



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community Update - June 2019

Fruit trees free to community groups and organisations

Freshly-picked plums, and crisp fresh apples could be on offer at a kohanga, school, or community centre near you. Pride Whakatāne has purchased 90 fruit trees from Waimea Nurseries to gift to worthy community groups and organisations.

Trees will be given away on a first-in, first-served basis. To apply for a tree, community groups and organisations are invited to email the Pride Whakatāne District Committee Chair, Councillor Andrew Iles at waimanailes@xtra.co.nz with details about the group or organisation, and how it would benefit from planting a fruiting tree.



YOUR THOUGHTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

Climate change is already affecting New Zealand's climate. It is likely to impact our agriculture and other climate-sensitive industries, our native ecosystems, infrastructure, health and biosecurity. It will also have broader social and economic impacts in the coming years. The Whakatāne District is already vulnerable to natural hazards, and climate change is likely to exacerbate the consequences of these hazards.

It's important that we factor the impacts of climate change into our future planning. We want to hear your thoughts about climate change, so please take a moment to fill out our short online survey at whakatane.govt.nz/climate-change. Information received will be used to inform future climate change-related work by Whakatāne District Council and key partners.

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Sunset Social

Youth Week was celebrated recently with the Sunset Social event at Ōhope Beach. The event was run by the Whakatāne District Youth Council and Future Edge – an Edgcombe-based youth leadership group. More than 200 young people from around the District gathered to celebrate and socialise in a fun and safe environment.

The free event was open to young people 13 years and over and offered organised activities including games, competitions, music. Also on offer were beach games, a bonfire, barbeque, non-alcoholic bar, rock-climbing wall and a photo booth. A number of the games and activities provided the opportunity for young people to expand their skills, and show their awareness of road safety issues.

Sunset Social was an alcohol, smoke and drug-free event which provided an excellent opportunity for the Eastern Bay Road Safety Programme to promote messaging to tomorrow's drivers around the importance of sober driving. Mocktails (alcohol-free cocktails), no-alcohol beer and other non-alcoholic beverages were available at no charge from the #FOMO bar.

The Eastern Bay Road Safety Programme was the chief sponsor and provided the x-factor frills of a rock climbing wall which linked wearing a harness to wearing a seatbelt. Support was also provided by Whakatāne Bluelight and The Event Network Trust.

The event was also supported by Whakatāne Bluelight and The Event Network Trust. Return transport was provided for those travelling to and from rural or surrounding areas of Whakatāne. The support of volunteers was vital for making the event such a success.



Plastic recycling changes now in place

Changes to Whakatāne District Council's plastic recycling service are now in place and residents are being urged to check their plastic before it goes in the yellow-lid bin.

Council Solid Waste Manager, Nigel Clarke says plastic grade information is generally located on the bottom of packaging items, so residents are asked to check their plastic waste and look for the triangular recycling symbols. "Grades 1 and 2, which include items like plastic drink and milk bottles, should still be recycled," he says. "The other plastic grades, which include widely-used items like ice cream containers, yogurt pots and some takeaway containers, should ideally be reused, or alternatively, be placed in the green, general waste wheelie bins."

Mr Clarke says the changes only impact on plastic recycling. "All other recycling, including cardboard, paper and tins and cans should continue as usual.

"This change to plastic recycling will be a return to the service we had in place prior to 2016 when we only collected grades 1 and 2 plastics. At that time we had the same size general rubbish bin, which coped with the amount of waste generated," he says. "We appreciate that some people may find it difficult to accommodate extra waste in their general refuse bins and suggest that all grades 3-7 items that cannot be repurposed should be flattened, so that they take up less space.

"Changing our consumer habits can also help," he adds. "If you're buying a product in plastic packaging, check the grade of plastic first and if it can't be recycled, look for an alternative product in the same price range, or consider bulk purchasing in reusable containers."

Households and businesses should have received a sticker to put on their recycling bin lids as a reminder of the change. Any household that has not received a sticker through their local circular delivery service can collect one from the Whakatāne Civic Centre or Murupara Service Centre.



CHANGES to your recycling

PLASTICS KIRIHOU GRADES 1 & 2 only, can be recycled

Council will no longer collect grades 3 - 7 plastics

CHECK YOUR PLASTIC WASTE
Look for these symbols, and place only these grades in your yellow-top bin.

Let's make sure that the limited plastics we can recycle do not end up in landfill.

Matariki

Ki Whakatāne Rohe 2019

30 Haratua ki 23 Hōngongoi

30 May to 23 July

Help us celebrate Matariki 2019 with the Lifelong Learning team at the District Libraries in Whakatāne, Murupara, Edgcombe and Ōhope.

A variety of events will be on offer for the whole family in the coming months so check out our Facebook page or website to find out more.

whakatane.com/matariki
[facebook.com/whakatanelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/whakatanelibrary)



Wednesday, 26 June 2019

Māori Storytellers
Te Reo Wainene o Tua
Te Kōputu

Thursday, 27 June 2019

Māori Storytellers
Te Reo Wainene o Tua
Te Kōputu

Sunday, 30 June 2019

Celestial Kōrero
Ōtarawairere Rd, Lookout,
Ōhope, Whakatāne

DO YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY? Consider standing for election

The local body election to select the District's Mayor, Councillors and Community Board Members is to be held this year. These are the people who will make the final decisions about how we develop our community, how we set and spend our rates, and where we should be focusing our efforts for the future.

You may be interested in standing for Council and becoming one of those decision-makers for our District. If so, nominations for candidates will open on 19 July and close on 16 August, along with the electoral roll. After this date, anyone who is entitled to vote and who is not enrolled as an elector, or whose details are incorrectly recorded on the roll, will have to cast a 'special vote'.

Local elections for city and district councils, regional councils and district health boards will be held from 20 September to 12 October this year.

In order to receive a voting paper, you must be enrolled on the electoral roll at your current address. So, if you are new to the area, have recently changed address, have just turned 18, or never been on the roll - go to elections.org.nz or your nearest Post Shop to enrol.

