



HDC NEWS



FRIDAY, 20 MARCH 2015

PUBLIC NOTICES

WATER RESTRICTIONS

From 16 February 2015 Notice to all residents of the Hauraki District

Unless the recent rainfall is followed up by further rain, river levels are expected to soon fall back to previous low levels. At present caution is called for, and it is still necessary to continue to restrict the use of water. This is in accordance with Council's Water Supply Management Plan relating to its consents to take water from rivers and streams.

For Waihi, Waikino, Mackaytown and Karangahake until further notice a ban remains in place on the use of lawn and garden sprinklers. Only hand held hoses may be used until the situation improves.

If you see water leaks or excessive usage or wastage of water in your area, please report this to Council.

Information regarding ways residents can conserve water can be found on the Hauraki District Council website at www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

Click on the  SmartWaterUse logo.

It may be necessary to increase the level of restriction if the dry weather period is extended. Your cooperation and efforts to conserve water now contribute to ensuring that water is available for essential and emergency needs.

For further inquiries please phone (07) 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the Hauraki District, no cell phones).

Ken Thompson
District Engineer
Hauraki District Council

LIQUOR BAN - EASTER

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Hauraki District Council Consolidated Bylaw that the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the bringing of liquor or of empty liquor containers and the possession of liquor or empty liquor containers in the public places identified below is hereby prohibited during the periods identified below.

LIQUOR BANS - WHIRITOA

All public places including roads, beaches and reserves are included in the prohibition for the Easter weekend Public Holiday.

Dates and Times – Whiritoa Liquor Ban
During the Easter weekend public holiday being from 4.00pm Thursday 2 April 2015 to 4.00am Tuesday 7 April 2015 inclusive.

LIQUOR BANS – PAEROA, NGATEA AND WAIHI

That the consumption and bringing into and possession of liquor in all public places including, roads and reserves are prohibited at all times within areas of the townships listed below:

- Waihi**
- Within the 50 kilometre speed limit areas of Waihi township, and
 - Within the 70 kilometre speed limit of Seddon Avenue, East from the Margaret Street/Toomey Street intersection to the 50 kph speed limit sign East of the Martin Road/Baber Street intersection.
- Paeroa and Ngatea**
- Within the 50 kilometre speed limit areas of the Paeroa and Ngatea townships.

PENALTIES: Any person who commits an offence against the prohibition may be convicted and fined up to \$20000.00.
POWERS OF POLICE: The Hauraki District Council Consolidated Bylaw authorises any member of the New Zealand Police to act under sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Act 2002, including the exercise of the power under section 170(2) to immediately and without further notice to search a container or vehicle.

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

Last days for pool season



By the end of February, our District swimming pools had recorded 37,318 admissions for the season – 4810 more than last summer.

Ngatea pool has been the most popular, not only during public sessions but for school users and swimming club members. Patronage has also been high in the Paeroa and Waihi pools with the prolonged hot weather being a key factor. We hope that people have enjoyed their pool experience, as the last day that the pools will be open to the general public is Sunday, 22 March.

We're continually striving to make our community pools an attractive, affordable, healthy and fun all-age asset. For instance, by providing giant inflatable toys at no extra charge, charging just \$1 admission during January, and running school holiday learn-to-swim programmes.

Most of our high-calibre friendly local lifeguards grew up using the pools themselves, and they love that their summer work is more than 'just a job'.

It's been especially satisfying for staff to see lots of families in the water together. As a service to the parents of babies and toddlers, we've offered 'Little Swimmers' pants for individual sale, and with good support for this initiative we've had no unplanned pool closures due to 'accidents'.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to a very successful summer for our aquatic facilities!

Keeping dog numbers leashed

How many dogs is too many?



In the Hauraki District, a maximum of two dogs aged three months or over may be kept on an urban property. Keeping more dogs than this in confined residential zones can cause issues for neighbours, such as barking, fouling, the disposal of excrement, and general nuisance factors.

The two dogs allowed is the total for the property, regardless of the person they belong to. So the maximum remains the same if there's more than one dog owner at your address, or you are looking after an animal for someone else.

However, dog owners can apply to the Council for a dispensation, provided their section is fenced in a dog-proof manner and has adequate kennel facilities, the dogs are registered with one owner, the dogs and owner have a good record with the Council, and neighbours give their signed consent.

Dog owners seeking a dispensation can download the application form and neighbours' consent form from the Council website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or request them at any of our offices. Approval is dependent on a property inspection, and an application fee applies. Where more than three dogs are registered, the registration cost for the fourth and subsequent animals is reduced.

The two-dog limit isn't applicable on rural properties – where farmers may need a team of working dogs and there's more space between neighbours. However anywhere in the District, dog breeding and kennel operations are subject to District Plan controls.

Take a hike!



The ECHO Walking Festival – Enjoy Connecting Hills and Oceans (ECHO) – is about more than getting active in the wonderful parks and reserves on our doorstep. It's the personal and social 'connecting' that makes the March 21 to April 12 event so special.

Now in its 12th year, the annual festival is organised by town promoters and Sport Waikato coordinators in Hauraki, the Western Bay of Plenty, Thames-Coromandel, Te Aroha and South Waikato. "Our focus is on a quality personal experience," says Sport Waikato District Coordinator Julie Stephenson. The walks are fully guided, which gives local knowledge of the route and its history and often an anecdotal dimension.

Sport 'n' Action Waihi Development Officer Pauline Davies, who has been a guide each year, looks forward to every festival. She enjoys meeting the diverse range of people who take part, and says the walks are social outings as well as exercise.

Some of them also give the guided groups an opportunity to cross land not normally accessible to the public, like the Hilltop Vista Farm Walk

above Waihi instigated by ex-Go Waihi coordinator and former District Councillor Colin Francis. It's one of three walks that Colin and his wife Sylvia will guide this year – a role they, too, have filled since the festival began.

"We've always been keen trampers, and after we moved to Waihi we explored every track we could find. The ECHO festival is a way of sharing our experience with others," says Colin. "We love helping people discover places they've never been before, all the time making new friends along the way. We've tried to develop new walks to keep the programme interesting."

Additions for 2015 include A Night in the Bush – Waitawheta style; and a stroll along the Hauraki Rail Trail combined with a pizza dinner. Other hikes take in archaeological finds, goldmining relics, glow worm caves, swimming holes, and the Big Black Hole on the Karangahake Trail Adventure.

There are excursions to suit all ages and fitness levels: graded from 1 (easy) to 5 (challenging), and not limited to walks. Among the 40 options are a Train & Trek that's perfect for families, scavenger hunting in a mountain bike park, stand-up paddleboarding, and geo-teering (geo-caching crossed with orienteering).

The Council is one of the festival's major supporters, and we encourage residents and visitors to take part! Most events cost just a gold coin donation unless transport is involved, but registration is essential.

For details visit www.echowalkfest.org.nz, or pick up a brochure from your town's information centre.

New Economic Development appointment shows Council getting it right

If new business enquiries were raindrops, Council's Economic Development Manager David Fielden may well have been forced to build an ark last year. Luckily, this year he has a new assistant to help keep his head above water.

For Mayor John Tregidga the new appointment is an indication that Council is getting things right.

"One of my commitments at the last election was to see more activity around economic development – particularly around job creation. Due to the amount of activity we are now creating, we've seen the need for a further appointment to support the Economic Development Manager," he says.

Joining the team in January this year, Paula Trubshaw moved to Waihi from Tauranga with her young family 15 years ago and still can't think of a nicer place to live. Her passion for the Hauraki District, coupled with previous experience in journalism,

small business, and local government communication make her the ideal person to help keep the positive momentum going.

Paeroa Ward Councillor and Council's Economic Development Committee Chairperson Toby Adams, credits Council's proactive approach to business for the increased activity.

"We've worked hard to create a business friendly Council that promotes ready-to-go opportunities throughout the District and this has resulted in an increased number of enquiries about a diverse range of projects and sites, including the building of an ice cream factory in Kerepehi by Chinese investors," he says.

The District's reputation as a great place to live and do business is undoubtedly growing, along with interest in the Hauraki Rail Trail. Adding value to the Trail by encouraging new business initiatives alongside and around it is an area Paula is taking a particular interest in.

Mayor Tregidga says the Hauraki Rail Trail is unique to our District and could showcase the region even more.

"It attracts thousands of cyclists and walkers every month, many who are looking for places to stay and eat. On top of that we know they are looking for experiences along the Trail – whether that means adventure activities like abseiling or kayaking, or interacting with local artisans and craftspeople. The bones are there. If we can add more value to the Trail and flesh it out with great experiences that reflect the character and uniqueness of our District, our visitors will keep coming back."

Thinking about starting a new business or expanding an existing business in the District?

Contact:
Economic Development Manager
David Fielden 021 921 914
or
Economic Development Support Officer
Paula Trubshaw 021 190 5878