

Aloha!

The Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is hosting our next volunteer **FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT** on **Saturday, August 7th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

This month we will be clearing vegetation around planted native seedlings in the manele (soapberry) and koa forest on the Mauna Loa strip of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. We will work in a former cattle pasture that has been transformed into a diverse native forest by planting nursery-reared seedlings over the past 10 years. We will also learn about the park's native forest restoration program.

Volunteers should be at least 14 years old, and be able to hike at least one mile over uneven terrain through brush in an area with a moderate slope. Sturdy walking shoes and long pants are required, along with gear for variable weather conditions (be prepared for sun or rain with a hat, raincoat, sunscreen, etc.) plus drinking water and a snack.

Because the area has a wide variety of native plants, we will have to be careful in moving through the understory and be sure of the identity of what we cut or pull up. Also imperative is **scrubbing the soles of one's shoes** prior to arrival on site, in order to ensure outside dirt and invasive species seeds aren't tracked in.

Our goal is a crew of 16 people, and pre-registration is required. All participants will need to sign a Friends release form. An adult will need to be present to co-sign a park volunteer form for those under 18.

Be aware that there can be VOG or high levels of SO₂ in the area. If it is too heavy or the park is closed, we'll cancel the project and try to notify everyone in advance.

*****If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Patty Kupchak at forest@fhvnp.org or (808) 352-1402 by Monday evening, August 2nd.*****

Come join us for a wonderful opportunity to enjoy our national park and participate in native forest recovery!

*Patty Kupchak, Nancy Chaney, & Mark Johnson
Forest Restoration Committee Co-Chairs*

P.S. Please save the date for our upcoming Forest Restoration Project:

- Saturday, September 25th is National Public Lands Day - participate in one of the park's volunteer projects!

**Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
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Please visit our website: www.fhvnp.org