

HOA`AINA O MAKAHA

84-766 LAHAINA STREET
WAI`ANAЕ HI.

LETTER TO THE CONTAINER GARDENERS

Aloha Containers Gardeners

this is the first newsletter from Hoa`Aina o Makaha about the Container Gardens Program. You have become part of many people in our community and in the world who want to make a difference in producing our own food and taking care of the land that is vital to our survival.

Since January 2011 with the help from three different foundations, Bill Healy Foundation, Leeward Coast Community Benefit Program and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, many people and groups have participated in many different workshops about container gardening, cooking, worms raising and aquaponic.

There were 3 workshops for 24 families from Kapolei, Makakilo, Ewa, and for 10 school from different areas in O`ahu.

Makaha Elementary 3rd graders prepared and delivered 90 container gardens to the people of Maililand transitional housing.

Each 3rd graders -85 students- brought home a garden at the end of the school year after doing a demonstration for their parents during a parents evening.

During spring and early summer there were 3 more workshops for 35 families from the Wai`anae Coast.

In October, the first workshop for 15 families at Maililand, for 27 families of the PCNC program at Makaha Elementary and for 5 additional families from Kalaeloa.

In November the first workshop for 10 families of the former students of Makaha elementary who used to participate at the farm and the second workshop for the PCNC program and Maililand families. In December there will be the second workshop for the Makaha Alumni, a presentation about container gardening to all the PCNC Coordinators of the Leeward District and to parents during the Ohana Night at Makaha Elementary school

Some of you have gone through all the workshops which included planting, cooking, making organic pesticide, organic fertilizer, compost, watering, how to recognize pests, vermiculture – raising worms for compost and aquaponic – raising vegetables with water that comes from a fish tank. Some of you are new and will have the opportunity for all the workshops.

CONGRATULATIONS!

REFLECTIONS

Sometimes it happens that things do not seem grow too well at times, although we are here to help you with your questions, it is important to remember that plants are like people. There are moments that we do not feel well, or someone close to us are not well, it takes patience, and a lot of care and also a great sense of humor to make them feel better. We cannot give up!

Sometimes I hear: we are planting in the dirt... Oops! It is better to say “we are planning in the soil. Also we “do not bury” the seeds we cover them gently and our kids also say “Good Night Seeds”. That is so beautiful!



If you need help or information on your container garden, or should set up a workshop with your friends, or you want to visit the farm, please call Gigi at 695-9730

We will be very happy to help. Mahalo

If you want to know more about Hoa`Aina O Makaha check our web page: www.hoaainaomakaha.org