
PROJECT REFLECTIONS

August 22, 2018

Hawaii Heat 04 Girls

Re: ECOS Coastal Cleanup - Waimanalo

Hi Mr. Saiki and the ECOS Project,

Before doing this beach cleanup I knew that there was a lot of trash on the beach, but I didn't realize how much there actually was. I was so surprised that in just 2 hours we were able to collect over 100 pounds. It was both rewarding and concerning. At first I thought, "Dang we got a lot done," but in reality we hadn't even reached an 1/8 of the entire beach. I was also shocked that most of the trash wasn't even from us, but that it's brought in by waves and wind from other countries. So we actually do keep our beaches (relatively) clean, it's just that we're stuck in the position where we can't stop the wind or ocean from bringing other trash here. And although we can't control the earth we can control our actions. After this project every time I've been going to the beach I'll find myself sitting on the sand picking up all the little/big debris I find (right after everyone left me and 2 other teammates stayed and went swimming and while I was sitting on the beach with my mom we were just picking up more plastic bits :)). I also want to participate in more beach cleanups because it might get a little tiresome doing it by yourself but if I were to do it with friends or even school it would be more fun plus we would get more done.

Thanks so much for this great opportunity!!!

Sincerely,

Kylie Calabrese-Kenny, 9th grade

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