MANAGING FOOD WASTE & THE FOOD RECOVERY CHALLENGE

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Who does this “Food Waste & Emissions Reduction Fellow” work for?

RISE is a core program of local nonprofit org, Kupu. RISE’s purpose is to lead sustainable development in Hawaii by leveraging cross-sectorial partnerships and by providing meaningful paid fellowships in emerging green professions from clean energy to robust food systems development.
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What is the Food Recovery Challenge?

• An EPA-led initiative where participants commit to reducing food waste reaching landfills through prevention, donation, repurposing/recycling, and composting.
What is food waste?

Pre-consumer Food Waste (FW) – prep scraps*
What is food waste (continued)?

Post-consumer FW – leftovers
*Grey area: surplus prep & spoilage
Is food waste bad? Why?

- Pre-consumer
  - Unsold items can be shared/donated!
  - If landfilled, it just emits methane
  - If incinerated (HPower), it’s wet and not optimal
  - There are reuse/repurpose/recycle opportunities for all types

- Post-consumer
  - Many of the same reasons above...
  - ...what about justice and moral/ethical implications?
What to do about it?
Donate:
- Aloha Harvest
- Hawaii Food Bank
- Staff, friends, family, neighbors
Feed livestock
Recycle! Industrially...

Be the Change!
Switch to clean, premium quality, earth-friendly biodiesel

Click here for a list of fueling station where biodiesel is available!

Subsidiary of Baker Commodities, Island Commodities, specializes in meat/fish carcass recovery

Courtesy: Pacific Biodiesel
Source: http://www.biodiesel.com/fuel-sales/where-to-buy/

...and Compostably!

• The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalui, Maui
• Efforts led by Communications Director Deanna Miller and Chef Zaner
• Helped by kitchen staff, groundskeepers, facilities personnel—a full-on coordinated approach
• Feeds gardens, fruits and veg, herbs, garnish, and cocktails!
• They also partner with a nearby pig farmer
Chef Zaner showing mature compost on left accompanied by mulch material, aka landscape trimmings at right.
Absolutely stunning garden and soon-to-be wedding venue!
Either Loco, or Moco, this resident piggy’s on the move.
Blue bins of varying sizes capture food waste
Coffee grounds are extremely rich in nitrogen
Another bigger blue bin situated by the dish pit to capture post-consumer food waste
Mature compost mounds in background, newer ones in fore
Kapiolani Community College

• Combining high-tech with low
• Earth Tub/Biofuel Converter
• Worm Bins
• Aquaponics
• Herb Garden
• Post-consumer opportunities?
  – In development
The Earth Tub by Green Mountain Technologies composts 100 pounds/day!

http://compostingtechnology.com/products/compost-systems/earth-tub/
KCC committed to diverting 5 tons FW from landfill just by utilizing this bio converter.
Aquaponics: nutrient-rich fish poo water that feeds plants which filter that water back into the fish’s habitat
Their garden: a flourishment of veg fed by rich compost and even richer worm castings. Absolutely brilliant!
Why join?

• Improve your bottom line
• Support your community
• Reduce environmental impact
• Recognition
• Technical assistance and networked collaboration
  – We make it easy
How to Join

- **Register** for EPA’s Food Recovery Challenge at [https://connect.re-trac.com/register/epafrc](https://connect.re-trac.com/register/epafrc)

- **Assessment**: Conduct a baseline food waste assessment within 90 days of joining and enter into EPA’s waste tracking system, Re-TRAC
  - This is where I come in to help
Questions

• Cyrus Howe’s contact info:
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• Kupu/RISE
  – Kupuhawaii.org
  – Risehi.org
  – Need a fellow? http://www.risehi.org/overview-needafellow/

• EPA Food Recovery Challenge
  – http://www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge
  – https://connect.re-trac.com/