

"PLEASE JOIN BIISC IN A PRESENTATION AT THE LYMAN MUSEUM, JUNE 14 at 7pm."

Invasive Species and the Habits of Bugs

Monday, June 14, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Page Else, Public Outreach Specialist for the Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC), discusses the broad topic of invasive species in Hawai'i and highlights those insects which are valuable as natural controls on other pest species. This presentation is particularly timely, as public hearings will be held this summer on proposed insect releases to control the nettle caterpillar and the strawberry guava. Ms. Else relates the history, lessons, and successes of natural predator releases in the Islands, as well as the strict regulatory review process for such work. Members free; Nonmembers \$3.

This talk will also allow BIISC to introduce our new intern, Kanoe DeRego. Through the University of PIPES program, Kanoe will develop a project with BIISC integrating Hawaiian culture with BIISC operations. Kanoe is a graduate of the Hawaiian Lifestyles program at Hawaii Community College. This talk will travel from the broad subject of invasive species (how we define them, why they are particularly troublesome in Hawaii, and programs in Hawaii to control invasives) to end with a focus on insects. Insects are good and bad, beautiful and ugly, fun to watch, and important to detect. Kanoe will be leading the sections highlighting our native forests, unique species, and impacts of insects on Hawaiian culture and agriculture.

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