



Hawai'i Volcanoes News Release

September 9, 2009

Tour Historic 'Āinahou Ranch House and Gardens

Join park staff and Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on a walking tour of 'Āinahou Ranch House and gardens.

The free, behind-the-scenes tour is scheduled for 11:00am and 2:00pm on the following Tuesdays: September 15 and 29, and October 6, 2009.

The tour is limited to 20 people and pre-registration is required. To register, call the park's Division of Interpretation at (808) 985-6166.

Tours take place rain or shine, but may be cancelled on short notice due to poor air quality, high fire danger, severe weather, etc.

From the challenges of living and raising cattle on the slopes of an active volcano to developing a safe haven for nēnē, the endangered Hawaiian goose, 'Āinahou is rich in history.

Tour participants will explore the ornamental gardens, learn about the area's geology and history, and find out how the Mauna Ulu eruption resulted in the park's acquisition of this 6,324 acre mid-elevation 'ohi'a woodland.

Those pre-registered for the tour should plan to meet at least twenty minutes before the tour start time at the Mauna Ulu parking lot located 4 miles down Chain of Craters Road. Allow 20 minutes to drive from the Kīlauea Visitor Center to the Mauna Ulu parking lot.

Participants should be prepared to walk a mile over uneven surfaces at a leisurely pace; wear sturdy shoes, sunscreen, and a hat; and bring water, snacks, a camera, and raingear.

Over the years, a cadre of dedicated volunteers has brought this special place back to life and is excited to share it with others. To learn more about Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, its special events and programs, go to <http://www.fhvnp.org/> or call (808) 985-7373.



*Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 'Āinahou Ranch House was built in 1941 as a mountain retreat by Herbert C. Shipman, a descendant of one of Hawai'i's oldest missionary families.
Photo by Lanaya Deily*

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