

Coordinating CRB management in your area



Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle management requires broad adoption of best practices and treatments across entire neighborhoods and regions to be effective.

Green waste management and palm treatments have been used effectively to control CRB in parts of Hawai'i and across the Pacific. CRB are still a major problem in Hawai'i because most landowners are not actively managing CRB. Even when landowners choose to take management steps, their efforts may be minimal in the context of their entire area.

Why **broad-scale** treatment is necessary for suppressing populations

CRB need two things, palms and breeding sites

CRB need two primary things to thrive; host plants (like palms) for the adults to feed and material like mulch, compost, logs, or potting soil for the larvae to feed. Adult beetles must feed on a host plant to produce viable eggs.

Regional population reduction saves trees

Most current treatments including pesticide application and green waste management work by reducing the total population of CRB that are feeding on the trees in the area rather than repelling beetles.

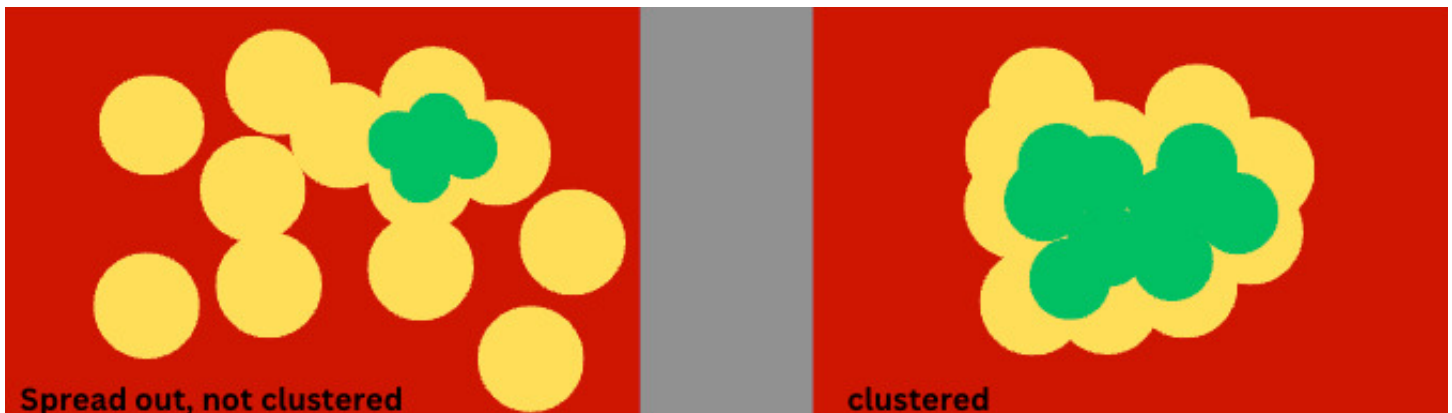
CRB infest regions not individual plants

Beetles can fly very far if they need to and one adult may feed on different trees during their life. The infestation is not in a tree or single property but across whole neighborhoods.

Most properties must manage CRB to have regional improvement

If one property treats their trees and manages breeding material, but nearby properties are unmanaged, the local populations could still be high and all the trees in that zone will be affected (even treated trees).

Treated areas next to untreated areas will still have damage from beetles flying in. Clustered treatments will have better protection for the center of the treated area. Larger continuous managed areas will result in better control.



- unmanaged area
- managed areas - moderate control
- managed areas - good control

STEPS TO ORGANIZING YOUR AREA



1. Connect with People in Your Neighborhood

There are several ways to contact your neighbors to organize management.

- Neighborhood board meetings
- HOA meetings
- Attend local events focused on plants, agriculture, and land management
- Partner with organizations at events to staff a table or present a sign-up sheet for interested residents
- Call or email municipal, military, and business properties
- Deliver letters, pamphlets, or door hangers to neighbors (we will provide forms to make these)



2. Provide Information

- Impacts of CRB. Use personal stories if you have them. Point out local damage.
- The importance of neighborhood-wide management (from page 1 of this document)
- Management options. Green waste reduction and palm treatment options.
- Who to contact and how to get involved.



3. Organize

- Assign one person or a small group to collect and share information. The collected information might include:
 - Addresses, emails, and phone numbers of people who want to participate
 - What management options they are willing to adopt
 - What actions they are willing to take in neighborhood events
 - Allow surveys
 - remove stumps, compost, mulch, dead trees, etc.
 - Manage breeding material staying on site (contain, spread, heat, pesticides, etc)
 - Treat palms or other hosts with insecticide
 - use netting on host plants or breeding sites
- Identify who is willing to stay updated on best management practices and treatments
- Identify if anyone has tools or experience that will facilitate treatments. E.g. someone may have a tractor that can be used to spread or remove unused mulch.
- Identify if anyone is willing to apply pesticides. Some may be willing to have treatments done but will not handle pesticides. Having a resident perform treatments can save money and allow some to treat who wouldn't if treatments were more expensive.

STEPS TO ORGANIZING YOUR AREA



4. Develop Plans

- Set a treatment goal; ideally $\geq 70\%$ of land in one square mile or larger area
- Identify what properties can be managed and who will be doing the work
- Assign roles for participants on their own property or other participants land (survey for risky material, apply insecticides, remove stumps, map and record treatments, etc.)
- Schedule training if needed. Extension agents, the CRB Response, master gardeners and similar groups can provide training for some management techniques
- Acquire supplies and equipment (hand tools, chipper, chainsaw, pesticides, safety gear)
- Develop a cost-sharing plan. If everyone contributes a small amount, some expensive resources can be shared. These might include pesticides, application equipment, or green waste processing tools.
- Develop a schedule around participant availability and treatments



5. Implement

- Share the schedule and plan with all participants
- Perform the management and treatment actions
- Follow up on the completion of commercial treatments and people working on their own properties.
- Record and track progress.



6. Contacts and Resources

Contact CRB Response anytime during the process for guidance. We can provide:

- Best management practices
- Treatment guides with application protocols
- Sample letters, pamphlets, or door hangers to share with neighbors
- Information session or workshop
- List of businesses to contact for treatments
- and more!



www.crbhawaii.org

Contact CRB Response

crbhawaii.org | info@crbhawaii.org

Sample Letter

Dear Neighbor,

I hope this letter finds you well. As residents of our neighborhood, it's crucial that we come together to address a significant concern: the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) infestation.

As you may be aware, CRB populations in our area have been increasing, and as a result, palms are also experiencing increased damage. The CRB Response program has recommended treatment of palms on a neighborhood-wide scale for treatments to be most effective, meaning the more treated trees in the area, the better chance at reduction of beetle populations, and the more success for saving our palms.

Success with impacting beetle populations has been achieved only in areas where breeding material was reduced, palms were treated, or ideally both.

To combat this, I'm inviting you to join our neighborhood-wide effort in treating for CRB. Together, we can protect our community's trees and preserve our environment.

Here's how you can get involved:

- **Coordinate Treatment Plans:** Let's develop a comprehensive plan together, utilizing approved pesticides, physical controls or seeking assistance from experts.
- **Share Resources:** Pool our knowledge and resources to effectively detect, prevent, and treat CRB infestations.
- **Support Each Other:** By working together, we can overcome challenges and achieve our goal of controlling the CRB infestation.
- **Spread the Word:** Encourage other neighbors to join our initiative to maximize our impact.

Your participation is vital. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me

Let's protect our neighborhood together. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to your involvement. Please contact me to get involved.

Mahalo!

[Your Name, Contact information]