
Learning event at Puanui gardens

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 11:30 AM HST

Experience agricultural sustainability as the Hawaiians practiced it for centuries at the Kohala Center's learning event at the Puanui Project in North Kohala from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22.

The Puanui Project works to understand the agricultural field system of leeward Kohala as cultivated by the Hawaiians and to apply that wisdom to furthering current agricultural sustainability. Its experimental fields, created for a National Science Foundation-funded research project, produce 'uala (sweet potato), kalo (taro), ko (sugarcane), and other plants that supported the Kohala population centuries ago.

On this excursion learn about Puanui, where ma ka hana ka 'ike (in working one learns) by working in the fields as Hawaiians did for hundreds of years.

Event leader is Aurora Kagawa, research assistant for the Puanui Project under the direction of Stanford University ecologist and project leader Dr. Peter Vitousek.

Participants must be in good health, able to walk up a hill, and ride in a four-wheel-drive van. Be prepared for either windy, cold and wet or sunny and dusty conditions.

A picnic lunch is included. Space is limited; for reservations, visit [http://www.kohala.org](#) and click on "Programs & Events" and "Current Events" or contact The Kohala Center at [808-887-6411](tel:808-887-6411) or info@kohala.org. Cost is \$25 for the Kohala Center's Circle of Friends; \$75 for nonmembers, which includes the event and Circle of Friends membership. To learn more about the Circle of Friends, visit [http://www.kohala.org](#), click on "Join Us" and "Become a Member."