



# FRIENDS OF HĀLAWA XERISCAPE GARDEN

P.O. BOX 3089, Honolulu, HI 96802

Spring 2019

## KINDNESS ROCKS

by Lynne Berry-Westlake

Have you heard of the Kindness Rock movement that has swept the nation? Have you found a painted rock at a park, library or store?

The Kindness Rock movement is about getting positivity and upbeat affirmations out to help people get through the stress of the days. If you do an internet search for Kindness Rocks you will find millions of examples, and learn that there are Rock Groups who share the mission. We have several here on O'ahu for example. The largest one here is #Oahu Rocks.



If you search the internet you will see postings from folks all over the island. There are a couple of established methods for getting the rocks out there as well as cheering up the members themselves.

First there are Fairy Doors scattered around the island that serve as trading posts for the rock painters. We have one right here in the Halawa Xeriscape Garden! If you take the garden path towards the bridge it will be on your right side.



The concept is at a minimum "Take One, Leave One". Many Kindness Rock painters leave quite a few and take only one. Sometimes you will see blank rocks left. Those are to help someone get started without having to purchase a whole bag of rocks.

There are Facebook pages dedicated to the Local Kindness Rock Groups. There people share rocks that have been found around the island. They also share their supply tips and methods as well as rocks in progress.

People of all ages from 2 year olds to very senior retirees are painting rocks with sayings or pictures to share and help counter the negative events out there.

We just had our first rock painting Workshop in the Garden the end of September (2018). It was essentially rock painting 101.

The theme was learning and utilizing the Scientific Names for our plants in order to label them in our pots or gardens. We had a range of very young artists to seniors who had varying artistic skills. It is not about talent. It is eye opening for participants to become aware of how fun it can be and also how therapeutic.

Come enjoy the Kindness Rock movement. Make painting rocks an event with your children, parents and friends. Think of all the people that can be cheered up by finding a rock that makes them smile or gives them the motivation to keep going.



## Did you know...?

Little Fire Ant (LFA) was recently detected on O'ahu in Kāne'ōhe (12/2018) and the Punahou carnival (2/2019)! The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee and Hawai'i Department of Agriculture are working to eradicate LFA on O'ahu.

Click on the link below for a video that shows you how test for LFA in your yard:

[https://vimeo.com/97558997?utm\\_source=February+2019&utm\\_campaign=February+2019&utm\\_medium=email](https://vimeo.com/97558997?utm_source=February+2019&utm_campaign=February+2019&utm_medium=email)

Here is a link to an informational flier about LFA:

[http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/files/2014/05/LFASurvey.pdf?utm\\_source=February+2019&utm\\_campaign=February+2019&utm\\_medium=email](http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/files/2014/05/LFASurvey.pdf?utm_source=February+2019&utm_campaign=February+2019&utm_medium=email)

### How to survey for LFA:

1. Smear a thin coat of peanut butter on chopstick or popsicle stick.
2. Place peanut-buttered sticks in, around, and on plants. Leave the sticks for an hour.
3. Carefully pick up the sticks (so the ants don't fall off!), and place them in a sealable plastic bag. Write your name, the date and a contact number on the bag, and **freeze** for at least 24 hours to kill the ants.
4. Mail or drop off the sample to:  
Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
Plant Pest Control Branch  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

For more information:  
[www.littlefireants.com](http://www.littlefireants.com)  
643-PEST (643-7378)

## PEST ALERT! Naio Thrips (*Klambothrips myopori*)



Naio (*Myoporum sandwicense*) is a plant native to Hawai'i that can be a groundcover, shrub or tree. It has long, narrow, green leaves with white to slightly pink flowers. The wood of older plants has a scent similar to sandalwood, which is why it's also known as false sandalwood even though it is not related to true sandalwood (*Santalum* spp.). Naio is an important component in native Hawaiian dry-mesic forests.

In 2005, California landscape and nursery *Myoporum* started to display extensive leaf curling/galling caused by a new, undescribed threat. It was named *Klambothrips myopori* or Naio thrip. By 2009, Naio thrips were detected on Hawai'i island and in November 2018, Naio thrips were discovered in Honolulu.

Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Department of Land and Natural Resources and other organizations are treating known infestation sites and are monitoring Naio plants for new Naio thrip populations. Check the links below to find out more information and how you can help keep an eye out for these pesky little thrips!



Extreme close up of an adult Naio thrip. They can be as small as 1/20<sup>th</sup> of an inch  
Photo courtesy of Hawaii Invasive Species Council



Black dots are the adult Naio thrip. The white dot is a mealy bug for scale.  
Photo courtesy of Hawaii Invasive Species Council

DLNR <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/info/invasive-species-profiles/naio-thrips/>

HDOA pest advisory: <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/files/2013/01/npa09-02-naiothrips.pdf>

Adopt a Naio: <http://www.oahuisc.org/naio-thrips-2/>

## FOHXG Workshops

Here is this quarter's FOHXG workshop calendar. Click on the link below to see the full list of 2019 workshops. <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/news-events/workshops/workshop-schedule>

Please remember to bring your membership card to the workshop to receive membership benefits!

Registration is **REQUIRED** for all workshops. Please email [workshops@hbws.org](mailto:workshops@hbws.org) to register.

Workshops generally run about 60-90 minutes in length, with morning sessions starting at 10:30 a.m.

Session start and end times may vary based on topic. Please check the specific workshop listing for details.

Event Date	Workshop Title & Presenter (*new workshops)	Fee	Registration Open Date
March 2, 2019	Recycled Drawer Garden Nook Workshop – Sheri Mikami- BWS	\$20	February 12, 2019
March 16, 2019	Xeric: Beyond Succulents Lynne Berry Westlake- FOHXG	\$5.00	February 26, 2019
March 23, 2019	Creating Cactus Art (A Paint in the Garden Workshop) Erika Brown- FOHXG	\$30.00	March 5, 2019
March 30, 2019	How to Create a Xeric Butterfly Garden Jo-Ann Maeda- FOHXG	\$5.00	March 12, 2019
April 10, 2019	Rain Barrel Water Catchment BWS Staff	\$35.00	March 26, 2019
April 20, 2019	Easter the Xeriscape Way Activities BWS staff	\$5.00/+ \$2 each	April 2, 2019
April 27, 2019	How to Select the Right Potting Mix Jo-Ann Maeda- FOHXG	\$5.00	April 9, 2019
May 4, 2019	Terracotta Madness Sheri Mikami- BWS	\$8.00	April 16, 2019
May 18, 2019	Gardening with Beneficial Microbes Jan Nadamoto	\$20.00	March 19, 2019
May 22, 2019	How to Make a Ti-Leaf Lei Arthur Aiu- BWS	\$5.00	May 7, 2019

The Halawa Xeriscape Garden is open to the public Wednesdays and Saturdays 9:00am to 3:00pm. It's a great spot to have lunch if you are in the area.

Interested in "garden therapy" or want to get your hands dirty? Call 748-5315 for more information on our Weedy Wednesdays and/or Spruce Up Saturdays.

The Propagation group meets on Wednesdays from 9:00am to 12noon.

## What's new at the Garden

The Hālawā Xeriscape Garden now has a new aquaponic system up and running thanks to FOHXG member Keith Lee and his friends. Stop by and check it out! It's located behind the office building.

Don't forget about the free xeric plant/seed of the month. They are available on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (while supplies last).



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## The President's Corner

Aloha Members,

Spring is here! I can't believe it will soon be April. For me, April is synonymous with Earth Day (along with tax day). Earth day began on April 22, 1970 to bring awareness to the destruction of our environment and the excessive waste of fossil fuels and other natural resources. This resulted in the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. Visit this site for more information about Earth Day <https://www.earthday.org/about/the-history-of-earth-day/>

Due to the increasing interest over the years, Earth day events now fill up April turning it into Earth month. Numerous events nation-wide and locally will take place to learn what we can do to help protect and conserve our natural resources, and how we can lower our carbon footprint by following the 3 Rs- reduce, reuse and recycle. Check your local listings for events near you. Not sure where to look? Here are a few sites to get you started:

Waikiki Aquarium Mauka to Makai event: <https://www.waikikiaquarium.org/interact/annual-events/mauka-to-makai-earth-day/>

Leeward Community College Earth Week events: <https://www.leeward.hawaii.edu/node/1350>

Mālama Learning Center- Ola Nā Kini Hoolaulea: <https://www.malamalarningcenter.org/ola-n257-kini.html>

Earth Day is every day! Happy Gardening,



Amy Tsuneyoshi  
Friends of Hālawā Xeriscape Garden  
President

Contact us at email: [friendsofhalawa@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhalawa@gmail.com)

Address: Friends of Hālawā Xeriscape Garden, P.O. BOX 3089, Honolulu, HI 96802

**Hālawā Xeriscape Garden Facebook page**

<https://www.facebook.com/BWSHXG?fref=ts> (Remember to like us!)

**FOHXG Workshop Schedule**

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/news-events/workshops/workshop-schedule>

**Xeric Seed Program**

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/conservation/xeriscape/xeric-seed-program>