



Last month, Plastic Free Hawai'i joined the [Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i](#) team at their cleanup on Saturday, December 2nd. The 200+ volunteers retrieved millions of microplastic pieces off the shoreline and scoped out the new spot for the SCH Solutions Hub! Exciting new opportunities for the Kahuku community!

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## Kōkua Learning Farm Youth Internship



The Kōkua Learning Farm Youth Interns celebrated all of their hard work on the farm over the past fall session with their family and friends during our Fall 2024 Hō'ike in December. The event started with a youth led farm tour where interns took turns speaking about the various projects they have accomplished during the 15 week session such as explaining the process of hand pollination of our loofah crop, the design process that went into constructing a trellis for the ever expanding ipu vine and how they harvested over 40 pounds of cassava! Family and friends then enjoyed the rewards of all of the interns' hard work with a farm fresh meal which consisted of many different dishes created from the produce grown by the interns!

# Accepting Spring 2024 Youth Interns Today!!

**YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**



**Interested in learning about growing food for your family and community with like-minded youth?**

Register for the Kōkua Learning Farm Youth Internship Program!

Wednesday afternoons, 3:00-5:00 in Hale'iwa. Students in grades 9-12 are welcome to apply!

Learn more and complete the application form today:  
[bit.ly/KLEInternSpring24](https://bit.ly/KLEInternSpring24)



**FEBRUARY 7 - MAY 15**  
**WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:00-5:00 PM**  
**KŌKUA LEARNING FARM**  
**IN HALE'IWA**

Direct questions to: [farm@kokuahawaiifoundation.org](mailto:farm@kokuahawaiifoundation.org)

[www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org/kokus-learning-farm-youth-internship](http://www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org/kokus-learning-farm-youth-internship)

A PROGRAM OF  
**KŌKUA HAWAII FOUNDATION**

We are excited to announce the next cohort will run from February 7th-May 15th 2024. The youth internship program provides on-farm training for high school youth centered around agroecology, food production and sustainability as well as culinary explorations using produce that the youth interns have grown and harvested.

Interns meet weekly on Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm at the Kōkua Learning Farm located in Hale'iwa.

[Youth Internship](#)

[Application](#)

## Kōkua Learning Farm Community Workdays



North Shore's winter season has arrived, marked by the sound of ocean swells and a hint of salt in the air before our December farm workday sessions. Despite some rain-related cancellations, our Community Workday was successfully rescheduled, boasting a fantastic turnout. Special thanks to the Marines of 3d MLR who came and helped remove invasive grass from the bioswale and planted native plants with us. Patagonia and Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation Members wrapped up the month by weeding the lei garden, harvesting cassava, making Fire Cider with farm ingredients, and taking farm fresh veggies home!

**Join us this Saturday, January 6th for our first Kōkua Learning Farm Community Workday of the new year. Tasks may include weeding, mulching, harvesting, and general farm care!**

[January 6 Community Workday Registration](#)



### **Kōkua Learning Farm Field Trips**

First Graders from Haleiwa Elementary joined us in December for a farm field trip where they explored the many different parts of the Kōkua Learning Farm. Students identified different seeds and the plants they belong to then were able to help save seeds and harvest green beans from our 'ĀINA in Schools Demonstration Gardens. They also participated in a fun scavenger hunt where they became plant detectives looking for various plant parts in the Agroforest Orchard. To end the day, students got to meet Uwe and Ha'a, our Nigerian Dwarf goats. We look forward to many more field trips this upcoming semester!



## ‘ĀINA In School Updates

The fall gardens are now at rest and spring gardens will begin to come to life with this new year! During the fall semester...

- 2,110 students received ‘ĀINA Nutrition Lessons
- 4,414 students received Garden Lessons
- 954 students received Compost Lessons at 20 schools across the island.

We thank the ‘ĀINA Lead Teachers, ‘ĀINA Team Coordinators, classroom teachers and administrators who have successfully implemented ‘ĀINA Lessons this year!

The Quarter 3 Training for ‘ĀINA In Schools will be hosted at the Kōkua Learning Farm on January 13, 2024. Teachers and volunteers at participating schools will have a chance to dive into lessons from each grade level to get hands-on experience and learn some tips and tricks before bringing ‘ĀINA lessons back to their classrooms. [Register here.](#)

[Learn More About How ‘ĀINA Schools Kick Off the New Year!](#)

## Upcoming 3Rs Drives



**Saturday, January 20th - Waipahu High School - 9-11am**  
**Saturday, January 27th - Kalākaua Middle School - 9-11am**

Ring in the New Year by cleaning out those closets of unwanted household goods, gathering up broken/obsolete or unwanted electronics, shredding old confidential documents and more at one of our upcoming 3Rs School Recycling Drives! Our Drives provide residents with an opportunity to properly dispose of items that typically cannot be placed in curbside bins and best of all — it is a fundraiser for the host school! We collaborate with six community partners to collect a wide variety of materials!



**Community Partner of the Month: Pacific Biodiesel**

Pacific Biodiesel, a locally owned business founded on Maui in 1995 and is the only commercial producer of liquid biofuels in Hawai'i. They recycle used household cooking oil statewide to produce 100% clean, renewable fuel. Residents can drop off up to 2 gallons only of their used household cooking oil at our 3Rs School Recycling Drives and Pacific Biodiesel will donate \$1.00/gallon to the host school! For more information about our 3Rs School Program or to view an event flier, please visit our website [here](#).

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## Volunteer Highlight

*Evan Denmark*



Evan joins us at almost every Kōkua Learning Farm Community Workday, Tuesday Morning Farm Care and has volunteered at our Kōkua General Store Events. Evan shared, “I love coming to Kōkua because it is the hub of my community. Not only have I connected to some of the most vibrant humans of the Hawai’i farm scene, but I’ve also met countless friends.”

## Are You A Kōkua Hawai’i Foundation Member yet?



Hau’oli Makahiki Hou! We hope your year is off to a great start. Kick off the new year by becoming a Kōkua Hawai’i Foundation Member and enjoying a plethora of benefits!

[Become A Member](#)

## ***Featured Events***

### **Saturday, January 6**

*Kōkua Learning Farm Community Workday* 9:00am-11:30am

Hale'iwa

First Saturdays of the month are Kōkua Learning Farm Community Workdays! Tasks may include weeding, mulching, harvesting, and general farm care. [Register here!](#)

### **Sunday, January 7**

*Kahana'iki Workday*

9:00am - 12:00pm

Kahanaiki is a ~3 acre restoration site within Kawainui, along Kapa'a Quarry road, that Le Jardin Academy is stewarding in collaboration with DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife. Join community members in a day of native ecosystem restoration! More information and registration [here](#).

### **Saturday, January 13**

*Ulupō Nui Community Workday*

8:30am - 12:00pm

Kailua

Join the Hika'alani Hui in caring for Ulupō Nui every 2nd Saturday of the month. Help with various tasks like cutting back hau, weeding walls and 'auwai, stacking rocks, clearing out invasives at our bird pond, and preparing/planting/maintaining our lo'i kalo. The day often ends with a talk-story session and the sharing of Ulupō grown food; breadfruit or kalo or even a lū'au stew. Find more information [here](#).

*Mālama Pu'uloa Community Workday*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Join [Mālama Pu'uloa](#) at Kapapapui Point Park every 2nd Saturday of the month for their community workday. All ages are welcome to help with the [Honouliuli Project](#), restoring the makai section of the Honouliuli Watershed. Click [here](#) for more information, and [here](#) to register.

**Monday, January 15**

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Beach Cleanup*

9:00am -11:00am

Kahuku Golf Course Beach

Join the Plastic Free Hawai'i program to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and mālama the Kahuku coastline. Register here: [bit.ly/PFHBeachCleanup\\_MLK](https://bit.ly/PFHBeachCleanup_MLK)

**Saturday, January 20**

*Repair and Share Mending Workshop with Sustainably Rosalie and Rosebeat Collective*

10:00am to 3:00pm.

Kōkua General Store

Book your spot today at [bit.ly/KGSrepair](https://bit.ly/KGSrepair). Each class is \$25 per spot, which helps support your local seamstress teachers! There is limited availability and walk-ins will not be accepted.

*Waiale'e Volunteer Workday*

9:00am-12:00pm

Kahuku

Join North Shore Community Land Trust on the third Saturday of each month in efforts to restore native ecosystems and traditional Hawaiian agriculture at Waiale'e, O'ahu. Activities include removing invasive weeds, planting and tending Hawaiian crops, and other tasks suitable for all ages and skill levels. You will have the option to enter the wetland so if you are interested please plan accordingly. More information [here](#).

*3Rs School Recycling Drive*

Waipahu High School

9:00am-11:00am

For more information please visit our KHF 3Rs website [here](#).

**Saturday, January 27**

*Mu'umu'u Swap and Pop-Up with Mu'umu'u Library*

Kōkua General Store

January is Mu'umu'u Month! Join us Saturday, January 27th from 10am-2pm for a Mu'umu'u Swap and Pop-Up with the wonderful Mu'umu'u Library! Bring in a mu'u to swap from their rack, or browse their collection for purchase! [Learn More](#).

*3Rs School Recycling Drive*

Kalākaua Middle School

9:00am-11:00am

For more information please visit our KHF 3Rs website [here](#).

**Saturday January 27**

*Hoa 'Āina o Mākaha U-Pick Farm-To-Basket*

8:00am-12:00pm

Spend time at [Hoa 'Āina o Mākaha](#) harvesting, planting, and growing community. This U-Pick event is free and open to the public (no pre-registration required), they welcome donations for the produce, plant starters, and value-added products you take home. [contact@hoainaomakaha.org](mailto:contact@hoainaomakaha.org)

**Tuesday, January 30**

*Hoa 'Āina o Mākaha Kūpuna U-Pick*

9:00am-11:30am

Are you a kūpuna and would like to take home fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables? If so, join [Hoa 'Āina o Mākaha](#) at their Kūpuna U-Pick where students from [Papahana 'o Kaiona](#) will lead activities on the farm. [contact@hoainaomakaha.org](mailto:contact@hoainaomakaha.org)

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