



Become a Reef Teacher Today!

According to a County Lifeguard and UH Sea Grant Program count, the Bay experiences over 400,000 users a year – just during peak daylight hours. 40% are from the cruise lines and 60% are from the airlines, and a small number of locals. Our data studies show that 80% of those visitors not taught by ReefTeachers will step and stand on coral for about 300 seconds. Of those who have been taught by ReefTeachers, only 20% will step on coral and for about 2 or 3 seconds only because of wave action or trying to keep balance.

ReefTeach is an effort to educate visitors on how to avoid damaging corals at Kahalu`u Bay, taking care of our turtles and our reef animals.

Since 2000:

- Volunteer ReefTeachers of all ages have been teaching hundreds of visitors to Kahalu`u Bay how to reduce their impact on organisms found in Kahalu`u Bay.
- Volunteers are trained by a U.H. Sea Grant Extension Agent and experienced Marine Science Instructors.

ReefTeaching is effective and fun!

- Volunteers use picture boards and examples of coral to teach visitors about delicate coral and the organisms that depend upon the reef.
- Data collected by previous volunteers on snorkeler behaviors demonstrates that visitors that have been educated about coral are less likely to stand on or touch coral. Volunteers can see the results of their work by collecting further data on the behavior of visitors that have and have not received information from the ReefTeach program.
- Inform visitors of turtle basking behavior and help reduce disturbances to turtles.
- And You Get A **FREE REEFTEACH T-SHIRT!!!**

Interested volunteers are asked to attend two training sessions. Classroom Lectures can be held either at our facilities (holds about 17 people) or at your location.

Classroom Lecture (Attend One Classroom Lecture) A 2-Hour Session

Location: Bakken Foundation Office across the street from Home Depot on the second floor. North of Kaloko Furniture building.

On-Site Training (Attend One On-Site Training) A 2-Hour Session

Kahalu`u Beach Park. Bring your snorkel Gear

**For more information call or email Cindi Punihaole cpunihaole@kohalacenter.org or Stephen Coffee scoffee@kohalacenter.org
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