

# Newsline



Keeping you informed about news and events in Tasman District

Marahau.

Queen Street to shine brighter **P.3**

Proposed Rates Remission Policy **P.5**

Get Ready to ShakeOut! **P.8**

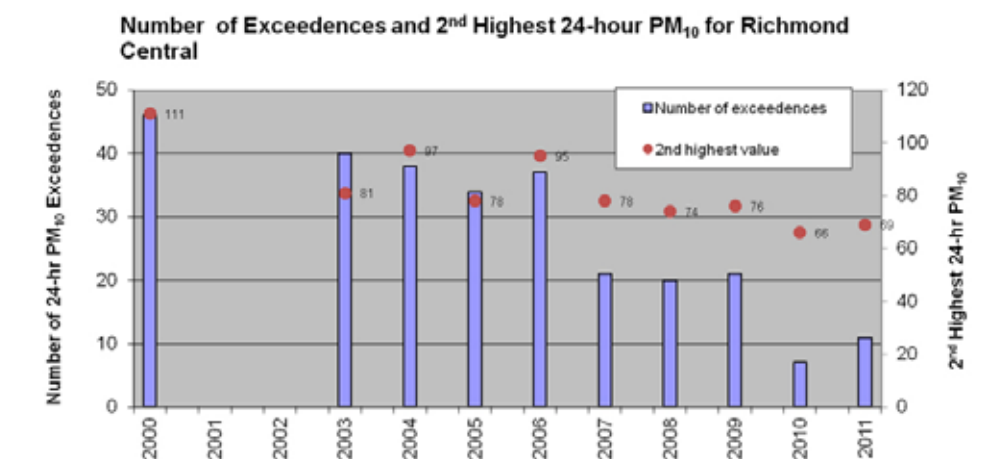
## Pollution levels addressed

**Tasman District Council is stepping up its monitoring around the use of log-burners as a cold winter drives up the number of air pollution exceedences in Richmond this year. A combination of low temperatures and still days has resulted in 13 exceedences, as at 17 July 2012, of the national standard for PM10 (particulate matter less than 10 micron in size).**

The blip upward this year is at odds with a record low in 2010 of just seven exceedences, and with downward trends over the last decade. Trevor James, Council's Resource Scientist, says that prior to new wood-burner rules being introduced in 2007, exceedences ran into the mid-30s, and even 40s each year.

Household wood-burners are the source of almost 90% of PM10 emissions. Old, inefficient burners must be replaced with approved models when a property changes hands within the Richmond area. A Land Information Memorandum (LIM) report alerts would-be buyers to the requirement, and Council staff also send out a letter as a courtesy. A Good Practice Guide for operating burners is available from the Council's Service Centres and tips are listed on the website, [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz)

Compliance Officer Helen Dempster says that as part of the monitoring strategy staff look



for excessively smoky chimneys and talking to house-owners about how best to address the problem. In the case of tenanted properties, the owner is advised.

Where significant non-compliance is detected, Council may use its enforcement powers to resolve the issue, particularly where the property owners have previously been spoken to, Helen adds.

Trevor says the number of exceedences this winter is naturally a concern, but taking one year's results without reference to the

meteorological conditions can be deceptive. It would be very unusual if, in accounting for weather, we did not see continuing improvement, he says. However, the rate of improvement is expected to slow as the percentage of houses that are resold with replacement wood-burners increases.

Long-term trends will be analysed after winter.

Richmond's air has improved markedly over the last decade or so. For example, in 2000, and again in 2003, PM10 breaches totalled 46.

# Message from the Mayor

I attended the Local Government conference last week where one of the major topics of conversation amongst delegates, aided by the Prime Minister's speech, was the impending local government reforms centred on a debate about what constitutes core council business. In the days prior to my departure to the conference, interestingly, I attended the opening of the Totaranui Road, the unveiling of the Kaka Beak sculpture in Motueka, and celebrated the completion of the Nelson to Brightwater link of Tasman's Great Taste Trail.

All three were events showcasing beautifully what it means to live in Tasman. They were unique in their own right, but are they our core business? One was a road that will no doubt contribute to the economy of Golden Bay aiding peoples' ability to enjoy another agency's asset – DoC's Totaranui campground. The sculpture, carved by a local Bruce Mitchell from Takaka marble, provides a unique piece of Motueka art celebrating a local life and the community it now resides in. The Brightwater link of the Great Taste Trail is one more step towards the completion of the Tasman contribution to the country's cycle trail inventory, and strongly supported by many in our district.

These projects, while not initiated by us, were managed to completion

by the Council in recognition of their contribution and importance to Tasman's way of life.

They are valued additions supported by ratepayers as Council seeks to meet the economic, environmental, cultural and social needs of our residents and ratepayers. Providing these projects are very good examples of Council supporting our unique community in a unique part of New Zealand and the world.

We will be submitting to the Select Committee on the first part of Local Government Reforms which, among other subjects, includes a legislative paring back of core Council business.

**Mayor Richard Kempthorne**



## Public asked for input on proposed Rates Remission Policy

**Tasman District Council's Proposal for a Rates Remission Policy for Land Affected by Natural Disasters is now available for public consultation.**

The proposed policy covers residential land affected by natural disaster, in order to provide rating relief for ratepayers unable to inhabit their dwellings or buildings as a result.

It is intended that rates relief for those affected by the December 2011 rainfall event will be determined by Council, on application, if this rates remission policy is adopted.

As it is proposing a major policy the Council is required to undertake a Special Consultative Procedure, the first step of which is the calling of submissions as advertised on page five of this edition of Newsline and recent editions of the Nelson Mail.

## Select Committee

**The Tasman District Council has made a submission on the recently announced proposed Local Government law reforms to the Local Government and Environment Select Committee. The submission draws on the experience and knowledge gained through the recent amalgamation debate.**

It is not, however, solely a Tasman view. The same views are shared nationally, especially regarding the proposed change in the purpose of local government and the limiting of peoples' ability to have a say in how they are governed.

The proposed reforms are purported to be designed to enable councils to contribute more to the Government's economic growth agenda. This is an ideal all would support, however, in their current form the reforms are more likely to constrain rather than enable a council's role in local economic development.

The overall view within the submission to the Select Committee, regardless of the merits of the Bill, is that in its current form the Bill will not enable the Government to deliver what it is trying to achieve. The Council considers the reforms to be anecdotally driven, the supposed problems have not been adequately identified and there is no robust evidence the solutions proposed will achieve the objective the Government is seeking.

To download a pdf of the draft submission go to [www.tasman.govt.nz/link/lga](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/link/lga)

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03 528 1112



# Zero Waste Grants Open



**Do you have a great idea that could reduce waste? The Council's Zero Waste Grant Fund may be able to help you put it into practice.**

Zero Waste Grants are available for initiatives that promote waste minimisation and help to educate communities about the importance of reducing waste. Funding is available to schools, early childhood education centres and community groups throughout the Tasman District for projects and initiatives that reduce waste to landfill. The maximum amount that can be applied for is \$1000. This is a contestable fund.

The closing date for grant applications of \$1000 or less is Monday 17 September 2012.

You can download an application form from [www.wes.org.nz/zero-waste-grants](http://www.wes.org.nz/zero-waste-grants) or contact Karen Driver at Waste Education Services on Ph. 03 545 9176 ext 2 or via email at [karendriver@nec.org.nz](mailto:karendriver@nec.org.nz) for further information about the fund or for an application form.

# Queen Street to shine brighter

**Richmond's main street is about to be cast in a much better light, with 32 new poles and lamps delivering more efficient night-time illumination.**

Transportation Projects Engineer Steve Elkington says the improvements cover Queen Street from Gladstone Road to Salisbury Road, and involve new LED lighting technology. These lamps produce a brighter white light – as opposed to the yellow of sodium lamps – and consume less electricity.

New poles should all be in place by early August 2012, with the LED lamps to follow soon after. Steve says the result will be much-improved lighting in the main pedestrian area of town.

# Totaranui Road Open

**Over 70 people enjoyed a glorious winter's day to celebrate the reopening of the Totaranui Road late last month.**

The Totaranui Road is a "special purpose" road providing a vital route for holidaymakers to the iconic Totaranui camping ground managed by the Department of Conservation. Over 30,000 campers use the campsite every year.

The road was severely damaged during the December 2011 storm event and its closure had a flow on effect to the Golden Bay economy.

DoC Ranger Hugh Mytton and his wife Pam were ecstatic that their lifeline to the outside world was open again. Not only is the road open but in Hugh's words "it's in the best condition it's ever been". "We are so grateful to Skin Bruning and his team from Fulton Hogan, to the New Zealand Transport Agency who provided the all important funding and the Council who provided a lot of the ground work in getting the job underway" he said.

Representatives from Manawhenua ki Mohua, the Mayor, Councillors and the local community board joined DoC staff, Fulton Hogan, NZTA representatives and local landowners to celebrate the reopening.

# Ecofest 2012

**Now in its 12th year Ecofest, a joint initiative of Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council, continues to find new ways to inspire all of us to be a little bit more environmentally aware.**



The message is simple – by making just a few simple changes to our lifestyles we can all save ourselves some money, reduce our impact on the environment and improve our health and general wellbeing.

The theme for this year's event is "Getting there is half the fun" – active and sustainable transport. With the new cycle trails and linking tracks, car pooling, the N-Bus service, electric cars and bio-fuels, not to mention good old foot power, many people are thinking twice about the best way to commute each day or get the kids to school. This year's expo will explore all the opportunities available and also enable you to have a go on a wide range of transport options.

As always Ecofest is far more than just the two day Expo, which is being held at the Trafalgar Centre in Nelson on the 18 and 19 August 2012. It also incorporates a range of fun and educational activities and challenges that run across the region from 4 August until 13 August 2012. Check out issue 279 of Newsline for a full timetable.

Tasman District Council supports Ecofest as part of its commitment to environmental education and improving the health and wellbeing of the residents of Tasman.



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# Communityrecreation

## Highest response ever to Nelson Tasman Community Awards

**Locals have really got behind their volunteers with 134 entries received for the TrustPower Nelson Tasman Community Awards; the highest number received since the Awards started in 2000.**

The Awards, which recognise and reward volunteers for the outstanding contribution they make to the local community, are run in partnership with Tasman District and Nelson City Council.

TrustPower Community Relations Representative Teresa Partridge is over the moon at the number of voluntary groups entered for this year's Awards. She is excited that so many generous and hard working community groups will be celebrated at this year's Awards evening.

"We have received 134 entries for 126 voluntary groups and organisations. These entries represent thousands of volunteers who are contributing untold hours to the Tasman and Nelson communities every year. It is wonderful that we now have the opportunity to recognise and thank the work of these volunteers.

Through the TrustPower Community Awards we will honour these volunteers and their hard work. And a big 'thanks' must go to the people who entered these wonderful groups," says Teresa.

The entries for the Awards are currently being prepared for judging. The winners will be announced at a function on Monday 6 August 2012, to which all entered organisations will be invited.

## Changes to Mudcakes & Roses

The next issue of Mudcakes & Roses, Council's regular magazine for the active elderly, is out on 1 August 2012. As previously indicated there is now a small charge for our mail-out service where copies are delivered to individual households. It will still be widely available, and still free, in Council service centres and libraries, Richmond Mall, rest homes, doctors' waiting rooms etc. You can also read the magazine online through the Tasman District Council website, [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz) – which is accessible to friends and relatives in far-off places.

If none of those avenues suit, readers can continue to receive the magazine in their mailbox, six issues a year, for a small annual fee of \$10. Just contact Mike on Ph. 03 533 8403. Happy reading.

## Community Grants

**Grants from Rates closing date is 31 August 2012**

Tasman District Council allocates \$184,000 for grants to community organisations. These grants are made to organisations whose services and projects provide wide community benefit and wellbeing in the Tasman District.

### Categories

- Community and Economic Development Initiatives
- Arts/Culture/Heritage
- Festivals and Events
- Youth/Children
- Social Services
- Beautification Schemes
- Emergency Services
- Community Newsletters
- Community Development Fund (small communities)
- Museums

### Criteria

The grants provide assistance for:

- Administration costs (limited);
- One-off projects (not major capital projects);
- Development costs;
- Community newsletters;
- Local histories;
- Beautification schemes.

### The grants DO NOT provide for:

- Salaries, building or land purchase (and major capital projects);
- Sporting activities, activities which are the responsibility of other funders;
- Activities that are the responsibility of government agencies (education, health and employment).

### Application Forms

Application forms are available from Tasman District Council Service Centres and Libraries; and also online at [www.tasman.govt.nz/council/grants-funding](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/council/grants-funding)



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## Summary of Information

# Rates Remission Policy for Land Affected by Natural Disaster

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Council proposes to adopt a rates remission policy for residential land affected by natural disaster in order to provide rating relief for ratepayers unable to inhabit their dwellings or buildings as a result of natural disaster.
- 1.2 It is intended that rates relief for those affected by the December 2011 rainfall event will be determined by Council, on application, once this rates remission policy for land affected by natural disaster has been adopted.

## 2. Detail of the Proposal

- 2.1. This proposal aims to detail when rates relief would be provided in the event of natural disaster by adopting a new Rates Remission Policy.
- 2.2. The proposal is to allow the Council, in its discretion, to remit rates charged on any land used for residential purposes that has been detrimentally affected by natural disaster (such as erosion, subsidence, avulsion or earthquake) and is aimed at aiding those ratepayers most adversely affected.
- 2.3. The conditions and criteria of the policy include:
  - 1) The Council may remit any rate or user charge made and levied in respect of the land, if land is detrimentally affected by natural disaster (such as erosion, subsidence, avulsion or earthquake) and:
    - a) as a result dwellings or buildings previously habitable were made "uninhabitable\*"; and
    - b) the activity for which the land and/or buildings were used prior to the disaster is unable to be undertaken or continued.

*\*For the purposes of this policy 'uninhabitable' shall mean a building cannot be used for the purpose it was intended due to a 's124 notice' being issued under the Building Act 2004, and that the residents have been required to move out by the Council, and the property is not being lived in or otherwise occupied or used.*
  - 2) The remission may be for such period of time as the Council considers reasonable, commencing from the date upon which the Council determines that the dwelling, buildings, or land were made uninhabitable or unable to be used for the activity for which they were used prior to the disaster, which shall be no less than 30 days after the event which gives rise to an evacuation, up to and limited to the time that the land and / or buildings are deemed by Council to be able to become habitable or available for use.
  - 3) There may be circumstances where Council will not grant any rates remission even if a property is uninhabitable for a period of greater than 30 days, for example where a property had been built on land knowing that it was in a hazard prone location.
  - 4) In determining whether or not a property is uninhabitable and the period of time for which the rates remission is to apply Council may take into account:
    - a) the extent to which essential services such as water, or sewerage to any dwelling or building were interrupted and could not be supplied;
    - b) whether essential services such as water or sewerage to any dwelling or building are able to be provided; and
    - c) whether any part of the building or land remains habitable or available for use.
  - 5) Rates remissions will only be considered following the receipt of an application by the ratepayer and the application must be received within 6 months of the event, or within such further time as Council in its sole discretion might allow.
  - 6) Each natural disaster event will be considered for rates remissions on a case by case basis by Council.
  - 7) The extent of any remission shall be determined by the Council or its delegated officer[s].

## 3. Reason for Proposal

- 3.1 As a result of the December 2011 rainfall event, it has become evident that Council does not have a mechanism which permits it to remit rates to ratepayers unable to inhabit their dwellings or buildings as a result of natural disaster. In order to apply a principle of fairness by not charging for services that are not required while the dwellings or buildings are not able to be used or occupied as a result of natural disaster, the Council is proposing to adopt a rates remission policy.

## 4. Period for Submissions

- 4.1 Consultation on this proposal opens Monday 16 July 2012 and closes Friday 24 August 2012.
- 4.2 Submissions in response to this proposal can be made in writing, online at [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz), or at any Tasman District Council Library or Council offices.
- 4.3 Submitters who ask to speak to Council about the proposal will be invited to a public hearing planned at a time to be determined.

A full Statement of Proposal outlining details of the proposed Policy is available at [www.tasman.govt.nz/rates-remission](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/rates-remission) or at any Council Library or Service Centre.



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## Public Notices

### Vegetation Control – Roadside Spraying in Rural Areas Registration of Non-Spray Areas

Tasman District Council's roading maintenance contractor is responsible for vegetation control within the road reserve. This includes the use of knock-down, residual and brushweed herbicides to remove vegetation growing in the roadway and around street furniture. The contractor is also responsible for control of pest plants and other noxious weeds such as gorse, fennel, hemlock, blackberry, broom, bracken, purple pampas grass and box thorn. Residents can request that their rural property frontage not be chemically sprayed and instead undertake the vegetation control themselves.

On approval Council will mark the no spray area with red marker pegs.

Rural residents who choose the "no spray" option must control the vegetation growth along their property frontage to ensure road users are not impeded and all roadside signs and markers are clearly visible. Vegetation height should not exceed 300mm. Any stormwater drainage ditches need to be kept clear of excess vegetation. At intersections vegetation must be kept well clear to ensure good sight lines for traffic using the intersection.

If you wish to apply for your property to be added to the "No Spray" list, please contact Robyn Scherer, Engineering Secretary, Tasman District Council, Phone 03 543 8524 or email – [robyn.scherer@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:robyn.scherer@tasman.govt.nz)

### Roadside Spraying

Contractors employed by New Zealand Transport Agency undertake an ongoing vegetation control programme to ensure that roadside vegetation does not affect the safety or operation of the region's state highway network. This programme includes the spraying of chemical herbicides including the following active ingredients: Glyphosate, Metsulfuron, Terbutylazine and Triclopyr. Persons wishing to register their property as a 'no-spray' zone, which requires a commitment to maintain a property's highways frontage to specifications provided by NZTA, may do so by contacting Stephanie Lawlor or Donna Hills on 03 548 1099 at

Opus International Consultants,  
c/- Private Bag 36, Nelson.



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY  
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## Tenders

### Mapua Waterfront Park – Stage 3 Tender Civic Precinct Formation

Tasman District Council seeks tenders from experienced contractors to construct the Civic Precinct, the 3rd and final stage of the Waterfront Park development at Mapua. The park is on part of the remediated former Fruit Growers Chemical Company site between the Waimea Estuary, Aranui Road and Tahī Street.

The work involves the construction of two small structures, one incorporating a toilet block, concrete walkways plus ramps, seating and planting. Access to commence construction will be late August 2012 with completion December 2012.

Due to the nature of the site strict adherence to the site management plan will be a core requirement of the contract management for this project.

Tender documents will be available in electronic form from the project manager. Contractors interested in tendering for this project may request copies of the documentation by emailing the project manager at [donr@rdtpacific.co.nz](mailto:donr@rdtpacific.co.nz).

**Tenders close with Tasman District Council at 2.00 pm Wednesday 15 August 2012.**

## Community Notices

### Notice of Annual General Meeting – Mapua and Districts Community Association

Monday 13 August 2012 at 7.00 pm – Mapua Community Hall (supper room). Following the AGM, a public forum will be held as part of a general meeting of the association – everyone welcome!

### Notice of Annual General Meeting – Richmond Unlimited AGM

14 August 2012, 5.30 pm, Miles of Food, Queen Street, Richmond.

### Ecofest 2012 – Ecohome Tours

Tickets on sale NOW. Be quick! Tickets & Info available at all Council Service Centres. [www.ecofestneltontasman.co.nz](http://www.ecofestneltontasman.co.nz)

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## Public Notices

### Notification of Weight (and/or Speed) Limits On Bridge(s) Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974 Regulation 11

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to regulation 11(3) of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, the Tasman District Council has fixed the following maximum weight and speed limits for heavy motor vehicles and combinations including a heavy motor vehicle on the bridge(s) described hereunder:

Bridge Description		Weight Limits		
		Max Weight on any one Axle kg	Gross Weight (Max Sum of Axle Weight) kg	Maximum Speed Limit (km/h)
Sherry River Road	Granity Creek or Papa Bridge	N/A	N/A	10 km/hr
Tadmor - Glenhope Road	McConochies Bridge	N/A	N/A	10 km/hr
Rainy River Road	Swampy Creek Bridge	5,000 kg	19,000 kg	30 km/hr
Irvine Road	Wairoa River Bridge 2	5,000 kg	19,000 kg	30 km/hr
Aorere Valley Road	Walsh Stream Bridge	7,000 kg	8,000 kg	10 km/hr
Collingwood-Puponga Road	Aorere Bridge	N/A	N/A	30 km/hr
Packards Road	Packards Road Bridge	3,700 kg	N/A	N/A
Carter Road	Carter Bridge	7,600 kg	25,600 kg	10 km/hr
Riwaka Valley Left Branch Road	Riwaka Valley Left Branch Bridge	8,000 kg	N/A	N/A
Spring Creek Road	Spring Creek Bridge	5,000 kg	20,500 kg	10 km/hr
Kaka Limeworks Road	Jelineks Bridge	5,000 kg	15,200 kg	30 km/hr
Owen Valley East Road	Brewery Creek Bridge	N/A	22,800 kg	30 km/hr
Glengarry Road	Glengarry Bridge	N/A	25,200 kg	30 km/hr
Nuggety Creek Road	Buller River Bridge	5,000 kg	25,200 kg	10 km/hr
Peninsular Road	Peninsular Bridge	2,300 kg	3,500 kg	20 km/hr
Creighton Road	Ruskells Bridge	2,000 kg	8,500 kg	10km/hr
Lamb Valley Road	Hope Valley Bridge	N/A	30,000 kg	30km/hr
Andrews Road	Andrews Road Bridge	6,400kg	37,700kg	10 km/hr
Dovedale Road	Eden Valley Stream Bridge	N/A	27,500kg	N/A
Rose Road	Roses Bridge	N/A	32,400 kg	10 km/hr
Baigent Road	Baigents Bridge	5,200 kg	7,700 kg	10 km/hr
Polglaze Road	Polglaze Road Bridge	5,500 kg	11,500 kg	10 km/hr
Waitui Road	Rocky Creek Bridge 1	5,000 kg	N/A	10 km/hr
Parapara Valley Road	Parapara Stream Bridge	N/A	20,500 kg	N/A
Unnamed road off Awaroa Road		N/A	2,000 kg	N/A

Attention is drawn to the applicable infringement fees set out in Schedule 1 of the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999, which apply to infringements of these limits.

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to regulation 11(10) of the Heavy Motor Vehicle Regulations 1974, the Tasman District Council has removed restrictions from the bridge(s) described hereunder:

Bridge Description	
Awaroa Road	Awaroa Road Bridge 1

## Council Meetings

Agendas and Minutes for Council Meetings can be viewed on Council's website at [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz)

### Tasman Creative Communities Subcommittee

Motueka Office, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka, Monday 30 July 2012, 10.00 am. No public forum

### Environment and Planning Consents Subcommittee (K & J Charles)

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Monday 30 July 2012, 10.30 am. No public forum

### Environment and Planning Committee

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 9 August 2012, 9.30 am. Public forum

### Golden Bay Community Board

Golden Bay Office, 78 Commercial Street, Takaka, Tuesday 14 August 2012, 9.00 am. Public forum

### Motueka Community Board

Motueka Office, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka, Tuesday 14 August 2012, 4.00 pm. Public forum

### Corporate Services Committee

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 16 August 2012, 9.30 am. Public forum

## 24 Hour Assistance – Phone your local Service Centre

**Richmond** 03 543 8400  
**Murchison** 03 523 1013  
**Motueka** 03 528 2022  
**Takaka** 03 525 0020



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# If a disaster happened now, would you be ready?

Due to its location and environment, New Zealand faces many potential disasters. In some cases, such as a weather related or volcanic disaster, there may be time for a warning. But an earthquake or a tsunami close to land could strike without warning. All disasters have the potential to cause disruption, damage property and take lives. So it's vital that you prepare now.

## Get Ready to ShakeOut!

At 9.26am on Wednesday 26 September 2012 over 1 million people across New Zealand will be participating in a Drop, Cover and Hold earthquake drill. Participating is a great way for you to help your family, friends or work colleagues be better prepared to survive and recover quickly from a damaging earthquake.



It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Sign up now! – go to [www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz) (it only takes two minutes).
2. Spread the word (share with friends, family and workmates via word of mouth, Facebook, Twitter and email).
3. Do the Drop, Cover and Hold drill on 9:26-26:9.

For more information on how you can be better prepared go to [www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz)



## Cycle trail spans river

**The bridge to Brightwater is open for business, and Tasman's Great Taste Cycle Trail should be completed to both Wakefield, and round the Waimea Estuary to Mapua, by Christmas.**

Nelson Tasman Cycle Trails Trust, which builds the track under contract to the Tasman District Council, has just awarded the contract for an 80 metre swing bridge over the Appleby River – a twin for the Brightwater bridge over the Wairoa. Project manager Stuart Hughes says contractors and volunteers are working on paths and boardwalks around the Estuary, connecting with the trail crossing Rabbit Island to the cycle ferry.

On Sunday 8 July 2012, more than 200 cyclists attended the opening of the \$270,000 Brightwater bridge. Mayor Richard Kempthorne told the gathering that the cycle trail had strong local support, resulting in the Council's decision to return the \$4.2 million project to the long-term plan.

Work is under way on the Higgins Road path to Wakefield. Cyclists will eventually ride through the old Spooners rail tunnel to reach Kohatu and Tapawera, then travel up the Motueka Valley to Riwaka. Richard says a

Kohatu landowner recently gifted land for the trail.

On the Estuary leg, the new Waimea bridge should be open by November 2012, says Stuart. Heading for Motueka, several off-road sections of track are already in place. A bridge across the Riwaka River is being designed, completing the side link to the Kaiteriteri Mountain Bike Park.

The 175km Great Taste Trail is one of 18 'Great Ride' cycle trails which will all be linked by routes down quiet country roads, forming the national cycleway.

Tasman District Council will ultimately own the local trail, which is tipped to become a valuable tourism asset for the region. It has already spawned a number of new businesses set up to service those using the Trail.

**For more information about Tasman's Great Taste Cycle Trail, visit the Council website, [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz), and search under Recreation. The Nelson Tasman Cycle Trail Trust has an active page on Facebook.**



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