William P. Kenoi Mayor

William T. Takaba
Managing Director



BJ Leithead Todd

John A. Medeiros
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720 (808) 961-8083 · Fax (808) 961-8086 http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/environmental-management/

NEWS RELEASE

October 21, 2013

Contact Person: Linda Peters, Recycling Coordinator, lpeters@co.hawaii.hi.us or 961-8942

Hawai'i County Hosts Reusable Shopping Bag Give-a-way!

The Palace Theatre in Hilo will be hosting the Hawai'i International Film Festival from October 23, 2013 to October 29, 2013. On **Thursday, October 24, 2013**, at 7:30 pm, the Palace Theatre will show the films, *Plastic Paradise*, *the Great Pacific Garbage Patch* and *Fishing Pono*. Please visit http://hilopalace.com/movies.php for Film Festival details.

This 57 minute film will shed light on the effects of our rabid plastic consumption and how plastic is accumulating in the ocean and affecting our planet.

The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management will be available 1 hour before the film and ½ hour after to answer questions about the **Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance** that changes on January 17, 2014, prohibiting businesses from selling or providing plastic checkout bags. While supplies last, reusable shopping bags will be provided in exchange for five (5) single-use plastic or paper checkout bags. Limit is one (1) reusable bag per person. There may be a surprise visit by the Plastic Bag Monster!



For details about the County's Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance and rules please visit our website at http://www.hawaiizerowaste.org/reuse/plastic-bag-reduction-ordinance.

Mahalo for bringing your reusable shopping bags and for saying "no" to plastic or paper disposable bags!