

Waitārere Beach Community Response Plan



Introduction

The Horowhenua District comprises 10,632 sq km of land. Horticulture and dairying are now the main forms of primary industry in the district, and secondary industries in Horowhenua include manufacturing (especially clothing manufacture) and food processing. Much of the area was once an extensive wetland and the centre of a substantial flax industry. It has been progressively drained and converted to productive but flood-prone farmland, with a mixture of loam and peat based soils. The District faces a wide range of natural hazards which have potentially significant effects. The floods of 2004 and extreme wind event of 2008 are a stark reminder of this.

In an emergency, civil defence co-ordinates a wide range of groups and agencies to:

- Help prevent loss of life.
- Help the injured and relieve distress.
- Help return the community to normal

Civil Defence is all about people helping people. It involves communities working together to take care of its needs in an emergency event.







If there is an emergency, everyone needs to be self-reliant and prepared to survive in their own homes for at least three days without assistance from emergency services.



Waitārere Beach



- 1 Surf club and car park 
- 2 Fire station 
- 3 Waitārere Domain
(Playground, tennis courts, basketball court, free BBQ, and Scout Hall) 
- 4 Local businesses
(Four Square, @ the beach cafe, Gifts at Waitārere)
- 5 Playgroup, community rooms and community garden
- 6 Club Waitārere
(Bowling club) 

- 7 Holmwood Park
- 8 Windsor St. beach entrance
- 9 Waitārere Beach Rd. beach entrance
- 10 Forest Rd. South Forest entrance  
- 11 Rua Ave South Forest entrance  
- 12 Waitārere Beach Rd. North Forest entrance  

- 13 Pipi Point Restaurant and Bar
- 14 Liquor Centre bottle store
- 15 Fish and Chips
- 16 Mairiri Place carpark and beach walkway entrance
- 17 Waitārere Beach Motor Camp
- 18 Hyderabad Holiday Park

Emergency Response

In the event of any emergency, the 111 emergency number is the first call that should be made.

For all other non-urgent emergencies please dial 105.

Do not be reluctant to dial 111 where a serious situation is emerging.

Call 111 in case of:

- Fire
- Medical problems
- Person/s in danger
- Risk to life or property

- If you're not sure whether the situation is an emergency call 111 and ask. The police will help you to work out what to do.
- If you're not sure what type of help you need, or if you believe more than one emergency service is required, you will be put through to the Police.
- Calls are received by an Emergency Communications centre in Wellington, Christchurch or Auckland. You will be asked a number of questions. It is important to remain calm and patient – emergency services will not have the advantage of local knowledge and require as much information as possible to accurately locate your position for the fastest possible response.
- If you are calling from a land line, your location will only be identifiable to the operator if you are a Spark customer and it is not a confidential number.
- If you are calling from a cell phone you must give the communications centre clear details of your location – the communications centre cannot identify where a call is coming from.

The operator will ask you the following questions:

- The exact address of the emergency situation
- Your name
- RAPID RURAL number
- Property name
- Property street number
- Nearest cross road reference
- Phone number you are calling from
- Any other information such as GPS coordinates (Latitude and Longitude), landmarks, geographical features and other information that may help emergency services to locate you.

Tip:

Try to use proper place names (don't assume local knowledge) and if you are on the move, give highway, bridge names or other geographical features as reference points.

Your local emergency network

In an emergency residents should always in the first instance dial 111 for help and then access their local networks.

Waitārere Beach Civil Defence Welfare Centre is situated at – Hydrabad Motor Camp, 22 Forest Road.

 06 368 4941.

There is Civil Defence VHF Radio capability at the Hydrabad Motor Camp where contact would be maintained with the Emergency Operations Centre at Horowhenua District Council in an emergency.

Organisation	Phone	Local Contact
Waitārere Volunteer Fire Brigade	(06) 368 0775	
Levin Police	(06) 366 0500	
Foxton Police	(06) 363 8084	
Foxton Fire Brigade	(06) 363 7171	
Manawatū Marine Boating Club	(06) 363 8386	
Coastguard (Manawatū)	(06) 363 8386	
Horowhenua District Council	(06) 366 0999	
Horowhenua District Council (Foxton Service Centre)	(06) 366 0999	
Horizons Regional Council	0508 800 800	
Foxton Sports Radio – Marine Channel 77		Duty Operator

How to stay informed

In an emergency, information and updates will be supplied to national radio stations throughout the course of the event including:

- Radio Live(93.8FM) The Breeze(98.6FM) More FM(104.5FM) Classic Hits(97.8FM)
- The Horowhenua District Council website www.horowhenua.govt.nz will also provide information in the event of a local emergency.

Useful websites

Highway information: www.nzta.govt.nz

Road information: www.aaroadwatch.co.nz

Weather information: www.metservice.co.nz

Earthquake information: www.geonet.co.nz

Civil defence information: www.getthru.govt.nz

Neighbourhood support: www.ns.org.nz

Foxton Tourist and Development Inc.: www.ftda.org.nz

Tip:

A battery powered or wind-up radio is essential during an emergency where power may be cut.

Ensure you have a supply of spare batteries.



What are Emergency Mobile Alerts?

Emergency Mobile Alerts are messages about emergencies sent by authorised emergency agencies to capable mobile phones. The alerts are designed to keep people safe and are broadcast to all capable phones from targeted cell towers.

The alerts can be targeted to areas affected by serious hazards and will only be sent when there is a serious threat to life, health, or property, and in some cases for test purposes.

If you get an alert, read the message and take it seriously. It will tell you what the emergency is and what to do. It will also tell you which agency sent the message and if needed, where to go for more information.

Fire Permits

A Prohibited Fire Season (total fire ban) is in place 365 days a year on Horowhenua beaches and foredunes. A Restricted Fire Season within the Horowhenua region can be put in place at any time by Fire & Emergency New Zealand.

This means;

- A permit is required before any fire may be lit in the open, this includes all rubbish fires and incinerators
- Burning plastic, rubber and chemicals are prohibited.

 To obtain a fire permit: Please contact the Rural Fire Officer Fire and Emergency New Zealand on www.checkitsalright.nz

An important part of being prepared is knowing your hazards, so you can plan ahead

Natural Hazards facing the Horowhenua District

- Storms generating heavy localised rainfall and high winds over sustained periods.
- Fire risk in summer is high with major forestry and popular beaches
- Earthquake, severe shaking can lead to liquefaction
- TsunamiivStorm surge from the sea.

Flooding

The main flooding hazard in Waitarere is generally from local stormwater and high groundwater table source.

If an earthquake
is **LONG** or
STRONG
GET GONE

Tsunami

Should you receive a tsunami warning - or

- Strong earthquake shaking (i.e. it is hard to stand up)
- Weak, rolling earthquake shaking of unusually long duration (i.e. a minute or more)
- Out of the ordinary sea behaviour, such as unusual and sudden sea level rise or fall
- The sea making loud and unusual noises, especially roaring like a jet engine

You should immediately move inland to higher ground.

Fire in Rural Areas

Although there are many benefits to living in the country, rural property owners face a higher risk of fire than city dwellers.

If a fire starts it may not be detected as quickly as possible and emergency services take longer to respond because of the greater travel distance.

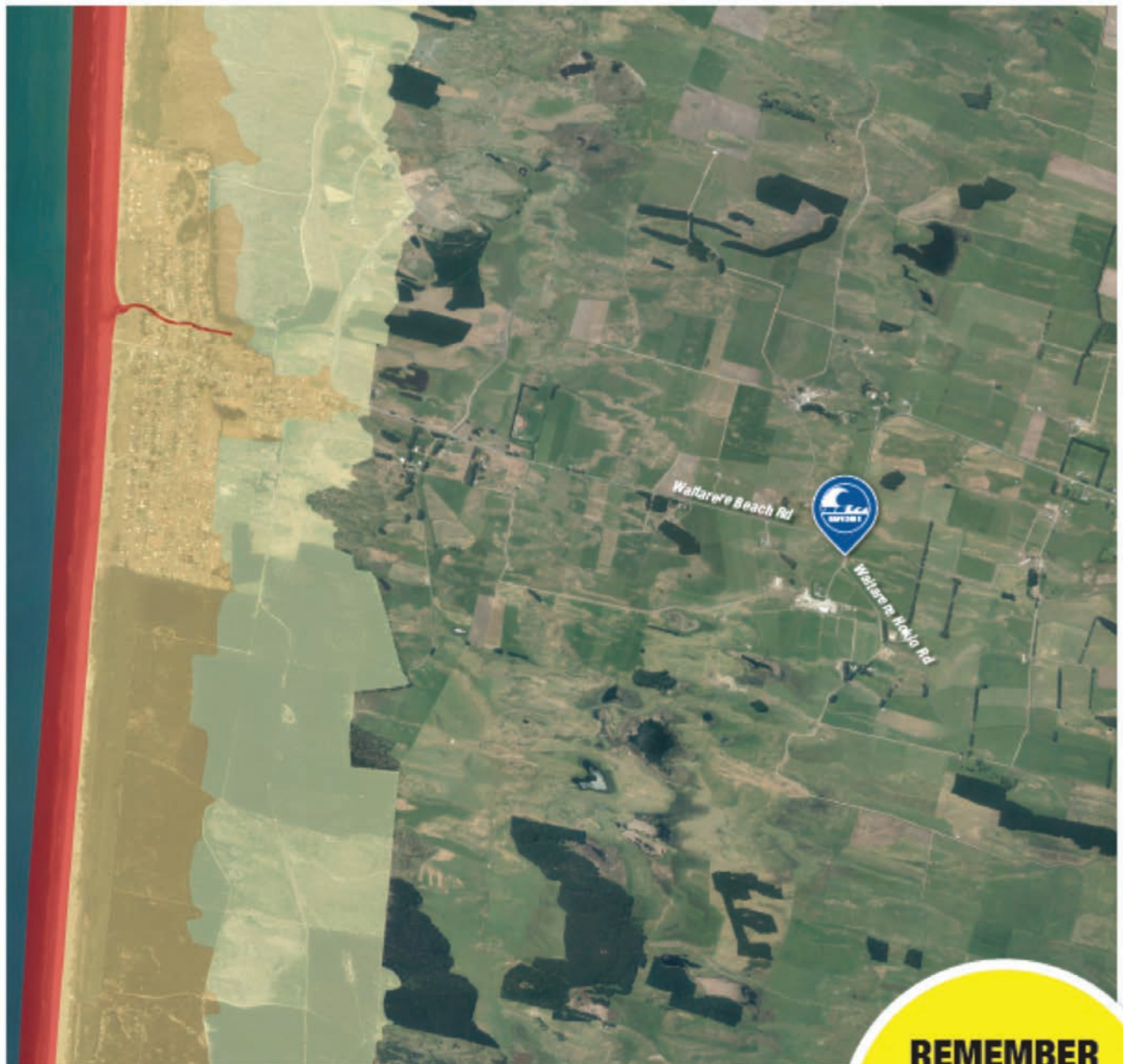
To protect your property from fire we recommend:




- Installing smoke alarms
- Preparing a Household Emergency Plan
- Keeping the grass green and mown or grazed around your home
- Creating a safety zone around your home of at least 10m by clearing any dead or dry material and replacing flammable plants and trees with low flammable species
- Making sure your property is clearly signposted with your RAPID rural property number
- Installing multipurpose dry powder extinguishers in your house and out buildings
- Keeping a garden hose connected and make sure it is long enough to reach around the house
- Storing firewood and other flammable material away from your house
- Safe handling and storage of gas or liquid fuels
- Disposing of ash safely in a metal container.



Waitārere Beach Tsunami and Minimum Safe Locations

- **Red area: Shoreline risk**
- **Orange area: 1:500 year Threat Level 3**
- **Yellow area 1:2500 year Threat Level 5**



	EVACUATION ZONE RED
	EVACUATION ZONE ORANGE
	EVACUATION ZONE YELLOW

IN A LONG OR STRONG EARTHQUAKE
(LONGER THAN A MINUTE OR HARD TO STAND UP)
IMMEDIATELY EVACUATE ALL ZONES

REMEMBER

New Zealand's entire coast is at risk of tsunami. The absence of tsunami signage does not mean an absence of tsunami risk

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 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.

While we have plans to manage the consequences of major emergencies, experience shows that most people will have to look after themselves and those they are with. We recommend being self-sufficient for at least three days.

The better prepared you are, the safer and more comfortable you and those you care for will be.

Emergency preparedness starts at home, have a plan, remember you and your loved ones could be anywhere when disaster strikes, at home, at work, at school, in the car, at the sports field. Get your family or household together and agree on a plan.

In your plan you will need to work out;

- Where to shelter in an earthquake, flood or storm
- How and where you will meet up during and after a disaster, remember you may be at work, your children may be at school
- The best place to store emergency survival items and know who is responsible for checking essential items
- Where each persons Getaway Kit will be and what will be in it
- How to turn off the water, gas and electricity in your home
- How to contact your local civil defence organisation for assistance during an emergency.



You can download your family plan from the website www.getthru.govt.nz



Important items to have on hand

Water

Three litres per person per day for drinking

Non perishable food

Canned or dried with a manual can opener

Essential medicines

Torch/es

With spare batteries or self charger

Radio

Either battery powered or self charge

Cellphone

Plug that can charge off a car battery via 12v or cigarette lighter socket(s)

First Aid Kit

Phone

Plug in phone that doesn't require power

Gas BBQ or primus with sufficient fuel

Toilet paper and large plastic bags for an emergency toilet

Pets

Remember your pets need emergency supplies too

Sufficient warm clothes and blankets or sleeping bags



Suggestions - from some Christchurch Residents

For your Civil Defence Survival Kit

- Know beforehand where to meet each other, and stay there.
- Check neighbours if you can - even if you think they will be okay.
- Always keep your car half full (at least) - queuing for petrol is not fun.

Consider adding these items to your kit:

- A wind-up torch/radio is superior by far to one with batteries (we would have been lost without this, as we had no power for a week).
- Water and water purification tablets (you really do use a lot of water).
- Antiseptic wet wipes (don't waste your water on washing dirty hands - and they do get dirty quickly).
- Antiseptic hand sanitiser.
- Medicines plus first aid (don't let your prescriptions run too low, as it can be quite a job to get more during the first week or so - plus keep some with you if you can).

- Photos of each family member plus pet(s) (and copies to give out).
- Food - try to put in things that don't require water added, or boiled in water
- Emergency sweets - barley sugar or chocolate (for shock).
- A means to cook - portable BBQ or Primus (plus matches/lighter).
- Makeshift toilet - bucket plus bag liner (what about making a planter-box with a hole cut in the bottom. Use with potted plants now, turn it over to use with a bucket in an emergency).
- A note for your door e.g.
22 February 2011
The Peterson family are okay
Bill Peterson 027 1122336
Sue Peterson 027 3344997
Frank and Tim
- Pack of cards or knucklebones or other small game to pass the time, especially if you are stuck in an emergency centre.

Recovery:

Recovery means the coordinated efforts and processes used to bring about the immediate, medium and long-term holistic regeneration and enhancement of a community following an emergency (CDEM Act 2002). Recovery encompasses the community and four environments: social, economic, natural and built environments.

Recovery should:

- Support the cultural, emotional and physical well-being of individuals and communities
- Minimise the escalation of the consequences of emergencies
- Reduce future exposure to hazards and their associate risks – i.e. build resilience
- Take opportunities to regenerate and enhance communities in ways that will meet future needs (across the social, economic, natural and built environments).

Communities lie at the core of recovery. Every recovery vision, outcome, relationship and activity should have the community at the core of its purpose.

At a recent Waitārere Beach Community meeting those present expressed an opinion on some of the things they would like to see being rebuilt as part of the recovery process for the community. These included:

- Community hall or community hub;
- Rebuild the 4 Square or something similar;
- Surf Club.

Following emergencies, the very fabric of society and the relationships within the affected communities depend on an effective and efficient process of recovery. Recovery is a complex social process and is best achieved when the affected community exercises a high degree of involvement in setting priorities for recovery.

In addition, recovery extends beyond just restoring physical assets or providing welfare services. Successful recovery recognises that both communities and individuals have a wide and variable range of recovery needs and that recovery is only successful where all are addressed in a coordinated way.

The Waitārere Community has identified the need for a community building to be built as part of the recovery phase so that they can come together on a regular basis as a community to support and assist each other after an emergency.

Recovery is a process that can last weeks or months but can also extend for years and possibly decades.

Organisations involved in recovery need to recognise the commitment that will be required to ensure adequate human and physical resources for recovery, as well as the resumption of business-as-usual services during medium and long-term recovery.



