



# HO'İHO'İ LEI

*Returning Lei to the 'Āina*



Lei making, giving, and wearing have profound personal, spiritual, and cultural importance. Thus, a lei is given special care even after it has been worn. How you ho'īho'ī (return) your lei to the 'āina is a personal choice.

New consideration is taken with the threat of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD)—an invasive disease that has killed hundreds of thousands of 'ōhi'a trees on Hawai'i Island. Because the fungus can travel in the soil, wood, and plant material of infected 'ōhi'a, there is great risk in moving materials, especially to other islands or uninfected areas. Infected trees may show no symptoms of ROD, and it's impossible to know without lab testing. Here are some safe ways you can ho'īho'ī your lei during this Merrie Monarch Season.

## Basket Locations

Lei can be left at any of these three locations in provided baskets between April 4th - 9th.

### Division of Forestry and Wildlife

19 East Kawili Street.

Hilo Hawai'i, 96720

Hours: 7:30AM - 4:00PM



### Hilo and Kona Airports

Plant Quarantine Kiosks

Hours: 7:45AM - 4:30PM

## Ho'īho'ī Areas

Lei can also be returned safely to the forests located on Saddle Road (between 12 & 16 mile markers) or along Stainback Highway (3 miles from Highway 11 along Stainback Hwy to N. Kūlani Intersection) within 20 feet in from forest edge. Please remember to remove any non-biodegradable materials from lei.