

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Workshops and crop share at Mala‘ai garden

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—March 10, 2011—Three free workshops are being offered in March and April at Mala‘ai: The Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School.

Workshop dates, times, and details are:

- March 12, 2–4 p.m.: Introduction to Hawaiian Herbalism with Kai Kaholokai
- April 2, 10 a.m.–noon: Vermicomposting (composting with worms) with Dr. Norman Arancon
- April 30, 10:30 a.m.–noon: Talk Story with Chad Paishon, Hawaiian voyager and paniolo—*He Wa‘a he Moku, he Moku he Wa‘a*: The canoe is an island, the island is a canoe

The community is also invited to join in weekly Crop Shares at Mala‘ai garden, which take place from 12:30 to 3 p.m. every Saturday through the end of May. Bring surplus produce from your farm or garden to exchange with other community members in attendance. If you don’t have produce to share, you can just lend a hand to participate. No one will be turned away. At the end of each share, excess food will be collected for delivery to local food distribution centers.

“Depending on the season, the fruit trees in our communities and backyards are overflowing with food, more than we can consume,” said Nicole Milne, Crop Share Project Coordinator. “The goal of the Crop Share is to gather this abundance and distribute it to families. If families are unable to attend a Saturday Crop Share, the food will still reach them through Waimea-based food banks and through Mala‘ai Culinary Garden of the Waimea Middle School. We want everyone to feel welcome, regardless of their ability to bring something to share.”

In fall 2010, Crop Share accepted over 1,000 pounds of produce and donated approximately 550 pounds of food to the Annunciation Church in Waimea, and Crop Share participants swapped over 400 pounds of food.

Walk-ins are welcome; please use the new gravel road entry to Waimea Middle School by the Kahilu Theater to enter the garden. For more information on the free workshops or Crop Share, contact Milne at (808) 987-9210 or nmilne@hawaii.edu.

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Crop Share is a project of The Kohala Center and Mala'ai: The Culinary Garden of Waimea Middle School. Crop Share is sponsored by the Richard Smart Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation and the Kaiser Permanente Hawaii Region Community Benefit Fund.

The Kohala Center is an independent, not-for-profit center for research and education *about* and *for* environment. The Kohala Center builds teaching and research programs for energy and food self-reliance as well as ecosystem health. See <http://www.kohalacenter.org>.

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