



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

KAHO‘OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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Press Release

Date: June 23, 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly McHugh
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"Kako'o ia Kaho'olawe" Community Cleanup Day this Saturday

The KIRC will be opening the gates to its Kihei Boat House property this Saturday, June 28 from 8 AM - 12 PM for its monthly "Kako'o ia Kaho'olawe" community cleanup day.

To date, 100+ volunteers have pitched in to clear kiawe, plant native vegetation, clean the area and make way for the forthcoming "Kumeheu" hiking trail, native plant nursery and traditional hale projects, all made possible with grant support from the Atherton Family Foundation, Hawaii Tourism Authority and Hawaii Community Foundation.

"Our Kihei site is the first point of contact for all community volunteers accessing Kaho'olawe, as it is where our vessel - the 'Ohua - is housed," says KIRC Executive Director Mike Nāho'opi'i, "Cultivating the area responds to a strong demand for information and shared experiences for those that cannot commit to the 4-day access trips on-island. We see this as an important step in strengthening understanding of and connection to Kaho'olawe for all residents and visitors"

Interested volunteers may enter the Kihei Boat Ramp parking lot and look for the KIRC's blue "Kaho'olawe" banner, where they can enter the property and park. Please bring gloves, closed-toe shoes, water bottles (which the KIRC will refill!) and sunblock. Free lunch will be provided by our friends at Vineyard Food Company. "Join" this event at <https://www.facebook.com/KircMaui> for updates and further information.

About the KIRC

Administratively attached to the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) was established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1993 to manage the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve while it is held in trust for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity. The mission of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) is to implement the vision for Kaho'olawe Island in which the kino (body) of Kaho'olawe is restored and na poe o Hawai'i (the people of Hawaii) care for to land. The Commission has pledged to provide for the meaningful and safe use of Kaho'olawe for the purpose of the traditional and cultural practices of the native Hawaiian people and to undertake the restoration of the island and its waters. The organization is managed by a seven-member Commission and a committed staff of eighteen. For more information, call (808) 243.5020 or visit www.kahoolawe.hawaii.gov.

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