



Resource
Conservation &
Development, Inc.

Serving Kauai and Niihau, Hawaii

3083 `Akahi Street • Suite 204 • Lihue, HI 96766

VISION: *Mālama 'Āina o Kaua'i*. The community working together towards a harmonious relationship with the environment.

MISSION: To carry out a plan for the orderly conservation, development and prudent use of natural and human resources to improve economic, social and environmental opportunities for the people of Kaua'i County.

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Authorized in 1992 by USDA as an RC&D area, Garden Island Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. launched their community-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Now, in its 17th year of operation. Leadership is a 10 member Board of Directors made up of various Kauai Community members of varying ethnicity who live in small towns surrounding the major town of Lihue. The GIRC&D, Inc. Board is supported by three part time contractors an Administrative Assistant, a bookkeeper and accountant. Revenue for Fiscal Year 2009 amounted to \$593,650.

The area in which this RC&D operates consists of two islands and within the County of Kauai. The land area has many micro climates and boasts one of the wettest places in the world with an average of more than 400 inches of rain per year.

The Kauai Agriculture Development Program – 2009

This is the fifth year that GIRC&D, Inc. has taken on the administration of the Agricultural Development Program (ADP) Earmark Enhancement grant program. This grant program was initiated by Congressman Inouye and this earmark comes through GIRC&D, Inc.'s federal partner agency USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service ~ two of the six projects funded are featured below.



Hanalei Taro & Juice Company (HTJC) ~ the KADP grant was awarded to 5th generation taro farmer, Lyndsey Haraguchi-Nakayama (right) The grant assisted HTJC with outfitting a mobile food establishment, enabling them to bring value added taro products into Kauai communities. This project retrofitted a secondhand lunch wagon with necessary equipment to serve unique products containing taro produced on the family farm. The additional income from the value added extension of the product line of the Haraguchi taro farm enables another generation to participate in the family operation and apply skills and experience developed in their education at the College of Tropical Agriculture. This environmentally friendly wagon

uses solar power and enables HTJC to take the agricultural products to the consumer. Total project cost: \$27,418 (\$22,063 was reimbursed through KADP and \$5,355 was Lyndsey's contribution)



Kailani Farms – Philip Davies is an organic farmer located in Kilauea and Moloaa, Kauai. Phil's total area farmed is 40 acres and his primary crops are mixed lettuces for salad greens and ginger root. The grant enabled Phil to purchase low-voltage electric fence materials to keep the Hawaiian Nene geese out of his lettuce fields. These threatened and endangered native birds developed a liking to the baby romaine lettuce leaves and Phil wanted to earn his Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certificate.

Thus the electric fencing technique was developed. This grant is critical in protecting valuable farm acreage in an area rapidly being converted to suburban residential use, the viability of the farm and in protecting a native endangered bird

attracted by the crops grown on the farm. This grant also helped Phil create a new product line for marketing his mixed salad greens in local stores. Total project cost: \$29,688 (\$23,450 reimbursed through KADP and \$6,238 was Phil's contribution)



KISC crewmember spraying
Citric acid

Garden Island RC&D, Inc. lends its 501(c)3 and fiscal expertise to Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC)

Island wide control and continued early response and eradication of the invasive Coqui frogs (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*). KISC has spent \$40,900 of State and County money this year on Coqui frog control. (GIRC&D, Inc. administers the County grant) This year there were 4 new locations identified having Coqui frogs. KISC continues to monitor a 20 acre site in Lawai known to have an existing population of Coqui and have spent 2,400 person hours containing the frog to this area protecting a nearby residential area, and the island of Kauai from potential infestation and countless native insects from predation by this voracious invasive pest.

http://www.hear.org/kisc/coqui_news/

2009 GIRC&D, Inc. Board members: Owen Moe, President; G. Peter Kea, Vice President; Eddie Kawamura, Treasurer; Ray Maki, Secretary; Gary Ueunten; Rhoda Libre; CW Spitz; Sabra Kauka; Matt Stevenson; and Bill Cowern

Garden Island RC&D is an equal opportunity employer and provider.