

Watch your step!

Clean your hiking boots, tires, dogs, running shoes and other gear before you enter native forest areas or travel inter-island.

Many alien weeds are carried from one island to the next on muddy boots, hunting and camping gear or farm equipment.

The simple precaution of scrubbing your gear can keep some of our worst pests from spreading to other islands or into the heart of our remaining pristine forests.

Make a declaration!

When returning to Hawai'i, fill out your Department of Agriculture declaration form completely and honestly.

Remember, just because you list the item doesn't mean it will be taken away from you. If necessary, it will be inspected and, if it poses a pest threat, it will be dealt with appropriately.

You are not subject to a penalty if you voluntarily submit these items for inspection. If you try to avoid inspection, the consequences are 1) a \$100 - \$25,000 fine and/or one year in jail (depending on the violation) or 2) being the person responsible for introducing a new disease or other pest to Hawai'i.

Don't pack a pest!

When returning home after a trip away from Hawai'i (or traveling inter-island,) don't bring plants, fruits, vegetables or illegal animals with you.

Plants, fruits, vegetables, pets and even muddy shoes are great hitchhiking vehicles for diseases, insects and weed seeds, which can easily escape and establish themselves as new pests.

Thoroughly clean boots, camping and other gear before returning home to Hawai'i (or after an inter-island trip.) Insects and seeds can also hitch a ride to Hawai'i on your stuff, including plants and pets.



Protect our farms!

Don't spread crop pests by sharing diseased plants. Ask the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture before sending or carrying plants inter-island.

People giving diseased plants to their friends may spread devastating pests; an act of generosity could be a deadly blow to your friend's garden or farm, and to others around the island.

Go native!

Landscape with native plants or non-pest ornamentals.

There are many beautiful non-native plants that are tempting to use in landscaping or to sell in garden or flower shops that are terrible pests once they escape into the wild. Seeds and spores from non-native plants in your garden can easily spread and establish themselves in our native forests or farms.

Ask DLNR's Kaulunani program for advise on recommended plants for your particular location:
<http://www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/kaulunani/index.htm>

Run a tight ship!

When you sail or fly on private craft, keep a clean ship.

Don't be tempted to bring potted plants, animals or other living material to Hawai'i on your sailboat or private plane. Sand, soil and plant products can be full of pests. Ballast water and dirty hulls can carry foreign algae, jellyfish, mollusks and other potentially harmful species to Hawai'i.

Keep a clean craft and report and show everything you do bring to Hawai'i to the Customs and Agriculture inspectors.

Spread the word!

Share this information with a friend. Protecting Hawai'i from pest invasion depends on what you and other individuals do. Encourage your friends and family to do the right thing



Department of Agriculture



Hawaii Department of Health