



COUNTY OF MAUI
**Environmental
Protection &
Sustainability
Division**

EP&S Mission Statement

To ensure resilience for future generations, the Environmental Protection & Sustainability Division shall guide efforts to optimize opportunities for environmental initiatives, natural resource protection, sustainability, conservation, and restoration.

EP&S strives to fulfill its mission through public education, community engagement, support of community sustainability initiatives, public-private-non-profit partnerships, innovative programming, and implementation of environmental and sustainability mandates.

Areas of Focus

- Protection, conservation, and preservation *mauka to makai*
- Local solutions to global problems: Climate crisis, SLR adaptation, and plastic pollution
- Invasive species management and mitigation
- Food security: Sustainable/regenerative agriculture and land use
- Native ecosystem restoration and resiliency practices
- Zero Waste or other sustainable waste practices
- Malama 'aina - taking care of and cleaning up county and other public properties
- Renewable energy and sustainable ground transportation
- Innovative technologies e.g. mycelium soil remediation, green buildings, organic pesticides, green roofs, permaculture, urban forestry, community gardens
- Respect for traditional indigenous environmental, sustenance, and land use wisdom
- Ensuring social equity and environmental justice

EP&S Purview

- County of Maui includes the four islands of Maui, Moloka`i, Lana`i, and Kaho`olawe
- County of Maui handles municipal issues from mountain apex to shoreline
- Reaching out - Connection between the County and Public (education, outreach, listening)
- Reaching up - Assists Environmental Coordinator with administrative and council engagement
- Assists Environmental Coordinator with development and implementation of sustainability initiatives and mandates
- Intra-departmental (cultivating relationships within DEM)
- Inter-departmental (cultivating relationships with partner departments such as DPW, HHC, DWS, MPD, OED, etc)

EP&S Focus Section

Public Engagement

EP&S Advisory Group

Will include local environmental, social, and cultural experts and leaders working together to make the most informed decisions and take action on important environmental and sustainability issues.

A Seat at the Table

Staff representation on Hawaii Climate Change Commission, Hawaii Green Growth – Aloha + Challenge, national sustainability organizations, and local environmental chapters

Education

EP&S Education and Resource Website

Webpages that provides a comprehensive clearinghouse of environmental and sustainability education, resources, organizations, initiatives, and volunteer opportunities on all four islands of the County of Maui. Connecting the network.

Self-Sufficiency, Sustainability, and Resilience Educational Resources

We envision supporting outlets and developing workshops for training in such areas as permaculture, gardening, vermicasting, composting, conservation practices, family waste and energy reduction, bicycle maintenance, and other subjects that fulfill the mission of the division.

Behavior Change

Via Community Based Social Marketing (Douglas McKenzie-Mohr) and Systems Design for Social Change

EP&S Focus Section

Support of Community Initiatives

Green Grants Program

Small environmental and sustainability community initiative grants for such grassroots ventures as carbon sequestration efforts, green roofs, community gardens, native habitat restoration efforts, marine debris data collection, urban forestry, and other areas that fulfill the mission of the division. Proposal and evaluation criteria and procedures to be modelled after Recycling and OED grants programs.

County Green Star Program

Recognition of vetted green business and non-profit leaders based on established criteria in the areas of environmental protection, advocacy, and practices. County Green Stars will receive a certificate of recognition, be recognized on the county website, and be provided with a “green star” emblem to hang at their headquarters.

Implementation of Environmental and Sustainability Mandates

- Review of local, state and federal legislation to ensure county compliance
- Development of programming to implement new and existing local mandates.

EP&S Strategies for Addressing the Climate Crisis

Public Education: Clear, Concise, Constant, Consistent + Empowering

Behavioral Change: Systems Design for Social Change and Community-Based Social Marketing (Douglas McKenzie-Mohr)

Providing Practical Resources: Knowledge and tools to make changes in behavior

Networking and Making Connections: We are all in this together

Fostering and supporting efforts already underway in the community:

- Innovative technologies
- Piloting new programs
- Carbon capture and sequestration efforts

Mahalo