

Keeping It Green

Fall 2016, Volume VII, No. 4



A publication of Recycle Hawai'i

Message from the Executive Director



The deadlock earlier this year among County Council members voting 4 -4 on the proposal by Margaret Wille's (District 9 – Kohala) BILL 140 -

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20, OF THE HAWAII COUNTY CODE 1983, 2005 EDITION, AS AMENDED), BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE RELATING TO REDUCTION OF POLYSTYRENE FOAM " STYROFOAM" FOOD CONTAINERS AND FOOD SERVICE WARE led to the formation of a "Stakeholders' Task Force" co-chaired by Margaret Wille and Daniel Paleka (District 5 – Puna Mauka).

The task force was comprised on one side of several environmental sustainability organizations, one environmentally conscious Hawaii Island business, an Oahu-based manufacturer/employer and statewide food service industry businesses and lobbyists opposed to restrictions on single use Styrofoam food service ware primarily based on economic concerns. Entitled the **Hawai'i Island Packaging Sustainability Initiative Stakeholders (HIPSIS) Task Force**, the group met three times between August and October. The Hawai'i Department of Health as well as County Research & Development and Environmental Management Departments also participated.

Recycle Hawai'i, represented by myself and our new Administrative Assistant-Grants Specialist Victoria Haili, was invited to participate by Linda

Peters, the County's Department of Environmental Management Recycling Coordinator.

As of this writing the last meeting's minutes and final report of the HIPSIS task force have yet to be posted. Recycle Hawai'i members can look forward to a comprehensive report and several action initiatives to be found online <https://drive.google.com/drive/recent> on which much of the proceedings and research has already been posted.

A considerable amount of research into packaging alternatives and positive steps that some of the business participants of the task force have tried and/or already taken were discussed and explored. Leading into the final meeting some solutions were agreed upon in the following areas: (1) Source Reduction, (2) Education, (3) Best practices for litter control, and (4) State and local government support for action initiatives.

From Recycle Hawai'i's mission perspective, we came out of the process with some ideas for local recycling/reuse of clean extruded polystyrene foam, commonly known as Styrofoam™, packaging materials that can be developed locally through possible pilot projects. However, the initial primary focus of reducing the use of polystyrene in single use food service ware was met with a considerable amount of opposition from the food industry lobby. A revised Bill 248 prohibiting the use of polystyrene foam products by the county, county food vendors and county facility users is

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Recycle Hawai'i is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization serving the people of Hawai'i. Our mission is to promote resource awareness and recycling enterprises in Hawai'i. To achieve this, we educate the community about sound resource management and recycling opportunities for a more environmentally sustainable future.

STAFF/BOARD

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East HI Supr: David Harrison-Tai

Reuse Center Coordinators:

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Kealakehe: Marissa Aguilar, Madeleine Armidjo, Samuelynn Hamada, Barbie Seto
Keauhou: Janelle Alani, Madeleine Armidjo & Cindy Steele-Felder
Pāhoa: Roy Bath & Peggy Keehne
Waimea: Philip Castro, Joey Rogers & Darlene Woolford

Newsletter

Editor: Marsha Hee
Contributors:
Paul J. Buklarewicz & Victoria Haili

Keeping It Green is published four times each year by Recycle Hawai'i, PO Box 4847, Hilo, HI 96720.

It features the work of RH staff and Hawai'i Island community members at large. Announcements of events are published as space allows.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 17– NOVEMBER 15 2016 Recycle-Bowl
National School Competition www.recycle-bowl.org

OCTOBER 22 Puakō Boat Ramp Community Cleanup 8-11 AM
Tally sheets, buckets, pickers, gloves, jug of water & snacks provided. Bring personal water gear, proper dress, potluck lunch. Kids marine conservation info. booth featured. Sign up now: kpb@hawaii.rr.com

NOVEMBER 15 - America Recycles Day
Host an event, take the 'I Recycle Pledge' & more info at: www.kab.org

NOV. 12 - DEC. 2 Upcycle.16 Exhibit & Fashion Show
*Nov. 4 & 5 Art intake contact 430-0746, kdaley@ehcc.org
Nov. 12 Exhibit Opening 5:30 pm at East Hawaii Cultural Center
Nov. 18 Fashion Entry Form due; child/teen, adult, business categories
Dec. 3 Fashion Show 6:00 pm; www.ehcc.org*

MARCH - MAY 2017 Great American Cleanup
Organize a school, business, community cleanup, beautification or recycling project. Call 969-2012 or vhaili@hawaii.rr.com

2016-2017 Household Hazardous Waste & Latex Paint Collections
DEC 3 Hilo Recycling & Transfer Station, 7:30 am -2:30 pm
DEC 10 Kealakehe Recycling & Transfer Station, 7:30 am -2:30 pm
MARCH 4 Waimea Recycling & Transfer Station, 8:30 am -3:30 pm
MARCH 5 Pahoa Recycling & Transfer Station, 8:30 am -3:30 pm
More information: www.hawaiiizerowaste.org/zero-waste/

NEW! for Resident DIY-users
Used Motor Oil Collection accepted at:

Lex Brodie's Tire & Service Center

170 Wiwoole St. in Hilo

Monday - Friday 7 am to 6 pm

Saturday 7:30 am to 5 pm

Sunday 8 am to 3 pm

SUPPORT RECYCLE HAWAII' I AS A MEMBER

Student/Senior - \$10	Friend - \$50	Donor - \$100
Individual - \$20	Non-Profit - \$50	Corporate - \$100
Family - \$30	Lifetime - \$50	Patron - \$250

Sign up at <http://www.recyclehawaii.org/>

Recycle Hawai'i

PO Box 4847 • Hilo HI 96720 • (808) 969-2012

www.recyclehawaii.org • info@recyclehawaii.org

In the News

GET THE DRIFT & BAG IT! Cleanups

On September 17th, volunteers around the world took to the coastlines to cleanup and collect data for the International Coastal Cleanup. Get the Drift & Bag It! (GTDBI) cleanups in Hawai'i contribute to the International Coastal Cleanup and continue on through to the end of October.

So far over 235 Hawai'i Island volunteers have helped to clean our beaches and waterways. With more cleanups yet to come and seeing the data that has already come in, we look forward to sharing more of what our island community has accomplished for this year's GTDBI!



9/17/16 Puakō Boat Ramp Cleanup - Keep Puakō Beautiful, Coral Reef Alliance, Surfrider Foundation, UH Hilo foreign students, Tobacco Free Hawaii, Puakō Dive Co. & Blue Wilderness Dive Adventures volunteers removed 5963 pieces of trash from land & sea. *Photos by Keep Puakō Beautiful*

from Terry Miura, Get the Drift & Bag It! Coordinator 2000-2015

"Marine debris is everyone's problem and we are the cause, but we are also the only solution. Beach and waterway cleanups collect items that are marine debris or will become marine debris. This is only a short-term solution. We need to be proactive and take steps to change our behavior before we will see a change in the amount of marine debris on our shores and in our ocean. The real goal is to have less and less cleanups. Thank you for participating and spreading the word and becoming educated about marine debris. **Practice the four R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.** Again, mahalo for your commitment to "malama aina" by volunteering to help make a difference. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Our planet, our ocean and our island are cleaner and healthier because of you."

Keep Hawai'i Beautiful and Recycle Hawai'i are coordinating Get the Drift & Bag It! for the first time and we would like mahalo Terry Miura for her leadership as Hawai'i Island's coordinator for the past 15 years. Recently retired as a County of Hawai'i's Parks and Recreation Aquatics Recreation Specialist, Terry left some big shoes to fill. Each volunteer group we speak with truly appreciates all her hard work and dedication over the years. So, mahalo nui Auntie Terry, we hope you are enjoying every bit of your retirement!



There's still time to participate in Get the Drift & Bag It!

If you are organizing a cleanup before the end of October, register ASAP to receive bags, gloves and collection data cards. Contact Vicki Haili, Hawai'i Island GTDBI Coordinator at: Vhaili@hawaii.rr.com to request a registration form. If you'd like to volunteer for a cleanup, contact kp@hawaii.rr.com for the Puakō Boat Ramp beach cleanup on October 22 (see pg 2).

is on the agenda for the Council Committee on Agriculture, Water & Energy Sustainability that meets on October 18 in Kona.

As the Recycle Hawai'i mission includes environmentally friendly practices for a sustainable future, any steps taken to effect the reduction of petrochemical based fossil fuel products such as Styrofoam is clearly a goal worthy of our efforts. As we think globally and act locally these efforts are no less important than ensuring the future habitability for humans on this blue planet in space.

Welcome new Board of Directors: Kenneth Gryde, Lisa King, Jennifer M. Kane
and Staff: Admin. Assistant-Grant Specialist Victoria Haili, Reuse Center Coordinators Marissa Aguilar, Janelle Alani, Chassie Anderson, Madeleine Armidjo, Sam Hamada, Barbie Seto & Eric Silanpaa.



2016 Keeping It Green Hawai'i Award

Certificates were presented to
current Hawai'i Island
businesses that have served

on a voluntary basis as permanent collection
sites for resident do-it-yourself users to bring
their used motor oil for proper disposal. This is
a cooperative project by Recycle Hawai'i and
the County's Department of Environmental
Management. Several site visits are shown
here in photos by Paul J Buklarewicz.



**CarTow Kohala in Hawi with staff (left to right):
Mark Moligor, Bulla Lepen & Diane Holcomb**



**O'Reilly Auto Parts in Kailua Kona with (left to
right): Kevin Wallace, Assistant Store Manager,
Aaron Huber, Store Manager & Paul
Buklarewicz, Recycle HI Executive Director.**



**South Point U-Cart in Ocean View with
Stan Troeller, owner (l) & Kaida Houvener (r).**