MEDIA RELEASE

December 16, 2010

Contact: County Solid Waste Division and Recycling Section - 961-8270

Hawai`i County Recycles Holiday Trees!!!

Please help keep our island green and recycle your holiday tree and greenery!

After Christmas, drop your trees at one of the following eight (8) County Recycle and Transfer Stations: Hilo, Puako, Kailua-Kona, Honoka’a, Kea’au, Keauhou, Waimea, and Wai‘ōhinu.

Dates: From December 26, 2010 through January 16, 2011

Trees and greenery should be free of all decorations, lights, tinsel and ornaments. Please do not drop off artificial or flocked trees.

The County Solid Waste Division will collect them for chipping at one of the County Greenwaste Collection Sites in Hilo or Kona.

By chipping the trees and making the material available for use in gardens, the County can divert thousands of trees from our landfills and add valuable mulch to island soils. In addition, it will help reduce the illegal dumping of holiday trees.

Also, please recycle your Kadomatsu decorations, normally a combination of bamboo, pine and flowers, a tradition that began 600 years ago in Japan as a way of offering luck in the new year.

The County’s Treecycling Program and additional recycling and solid waste programs are available on the website at www.HawaiiZeroWaste.org. For further information, please contact the County Solid Waste Division at 961-8270.