

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Maui Community Organic Farmland Initiative is about offering new opportunities for large numbers of small, local farmers to become the seeds of a new economic, ecological, and agricultural infrastructure.



1) We can convert large farmland holdings into community owned farmland. Maui has the ability to use the power of eminent domain to buy back its prime farmland by paying the landholders fair market value for these lands.

2) We can stop commercial developments on our prime agricultural lands.

Community stewardship prevents further conversion of precious farmland into developments and gentlemens' estates.

3) We can transition into diversified organic and regenerative agriculture.

Organic food is the fastest growing sector of the American food market. Regenerative agriculture is truly sustainable. It builds soil microbes and soil health with each crop cycle.

4) We can feed Maui and all of Hawaii. This is a process of creating food self-sufficiency rather than focusing on export crops.

5) The Community Organic Farmland Initiative is the new agricultural model for Maui that will foster small businesses and create jobs. This will enhance the economic value, reputation, and appeal of the island. This new model will keep food and profits on-island while improving our health.

FAQs

What farmland does this law apply to?

The landholder must own 1,000 or more acres within Maui County and the land must have historically been used for agriculture.

Will this law affect Hawaiian lands?

This law is intended to reclaim corporate held land and transfer ownership to the local community. It will also bring the issue of rightful ownership to the public. None of the Hawaiian homelands, kuleana lands, or lands held by the crown will be affected.

Will this law expand the government's power of eminent domain?

No. This law actually increases the public input as to how eminent domain is used.

How will we pay for it?

If the County Council chooses Special Purpose Revenue Bonds then these municipal bonds, are paid for from revenues from the land, not from general County funds. The bonds are secured by the value of the land.

Will organic farming be profitable?

The science of organic and regenerative agriculture is advancing with yields greater than chemical agriculture because the health of the soil brings health to the crops without the costly chemical inputs. Farmer run cooperatives will also increase profits.

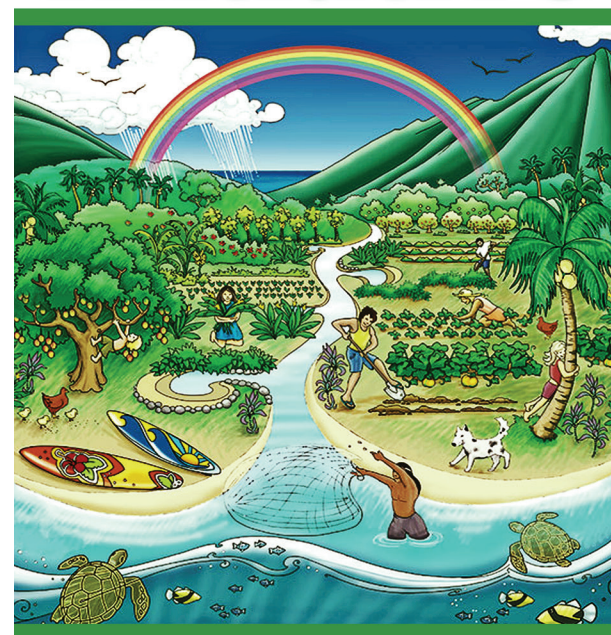
Can contaminated soils be remediated?

Yes. Great advances have been made in soil remediation sciences using biomass, integrated farm management, indigenous micro organisms and other techniques.

Where will the water come from?

Sugarcane is a high water consumption crop. Diversified organic agriculture will use much less water. Future water rights will need to be determined through a public process.

Maui County Community Organic Farmland Initiative



♥ The Future of the Sugar Plantation is in Our Hands ♥

What will we choose?

*Chemical Agribusiness
and Development*

OR

**Community-Owned
Organic Farms**

MauiCommunityFarmland.org

Visit us on Facebook



THE ISSUES

90% of the food we eat is imported into Hawaii. 80% of the food we grow is exported. We have only enough food stored to last 4-10 days.

We are losing our farmland at an alarming rate. Thousands of acres of sugar cane land are already slated for development.

The Hawaii State Constitution declares:

"The State shall conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands."

The central valley water table is contaminated by years of conventional sugar cane farming using chemicals such as atrazine—a pesticide banned in Europe.

Our current agricultural model moves food and profits off-island while degrading our ecological health.

Our HONU, Maui's sea turtles, have developed deadly tumors. University of Hawaii studies have proven that they are caused by chemical fertilizer and pesticide runoff from conventional farming and other land based pollution.



Sea Turtles are an "Indicator Species", meaning that their health reflects the health of the ecosystem. We can expect that when they are dying, so are the reefs and the ocean life, and our human health is at risk.

ABOUT THE MAUI COUNTY

COMMUNITY ORGANIC FARMLAND INITIATIVE

THE PURPOSE of this proposed law is to establish the mechanism by which Maui residents may petition the County Council to convert agricultural lands owned by the largest landholders into public agricultural parks that exclusively use organic and regenerative agricultural practices.

THIS LAW gives us the ability to invoke the power of "eminent domain" to buy the sugarcane lands at fair market value and convert them into one of the world's largest diversified organic farms, which will provide jobs, healthy food, and food self-sufficiency for Maui.

THIS IS A 4-STEP PROCESS:

- 1. We gather 9,202 valid voter signatures** in stages by the deadlines to get the initiative on the November 2016 ballot.
- 2. We the people pass the law** with over 50% of votes on November 8th, 2016.
- 3. We petition the newly formed Community Farmland Committee** to propose acquiring the farmlands that meet certain criteria for the public benefit by gathering 4,601 valid signatures.
- 4. The Committee petitions the County Council** to propose exercising the power of eminent domain, and to raise the funds to pay fair market value for the farmland through grants, special purpose revenue bonds, or other means of the Council's choice.



SIGN THE PETITION AT THESE LOCATIONS

Better yet, become a petitioner and pick up your packet

Kahului

Alive & Well
Maui Pack'N Ship
Down to Earth
(11am-2pm, 4-7pm)

Haiku

Maui Kombucha
Veg Out
Mediterranean Grill (truck)
Satrang Indian (truck)

Wailuku

Farmacy Health Bar
Green Lotus
After Glow Yoga

Makawao

Dragon's Den
Market Fresh Bistro
Sherri Reeve Gallery
Jewels of the White Tara

Kihei / Wailea

Local Boyz Shaved Ice
Enchantress

Lahaina

Choice Health Bar
Honokawai Farmer's Market
Local Boyz Shaved Ice
Bamboo Restaurant
West Side Vibes

Paia

Paia Bay Coffee
Mandala Creations

Pukalani

Farmacy Health Bar

LEARN MORE, DONATE & VOLUNTEER
www.MauiCommunityFarmland.org