



With all the recent rain at Kohala by the Sea, the hills are greener and new growth is all around us. Along with kiawe and haole koa trees, fountain grass has proliferated rapidly. Fountain grass is an invasive plant that covers much of the Kohala Coast area. It grows quickly, outcompetes other plants for water, and degrades our pasture lands. Worse, it can survive brush fires while native plants cannot. Once the weather is dry and sunny again, fountain grass dries up and provides excellent fuel for brush fires.

Fountain grass already covers much of the land in our community. To protect our properties, mowing or weed whacking the grass to create a fire break is important to protect our homes and other structures.

Kiawe info: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/info/invasive-species-profiles/long-thorn-kiawe/>

Ironwood info: <https://wildlifeofhawaii.com/flowers/774/casuarina-equisetifolia-common-ironwood/>

Haole Koa info: <https://wildlifeofhawaii.com/flowers/1266/leucaena-leucocephala-white-leadtree/>

Fountain grass info: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/info/invasive-species-profiles/fountain-grass/>