Directors: Larry Jeffs (Chair), Peter Gibson, Alan Gottlieb, John McHugh, & Joe Para.
Associate Directors: Mike Glidden and Kalani Fronda

About Us: The West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to building partnerships that strengthen agriculture in Hawaii and contribute to a vibrant island community, environment, and economy.

Newsletter compiled by Michelle Gorham, West Oahu SWCD. Submit articles and information to WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com. Mahalo to our editor, Cindy Pinick with HARC.

Our work is powered by your donations, funding contributions and grants. Your tax deductible donation can be made online (click button below and scroll down to "West Oahu SWCD"). Make checks payable to O'ahu RC&D: West Oahu SWCD.

Your Donation Supports Sustainable Farming

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