



Message from the Executive Director

In 2017, Recycle Hawai'i (RH) celebrates 25 years as a non-profit member educational organization, serving Hawai'i Island with volunteer efforts since the late 1980's prior to incorporation as a 501(c)3. May the next 25 years bring renewed, effective efforts by our members and staff in striving to promote and increase sustainable practices to improve and protect our special island environment.

Year in Review - FY July 2016 - June 2017

Used Motor Oil - After 18+ years of developing and managing the Do-It-Yourself-Used Motor Oil (DIY-UMO) program for residents who maintain their own vehicles to properly recycle their used motor oil, Recycle Hawai'i reluctantly discontinued its management at the end of a contract extension in January 2017. At this time last year, a pending \$65,000 contract renewal was not given to RH and instead the County of Hawaii (COH) chose to put the program out to a competitive bid process. Unfortunately, the terms offered in the Invitation to Bid were in several ways too risky and \$25,000 insufficiently funded for RH to make a serious response. There were no other bidders so the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) has taken over the management of the six existing DIY-UMO drop-off sites island-wide. Past proposals from RH encouraging COH-DEM to provide full recycling service options at its transfer stations, including DIY-UMO collections handled by RH staff at Reuse Centers have gone unheeded. It is our hope that the new COH-DEM administration, which includes a new DEM Director and DEM Recycling Coordinator, will bring a renewed interest to increase opportunities for proper used motor oil recycling by DIYers as well as increasing the limited COH Household Hazardous Waste collection dates for residents.

In September, 2016, all current DIY-UMO collection site depots received a Recycle Hawai'i/Earth Friendly Schools "Keeping It Green Hawai'i" award certificate and window decal. Acknowledged for their voluntary community service were: Kealakehe High School Auto Mechanic Dept, Pa'aulo Village Service, South Point U-Cart, Kohala CarTow, Pacific Customs (Kea'au), RPM (Kawaihae), O'Reilly Auto Parts (Kailua-Kona), and UMO hauling service provider Hawaii Petroleum.

Reuse Centers (RC) - Under a new competitive bid contract as of May 1, 2017, "Still Good Stuff" sales and weekly "free days" continued at five Reuse Centers at COH Solid Waste Transfer Stations under RH management at Kea'au, Kealakehe, Keauhou, Waimea and Pahoa, with the addition of the new Hilo RC that opened on June 5. Due to shifting COH-DEM priorities, we had been waiting to open the Hilo site under the previous County contract since February of 2014. It was not until April 2017 that the designated Hilo site was made ready by COH-DEM, well after the end of the previous contract. Upon receiving a Notice to Proceed on May 19, and following a June 2 blessing of the site, RH mobilized to begin diverting useful materials back into the economic mainstream in Hilo—now more important than ever in the face of the imminent closure of the Hilo landfill. RH welcomes Hilo RC Site Supervisor Chassie Anderson and RC Coordinators Kaysee Buchanan, Isaiah Fonseca and Kage Keaalamakia.

Grants: The CAPture Bottle Cap Reclamation Project, supported by a Atherton Family Foundation grant of \$10,000 to RH, has been ongoing since school year 2014-2015. RH Education Director Marsha Hee has been managing this collaboration between students and teachers of Connections Public Charter School and Dr. Neil Scott of The Makery in Hilo. Middle school students have been using plastic bottle caps as feedstock to remake into new products using an industrial grade shredder, mold injector & graphic design materials provided by the grant. A community presentation of project activities will take place in Nov.-Dec. 2017.

In January 2017, the Swain Barber Foundation awarded RH \$20,000 to continue our educational outreach programs island wide. A Hawaii Community Foundation FLEX grant request of \$50,000 is pending until notification of prospective awardees during November 2017.

Community Outreach & Education -PRESENTATIONS (21) *ZERO WASTE event/activity

- 7/4/16 July 4th Cooper Center Celebration, Volcano*
- 10/29/16 KTA Haunted House, Hilo
- 11/12/16 EHCC Upcycle 16 Exhibit, Hilo (formerly Hawaii Island Artists Trash Show)
- 11/15-17/16 Hawai'i Recycles Day at Kealakehe, Waimea & Keaau Reuse/Recycling Centers
- 11/17/16 Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i Healthy Carnival, Kea'au
- 1/21/17 Women's Initiative Gathering, Hilo
- 2/25/17 Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i Ho'olaule'a (festival), Kea'au
- 3/04/17 11th Annual Avocado Festival, Kailua-Kona*
- 3/25/17 Backyard Compost Workshop, Kea'au
- 4/13/17 Waiakea Elementary Grade 2 classes, Hilo
- 4/21/17 29th Annual HCC/UHH Earth Day Fair & Conservation Career Day, Hilo*
- 4/27, 5/11/17 Kamehameha Preschools, Hilo
- 4/29/17 Ka'u Unity Celebration, Pahala
- 4/29/17 Climate March, Hilo
- 5/06/17 Backyard Compost Workshop, Waimea
- 6/8/17 World Oceans Day Celebration & Hapuna Beach Clean up, Kona

PROGRAMS



Aug. 10 to Sept. 20, 2016: **KTA's Kokua I Na Kula (KINK) Snack Wrapper Recycle Drive** is a RH partnership to increase awareness for diverting non-recyclable resources from the landfill. Hawai'i Island schools collected 3080 Mylar snack bags, granola bar wrappers and drink pouches for recycling and upcycling into new products by TerraCycle, Inc. Participating schools earned bonus points towards their cash award for school improvements and learning materials. KINK co-sponsor Becker Communications reimbursed Recycle Hawai'i for shipping costs. For KINK information: <http://www.ktasuperstores.com/>



Oct. 17 to Nov. 15, 2016: **Recycle-Bowl (RB) School Competition** is an annual national recycling drive sponsored by Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and coordinated locally by RH Education Director, Marsha Hee and KAB affiliate Keep the Hawaiian Islands Beautiful (KHIB). Participating RB schools statewide diverted over 6,513 pounds of paper, metal and plastic and 18,138 pounds of food

scraps from the landfill during the 4-week event. Pāhoā High-Inter. on Hawai'i Island received a national title as Food Scraps Division Champion for collecting 16,850 pounds of food scraps which was utilized by local farmers. The school received a \$100 gift card donated by Island Naturals Market & Deli. For the School Division, Pāhoā High-Inter. and Chiefess Kamakahahei Middle on Kaua'i tied for first place as State Winners and received \$250 each. In the Community Division, Christian Liberty Academy won first place and a \$100 award. RB awards were donated by Hawai'i Island businesses Goodfellow Bros. Inc., Island Naturals Market & Deli, Lex Brodie's Tires and Sustainable Island Products. Other competing schools by state ranking were: Konawaena High, Ha'ikū Elementary, Konawaena Middle, Volcano School of Arts & Sciences, plus Kalāheo Elementary in the Community Division. Registration for the 2017 Recycle-Bowl starts on August 1st at www.Recycle-Bowl.org.

April-May 2017: **The Art & Crafts of UPCycling Project** is a revamped RH program to promote the reuse, recycle, repurpose & repair of discarded materials for art, craft, functional & inventive projects. Open to individuals of all ages, an online gallery of upcycled creations will showcase RH's upcoming new website.

Hawai'i County Council-Hawai'i Island Packaging Sustainability Initiative Stakeholders (HIPSIS) Task Force met in Aug. to Sept. 2016 and included Executive Director Buklarewicz and RH Administrative Assistant Vicki Haili. The HIPSIS Task Force consisted of various stakeholders pursuant to exploring means to decrease the amount of Styrofoam food service containers that have been deemed to pose a threat to the marine and land environment. Efforts to craft legislation to ban the use of EPS or Styrofoam food service containers have been unsuccessful to date on Hawai'i Island, although Maui County recently enacted such legislation. Council member Eileen O'Hara is working on revisions to previous resolutions and is slowly making progress in introducing an effective reduction of foam containers for Hawaii County.

Ke Ola Magazine Nov/Dec 2016 issue published "Recycle Hawai'i: Promoting Reuse in a Big Way", a feature article on our five Reuse/Recycling Centers written by former RH Board member, Paula Thomas. Read it at: <https://keolamagazine.com/hawaii-island/h2016-6/recycle-hawaii-promoting-reuse-big-way/>

In celebration of our 25th year, MAHALO! to our members, Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers who continue to see that the mission of promoting serious environmental stewardship for the island of and state of Hawai'i carries on.

Paul Buklarewicz
Executive Director

Recycle Hawai'i
25th Annual GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (Open to the public)
Saturday, July 29, 2017 at 11 am to 12:30 pm
Hawaii Preparatory Academy's Castle Lecture Hall in Waimea
Guest Speaker: William Kucharski, Director of Hawaii County Dept. of Environmental Management

Sign up for new or renewing RH Membership
Potluck Lunch at 12:30 pm

(Board Meeting to follow)

UPCOMING Outreach & Education Events

August 1: Recycle-Bowl Registration Opens for schools
August 9-Sept 19: KTA KINK School Snack Wrapper Recycling Drive
August 24: Kona Community presentation (pending)
Aug. 25: Information table at Four Seasons Employee Health & Wellness Fair, Kona
Aug. 27: Information table at Ohi'a Love Fest, Hilo (open to public)



Get the Drift and Bag It! (GTDBI) for Hawai'i Island is brought to you by Recycle Hawai'i and Keep Hawaii Beautiful (KHB). GTDBI is Hawai'i's contribution to the annual International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), a worldwide campaign started in 1986 by Ocean Conservancy. ICC engages volunteer organizations and individuals to remove trash and debris from the world's beaches and waterways, to identify the sources of debris, and to change the behaviors that cause marine debris in the first place. For the Annual ICC Report visit www.oceanconservancy.org.

This year's International Coastal Cleanup is Saturday, September 16th, 2017. REGISTER YOUR CLEANUP TODAY! Register any and all of your BEACH and WATERWAY cleanup events from Sept. 16 to Nov. 12, 2017 and they will be added to International Coastal Cleanup. Email Hawai'i Island GTDBI Coordinator Vicki Haili at Vhaili@hawaii.rr.com to register or for more information.

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Recycle Hawai'i is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization based on Hawai'i Island. Our mission is to educate the Hawai'i Island communities on recycling and waste reduction activities for a more environmentally sustainable future.