

# Hawaii

## HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

The Citizen Forester Tree Inventory project successfully meets critical needs in the state of Hawaii by building new partnerships and engaging new constituencies.

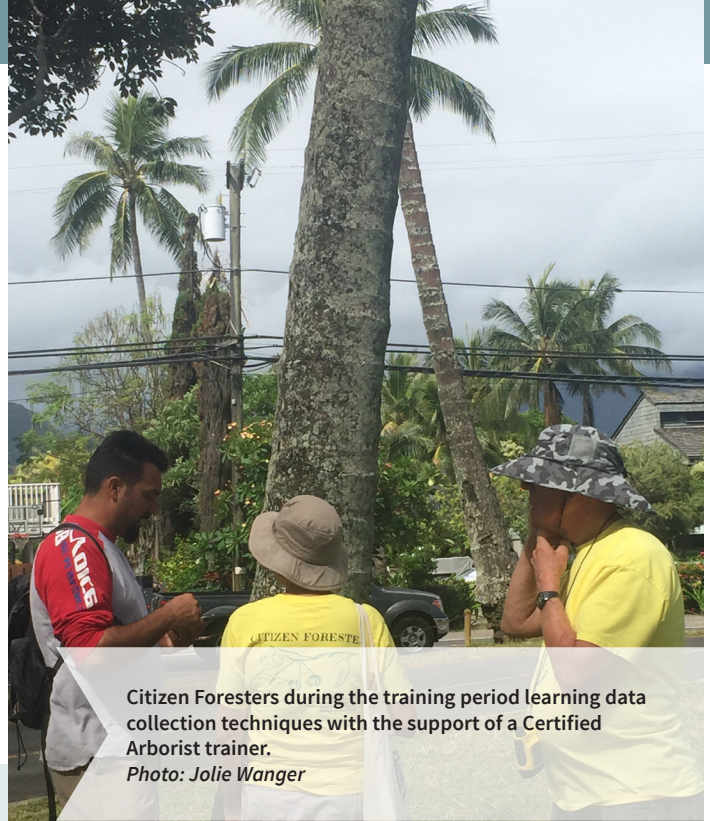
In response to Hawaii's U&CF Council and City Urban Forestry partners, the Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program identified a unique opportunity to build partnerships and engage new constituencies through a Citizen Forester Tree Inventory project.

The Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife partnered with the City Urban Forestry Department, two community nonprofits and the University of Hawaii in a targeted citizen science program. This program has allowed the City Urban Forestry Department to make strides towards completing an inventory of its tree resources, which has eluded them for decades.

At the same time, the partnerships which were developed have allowed multiple organizations to make progress towards winning the hearts and minds of residents who have not before seen the value of their street trees.

The Citizen Foresters serve as ambassadors in their community as they elevate the visibility of the value of urban trees. Citizen Foresters receive substantial training and continuing education, allowing the Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife to extend its knowledge more broadly in the community.

This project has cut across boundaries, built bridges between the Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program and the community, and opened a new path for urban forestry in Hawaii.



Citizen Foresters during the training period learning data collection techniques with the support of a Certified Arborist trainer.  
*Photo: Jolie Wanger*

Overall, a community science program like the Citizen Forester Tree Inventory project has value well beyond the data being collected in the new partnerships formed and the day-to-day outreach to neighbors and businesses who may otherwise not be exposed to information about forestry programs.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife  
Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program  
<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/forestry/lap/kaulunani/>