



NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

JUNIOR RESTORATION TEAM

Program Operation: Year Round
Program Hours: Arranged With Schoolteacher
Deadline for Requests: Accepted Year Round

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The National Tropical Botanical Garden's Junior Restoration Team program is a hands-on environmental education experience for high school or middle school students. It involves students in an interactive partnership with NTBG restoration project managers to promote environmental stewardship. Through outdoor activities, students learn skills in botany, conservation, ethnobotany, ecology, horticulture, resource management, and teamwork. This practical experience makes learning about the environment real and affords students the chance to make a difference in their community. It exposes participants to job opportunities in the fields of environmental conservation and ecological restoration. The program involves the clearing of alien vegetation, planting of native species, and monitoring success of restoration efforts at selected project sites, including:

Southshore of Kaua'i

Coastal Plants Restoration Project at Lawa'i-kai
Lawa'i Stream Restoration Project
Lawa'i Forest Restoration Project
Maha'ulepu Cave Restoration Project

Northshore of Kaua'i

Limahuli Preserve Restoration Projects

The educational experience is varied and comprehensive. Emphasis is on teamwork: group problem-solving, cooperation on physically demanding tasks, and open discussion of the concepts and results. This leads to an increased understanding of the importance of working together for common goals that are supported by the best science and technology available to do the job of restoring damaged ecosystems.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Teach restoration methods and the value and function of natural environments through firsthand experience.
- Train students in techniques for soil and water sampling, greenhouse propagation, cave ecology, fossil exploration, and use of Global Positioning Systems.
- Instill environmental stewardship.
- Introduce students to training and career opportunities in related fields.
- Provide opportunity for local schools/students for community service hours.

WHO MAY APPLY

Middle School or High School Teachers for classes/student groups.

PROVISIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Team size maximum 30 students.
- Arrangements for each team are structured during discussions with NTBG's Conservation Education staff.

- A pre-visit to the classroom for an introductory presentation by an NTBG Conservation Education staff member is required when appropriate.
- Group Transportation or Funding for Group Transportation from school/designated group departure sites to the project sites is usually available upon request.
- Students responsible for own housing, meals, and transportation to designated group departure sites.
- Students provide own field attire and supplies, including covered shoes or boots, long pants, raincoat, sun gear, and sunscreen, as well as a sack lunch and drinking water.

Requests regarding the Junior Restoration Team program should be directed to:

Junior Restoration Team
c/o Conservation Education Technician
National Tropical Botanical Garden
3530 Papalina Road
Kalaheo, HI 96741 USA

Tel: (808) 332-7324, ext. 250

Fax: (808) 332-9765

Email: sgee@ntbg.org

Website: www.ntbg.org

The mission of the National Tropical Botanical Garden is to enrich life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education by perpetuating the survival of plants, ecosystems, and cultural knowledge of tropical regions.

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