



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

Register by Friday for the Soil BMP Workshop and/or the full series of workshops.

Attending the full workshop series ensures you are eligible for a \$500 mini-grant. Thanks to our generous sponsors, West Oahu SWCD has funds to support every farmer that qualifies for a mini-grant.

During the first workshop we focus on Soil health. Participate in an engaging agenda, take home a soil test kit, secure a free soil test from UH CTAHR, and enjoy tasty food from Kahumana Organic Farm.

Josh Silva with CTAHR extension will have a PH meter on site, too. Bring a sample from you field(s) to secure day-of results and talk through what these results might mean for your crops.

Workshop Outcomes:

- Receive resources and tools for improving soil quality to increase yields and reduce inputs.
- Experience demonstration of how to collect a proper soil sample for testing through the UH Manoa Extension Office. (you receive a free soil test as part of this workshop!)
- Farm tour of Kahumana. Talk through and view practices that keep soil at peak performance.
- Build connections with soil health experts, extension agents, other farmers, etc.

Speakers:

Josh Silva, Extension Agent with the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Ag and Human Resources

Christian Zuckerman, Farm Manager Kahumana

Michelle Gorham, West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District

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

Registration Links:

October 20, 2018 - Soil Best Management
https://togetherwefarm_bmp.eventbrite.com

November 25, 2018
https://togetherwefarm_wps.eventbrite.com

January 20, 2018 Pesticide Safety
https://togetherwefarm_safety.eventbrite.com



Date: October 20, 2018 3-6pm
Location: Kahumana Organic Farm and Café
Language: English
Cost: \$15 - *scholarships available*
Includes: Workshop, dinner, soil test, farm consult (if desired)

Workshop Content and Take-aways:

- Resources and tools to improve soil quality to increase yields and reduce inputs.
- Demonstration of how to collect soil for sampling
- Farm tour with Q&A to see soil conservation practices in action
- Connections with soil health experts, extension agents, other farmers, etc.
- Learn land, soil and water Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Guest Speakers: Josh Silva, Extension Agent with the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Ag and Human Resources, Christian Zuckerman, Farm Manager Kahumana

West Oahu 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_bmp.eventbrite.com

Mahalo to our sponsors



Land for Lease Available: Hawai'i Agricultural Foundation Ag Park at Kunia

Honolulu, HI – The Hawai'i Agricultural Foundation (HAF) is accepting applications for 5 acres of land available in the HAF Ag Park at Kunia. Applications are accepted from now until October 5, 2018 and will be reviewed and scored by the HAF Ag Park Committee. Final approval will be determined by the HAF Board of Directors and successful applicants will be notified accordingly upon selection.

Established in 2011, the HAF Ag Park at Kunia contains 220 acres of land dedicated to diversified agricultural production. Park farmers currently grow taro, various leafy greens and lettuces, bananas, eggplant, beans, peppers, tomatoes, daikon, long squash, radish, papaya, and avocado.

The Hawai'i Agricultural Foundation is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and operations of the park, overseen by the HAF Ag Park Manager. HAF provides resources to farmers at the park with regularly scheduled workshops based on what farmers request help with, what the property manager observes a need for, and what new agricultural practices

information is being offered by partner organizations. HAF also helps farmers identify areas of improvement to scale farming operations for greater production volume to meet growing consumer demand, and find new market opportunities to help the farmers gain a larger stake in the local marketplace.

For more information or to schedule a tour, applicants may contact the HAF Ag Park Manager:

Kacey Robello

kacey@hawaiiagfoundation.org

(808) 721-7655



Train the Trainer

Worker Protection Standards

The State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture is offering two train-the-trainer workshops this fall in Worker Protection Standards.

Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Pesticides Branch is hosting a WPS Train the Trainer course for handlers and workers. Participants who complete this course will be allowed to conduct the annual WPS pesticide safety training using EPA approved materials for handlers and workers. A certification card valid for 5 years will be issued.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Rules and Regulations
- Training Requirements
- First Aid for Pesticide Illnesses and Injuries
- And much more!

2.0 CEUs Class

#2073 Approved Categories:

- Private 1
- Commercial 1a, 2, 3, 9, and 10.

November 8, 2018

8:00 AM—11:30 AM

Leeward Community College Room GT 105

FEE: \$25.00 per person

To register, contact Esther Medrano via email at esther.medrano@hawaii.gov or phone 808-973-9424



Organic Certification Cost Share Program

The Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) provides cost share assistance to producers and handlers of agricultural products who are obtaining or renewing their certification under the National Organic Program (NOP). Certified operations may receive up to 75 percent of their certification costs paid from Oct. 1, 2017, through Sept. 30, 2018, not to exceed \$750 per certification scope. The application deadline for the 2018 program year is Oct. 31, 2018.

Eligible costs include application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement/arrangement requirements, travel/per diem for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage.

Ineligible costs include equipment, materials, supplies, transitional certification fees, late fees and inspections necessary to address National Organic Program regulatory violations.

Producers and handlers may submit OCCSP applications to FSA county offices.

The FSA OCCSP application form is available at [USDA's eForms site](#), by selecting "Browse forms" and entering "OCCSP" in the "title or keywords" field on the search page.

To learn more about organic certification cost share, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/organic or contact a local FSA office by visiting <http://offices.usda.gov>.



Federal Grant Writing Workshop

The Office of Rep. Tulsi Gabbard will host a workshop on US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development and US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) federal grants on Friday November 2, 2018 from 9:00am-12:00pm at the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center.

Staff from Rep. Tulsi Gabbard's office, along with USDA and EDA federal agency representatives, will provide information and answer questions about grant opportunities and applications, and how to obtain financial assistance for rural and distressed communities. The workshop will be held in partnership with the USDA Rural Development Hawai'i Office and the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Hawaii Office.

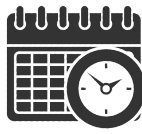
DETAILS:

Date: Friday, November 2, 2018

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center
94-340 Kunia Rd
Waipahu Hawaii

RSVP: Gabbard.house.gov/RSVP or call
(808) 541-1986



Calendar of Events

Events and Deadlines:

October 18: Secondary Project Learning Tree Workshop. Contact Michelle Gorham to register. WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com

October 26-28, 2018: Annual Hawaii Farmers Union United conference. [More information](#)

October 30- 31, 2018: Annual Hawaii Farm Bureau Convention.
Contact: info@hfbf.org

November 2, 2018: 9:00 - 12:00, 2018 - Federal Grant Writing Workshop

November 6, 2018 12:30pm, 2018 - Next West Oahu SWCD meeting. Submit agenda items by October 23.

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

[Hawaii Farm to School Calendar](#)

Online Workshops with NRCS:

Train on your own time with these great resources from NRCS. Explore the free, online training opportunities and a list of archived webinars [here](#)



Funding opportunities:

Kaulunani: Urban and Community Forestry Grant -

Due November 1, 2018

Kaulunani has awarded grants to hundreds of non-profit groups, schools, community organizations, parks, museums and arboretums. We fund proposals to support urban and community forestry projects and Arbor Day tree giveaway programs across the State.

Grant are awarded for projects that respond to a need identified in our [Forest Action Plan](#) (Urban-Issue 4). Most grant awards range between \$500-\$14,999.

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 Dec. 17. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Annie's Grant for Edible School Gardens

Want a school garden? Annie's believes that showing future generations how sustainable food is grown changes their lives. Connecting kids to gardens helps them to start thinking more holistically about their food, their communities, and

the planet. Applications are due Nov. 1, 2018. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

SARE grants

Learn more about the opportunities for grants in research and education:

<https://www.sare.org/Grants>

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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