

Small business fair, save the date: Grower-Buyer Meet-Up,
Together We Farm grant awardees, Eat-Think-Drink - a look at
fisheries, and more.

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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:

Grants and Scholarships Awarded

Seven businesses and individuals were awarded grants and scholarships totaling nearly \$13,000 to execute the mission of the Together We Farm program.

Together We Farm provided 6 workshops in our 2018/19 program year as well as one-on-one conservation planning technical assistance and support with soil testing.

All participants were invited to submit a grant application. Awardees presented strong proposals with clear linkages to soil and water best management practices as well as pesticide safety.

Grant Awardees include:

Lokoea Farms
Rick's Farm
Kai'ona Farms
Roots Remedy
Tiny 'Āina Farms

Scholarship Awardees

Phianphachong Intarat
Danielle Kapeliela

Starting a new program with workshops, technical assistance, and grants takes time and a diverse set of skills and abilities. Together We Farm would not have been as successful without our program volunteers, Pian Intarat and Dani Kapeliela. We wish them the best as they continue their education and pursue future goals.

Mahalo to the generous support of our funding partners who made this program possible:

- Hawaii Department of Agriculture (Title Sponsor)
- Bayer, Inc.
- Corteva
- DR Horton
- DuPont Pioneer
- Hartung Brothers, Inc.
- Nutrien Ag Solutions
- South County Farmers Association
- Ulupono Initiative



Small Business Support

Well - It's that time of year again, tax time.

As small businesses, farmers are faced with a host of requirements from GAP and FSMA to WPS. In this alphabet soup is also the IRS, but don't fear! You don't need to approach any of these acronyms with dread. Free small business support is available to farmers, ranchers and other partners - many who will have booths at the FREE 2019 small business fair. In addition to free resources, there are helpful workshops and partners thanks to sponsors: Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and Leeward Community College (LCC).

Date: Saturday, May 4, 2019

Location: Leeward Community College | 96-045 Ala Ike | Pearl City, HI 96782

Exhibits open: 7:30 AM

Workshops: 8:30 AM to 1:15 PM

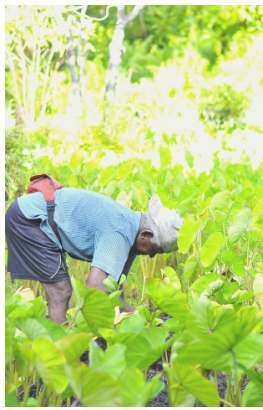
Cost: FREE

Register: <https://smallbizfair2019.eventbrite.com>

Questions: Call 808-945-1430

New to farming and want to get your business started on the right track?
<https://invest.hawaii.gov/business/starting-a-business-first-steps/>

More information on the fair and small business resources can be found here:
<https://invest.hawaii.gov/business/hawaii-small-business-fairs/>



Ag Conference 2019
October 15-16, 2019

GROWER BUYER MEET-UP

A successful Grower-Buyer event will lead to sales relationships. It facilitates knowledge exchange and understanding between growers and buyers about the business and communication needs on both sides to help build successful long-term relationships.

2019 Hawaii Agriculture Conference: **Grower-Buyer Meet-up**

The 2019 conference to be held on October 15 - 16, 2019 will feature a Grower-Buyer meet-up with a couple improvements based on your feedback. At the 2017 Ag Conference, more than 70 growers and buyers participated, developing relationships to strengthen our agriculture industry.

A successful Grower-Buyer event will lead to sales relationships. It facilitates knowledge exchange and understanding between growers and buyers about the business and communication needs on both sides to help build successful long-term relationships. All parties should be prepared for and open to discussions.

The 2019 event will be hosted before the conference concurrent sessions start to ensure participants are able to engage in as much of the conference as possible.

Program:

6:30 - 7am - Grower Set-up booth

7:00 - KTA's Derek Kurisu: About the program and goals

7:30 - 8 minute meetings

8:30 - Growers Break-down booths

9:00 - Concurrent Sessions

We value your participation

Meet-up participants will receive \$25 off the conference registration fee as well as breakfast.

To participate or learn more, contact: Michelle Gorham; 808.729.1676 or
OahuACA@gmail.com



EAT-THINK-DRINK

An Educational and Sensory Smorgasbord

Seafood is an often overlooked component of Hawaii's local food production pipeline. To grow knowledge and connection to farming practices in relation to human health and the environment, the Hawaii Ag Foundation (HAF) hosts Eat-Think-Drink events roughly quarterly. The most recent event highlighted fisheries with the goal of helping consumers learn more about their seafood choices.

John Finger, co-founder and CEO of Hog Island Co. in California, served as the keynote. This B-Corporation is certified to meet social and environmental performance standards, accountability, and transparency.

Featured panelists included Brooks Takenaka of the United Fishing Agency, Ron Weidenbach of the Hawaii Fish Company, and Guy Tamashiro of Tamashiro Market. John Kaneko of the Hawaii Seafood Council moderated the event.

Ron and the Hawaii Fish Company, Cooperator with West Oahu SWCD, did a great job sharing his story and future goals. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, Ron!

Participate in [Eat-Think-Drink](#) events by following HAF on Facebook.



Opportunity Corner: Grants, Funding, and more

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Community Engagement Workshop

Host: West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District

Date: April 25, 2019 from 9:00am – 12:30pm

Location: Wahiawa Botanical Gardens

Fee for supplies: \$35.00*

Workshop Outcomes:

- Through self-assessment, determine the landscape of your community as well as the strengths and weaknesses of your organization and self
- Become familiar with the Community Engagement Guidelines and how they can be used to improve the quality of your outreach
- Identify tools that foster community engagement and more efficiently meet your goals
- Develop relationships with partners who can help you meet your goals.

Register: <https://hawaiicommunityengagement.eventbrite.com>

The Guidelines Provide:

- Suggestions on how to work in collaborative & inclusive partnerships and coalitions
- Guidance for supporting community capacity & action toward sustainability & resilience
- Ideas on making a long-term investment in community change
- Guidance on how to reflect on your personal, organizational, & community capacities for engagement

*Fee – A few scholarships are available for students and NGOs. Fee Includes breakfast snacks, a light lunch, books, and organizational evaluation resources

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HDOA Food Safety Grants

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) is currently accepting applications for grants to help Hawaii farmers and ranchers with the cost of bringing their operations in compliance with state and federal food safety regulations aimed at preventing foodborne illnesses.

During the 2018 session, the state legislature appropriated a total of \$475,000 toward the grant program to help local food producers comply with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and other state food safety requirements.

Hawaii farmers and ranchers may apply for reimbursement of costs up to \$5,000 which will be distributed on a pro rata basis depending on the number of applicants and reimbursements costs submitted. The application deadline is April 15, 2019.

[More](#)

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Western SARE - Research and Education Grants

[Research & Education Grants](#) (due May 28, 2019 Noon MDT)

These grants – also known as Chapter 1 for their designation in the enabling legislation – involve scientists, producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to address issues related to sustaining agriculture. The 2020 Call for Pre-Proposals was issued in March 2019, with pre-proposals due in May 2019. Following scrutiny by a technical review panel of scientists, agency personnel, producers, and others, presenters of the best pre-proposals will be asked to submit full proposals, due in November 2019. Full proposals will undergo technical review in January 2020, and the Western SARE Administrative Council will select proposals for funding in March 2020.

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[Agriculture and Food Research Initiative \(AFRI\)](#) | [AFRI Sustainable Agricultural](#)

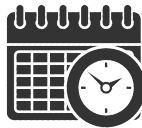
Systems

Applications to the FY 2019 Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Sustainable Agricultural Systems (SAS) Request for Applications (RFA) must focus on approaches that promote transformational changes in the U.S. food and agriculture system within the next 25 years. NIFA seeks creative and visionary applications that take a systems approach, and that will significantly improve the supply of abundant, affordable, safe, nutritious, and accessible food, while providing sustainable opportunities for expansion of the bioeconomy through novel animal, crop, and forest products and supporting technologies. These approaches must demonstrate current and future social, behavioral, economic, health, and environmental impacts. Additionally, the outcomes of the work being proposed must result in societal benefits, including promotion of rural prosperity and enhancement of quality of life for those involved in food and agricultural value chains from production to utilization and consumption. [See AFRI SAS RFA for details.](#)

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Are you new to PodCasts? Perhaps a long-time fan? Take your learning into the field and on the road via your smartphone or device.

This past Friday, Hawaii Public Radio's "The Conversation" featured some dialogue about Solar on Prime Ag Lands.
[Tune in here to learn part of the story.](#)



Calendar of Events

APRIL Dates to Remember

April 1, Waimanalo Ag Association Meeting. Visit Waa.org

April 5-6, 2019: Two day ulu workshop! www.breadfruit.info

April 12, 2019: Final day for Ag 2019 - Hawaii Ag Conference Proposals
<https://www.hiagconference.org/proposals.html>

April 23, 12:30pm: West Oahu SWCD monthly meeting

April 23, 2019, 10am -2pm: Earth Day at UH Manoa Campus Center

April 24, 2019 8am - 12pm: KUNIA - Pesticide Safety Training for Growers.
Workshop will be held in the Nutrien Conference Room. 3 HDOA CEUs. Training is FREE ~ Includes prizes. RSVPs appreciated. Call or text Amy Wolfe at 209-499-4091 or amy@agsafe.org

April 24, 2019 3pm to 7pm: WAIMANALO - Pesticide Safety Training for Growers.
UH Extension Research Station 41-698 Ahiki Street. 3 HDOA CEUs. Training is FREE ~ Includes prizes. RSVPs appreciated. Call or text Amy Wolfe at 209-499-4091 or amy@agsafe.org

April 25, 2019 9am - 12:30pm: Guidelines for Community Engagement Workshop.
Register: <https://hawaiicommunityengagement.eventbrite.com>

April 25, 2019 8am - 12pm: WAIALUA - Pesticide Safety Training for Growers.
Pioneer Farm 67-172 Farrington Highway. 3 HDOA CEUs. Training is FREE ~ Includes prizes. RSVPs appreciated. Call or text Amy Wolfe at 209-499-4091 or amy@agsafe.org

May 4, 2019 from 10am - 4pm: Parade of Farms in Waimanalo. Learn more and register here: <https://parade-of-farms.org/>



West Oahu SWCD's Next Meeting: April 23, 2019 at 12:30pm.

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.

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