# COMMUNITY PANUI UPDATE



**5 DECEMBER 2024** 

# Let's Talk About

# WATER USAGE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

With the likelihood of a hot dry summer ahead and high levels of usage already – it's time to talk about how much water we are using.

At the moment Kawerau only has one drinking water source. This is due to the higher manganese levels in Te Wai o Marukaa Spring (Pumphouse Spring) that caused the discolouration of water in 2023.

We are also getting close to the maximum water take levels in our current resource consent.

During the first few weeks of warmer weather, the district's total water usage jumped up from 2,600 cubic metres per day that we used in winter to a whopping 13,000 cubic metres per day.

Like all other large users of water in the rohe (such as industry who have separate resource consents to take water from the Tarawera River), Council's current resource consent has a limit of 14,000 cubic metres per day. However, the new water take resource consent that Council is currently applying for, has a lower limit of 12,000 m3/day. In addition, the drinking water system has limitations on the amount that can be pumped from the source, processed and supplied to the community.



With these limitations and the current water usage levels, it is now time for a call to the community to please conserve water.

Council has the responsibility to also preserve this precious resource and encourage water reduction.

Therefore, Council will be implementing measures to reduce our overall usage and use water wisely, for example, we will only water sports fields if they become a fire hazard later in summer.

## Ways we can all reduce our water usage:

- Use only use handheld hoses for watering lawns and gardens
- Reduce the use of sprinklers, and only use for short periods in the cooler morning or evening
- Checking your tank, taps, hoses etc. for leaks and drips
- Reserving toilet flushing where possible

- Reducing shower time/frequency
- Turning off the tap when brushing your teeth and shaving
- Limiting use of appliances such as dishwasher, washing machine
- Not using town supply for stock
- Limiting washing of boats and vehicles





# **Proposed** Freedom Camping **Bylaw**



Kawerau District Council encourages responsible freedom camping in the Kawerau District.

Council recently reviewed the current Freedom Camping Bylaw (which was due for review) and asked for feedback.

Thank you to everyone who responded, as your feedback prompted changes, particularly to how we assessed the reserves for their suitability for freedom camping. We are now asking for formal submissions, prior to introducing the proposed bylaw.

For more information, please visit our website kaweraudc.govt.nz

Have your say! Submissions close at 5pm on 20 December 2024.

# Summer fire hazard watch

Along with checking your smoke alarms regularly, it is a good idea for your household to have an escape route plan in the event of a fire. Knowing how to get out not only of your house, but also out of your area if there is a wildfire safely is crucial.

Emergency services will always try to alert you to an approaching wildfire. But there may not be time to issue an official warning. That is why it is important to be aware of what is happening in your area. Particularly if you see or smell smoke on a hot or windy day because fire can move very quickly.

For more advice on how to prepare and protect your property, and how to reduce the risk of wildfire, check out the Ged Ready website:

Wildfires | Get Ready — Emergency preparedness in New Zealand

































# Property Revaluations FAO'S

#### What is a rating value?

A rating value is what is used by Council to set rates on properties. The value is set by independent valuers and is a "snapshot in time" reflecting the value on a particular date.

The date for this revaluation is 1 August 2024.

# If the value of my property goes down will my rates go down for the 2025/26 year

If all properties in the district go down (or up) by the same percentage then there will be no change in the rates charged apart from any increase that Council makes for the year to cover increased operating costs.

If a property's value goes down by more than the average decrease for the district, then the rates for that property are likely to go down, but this is only if there is no increase in the amount of rates Council requires.

#### What if I disagree with valuation for my property

If you disagree with the valuation of your property then you can make an objection to Quotable Value who completed the valuation for Council, stating why you think the value should be higher or lower.

#### You can object by:

- Lodge objections online at www.ratingvalues.co.nz
- Contact QV by phone on 0800 787 284, or emailing contact@qv.co.nz

For any further information, please contact **QV on 0800 787 284.** 

# Library Summer Reading Programme

#### **DECEMBER TIMETABLE**

# Monday 2 December

Launch Day! Come in and pick up your booklets

## Monday 9 December

Lego Club 3:30pm - 4:30pm

## Wednesday 11 December

Decorate Stars 3:30pm - 4:30pm

## Friday 13 December

Cut, colour and paste! 3:30pm - 4:30pm

## Wednesday 18 December

Christmas Wreath 3:30pm - 4:30pm

#### Thursday 19 December

Shell Santa 3:30pm - 4:30pm

#### Monday 23 December

Christmas Cards 10:00am - 11:30am

# Bay of Plenty Housing Equity Fund agreement

At the Council Meeting on 27 November, Council agreed to sign a heads of agreement with the Bay of Plenty Housing Equity Fund who wish to invest in the Stoneham Park residential development. The Bay of Plenty Housing Equity Fund is a pioneering initiative to tackle the region's shortage of affordable housing (www.bophef.nz). The investors in the fund are Bay Trust, Trust Horizon, Tauranga City Council, Rotorua Trust, TECT and New Zealand Green Investment Finance. The BOP Housing Equity Fund are looking to build affordable rental housing with one, two and three bedroom homes that would be rented for longterm periods to provide residents with much needed security of tenure.

#### Important dates and meetings

#### Friday 6 December, 5:00pm

Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Closed for Private Hire

#### Saturday 7 December, 2:30pm

Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Closed for Private Hire

### Sunday 8 December 11:00am – 3:00pm

Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Closed for Private Hire

\* Please note increased helicopter activity also at this time

#### Wednesday 11 December, 9:00am

Regulatory and Services Meeting

#### Saturday 14 December

Christmas in the Park

11am New World Kawerau Santa Parade 12noon – 5pm

Radio 1XX Community Show

6:30pm – 10pm Evening Show and Fireworks (if permitted)

#### Wednesday 18 December, 9:00am

**Ordinary Council Meeting** 

#### Friday 20 December, 5:00pm

Submissions close for the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw

#### Tuesday 24 December, 12 noon

ALL Council Services close

#### **Tuesday 24 December**

Objection period closes for revaluation objections to be lodged with Quotable Value (QV)

#### Monday 3 February – Friday 28 February

Creative Communities Scheme Round
Two - Open for Applications



# **Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Kawerau** Kawerau District Council



# Christmas and New Year 2024-2025 closures



# KAWERAU DISTRICT OFFICE and AA Services

CLOSED 12 noon Tuesday 24 December 2024

CLOSED AA New Zealand Services closed 11am Tuesday 24 December 2024

RE-OPEN 8am Monday 6 January 2025

# TRANSFER STATION

CHANGE OF HOURS

8am – 12 noon Tuesday 24 December 2024

CLOSED Wednesday 25 December 2024, Christmas Day

OPEN all other days during the holiday period



# KERBSIDE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS - IMPORTANT CHANGES!

NOTE: Collections scheduled for Wednesday 25 December (Christmas Day) will be serviced on Saturday 28 December

NOTE: Collections scheduled for Wednesday 1 January (New Year's Day) will be serviced on Saturday 4 January

Usual Wednesday's kerbside collections resume the following week.

Other Kerbside collections on Mondays and Tuesdays will be collected as usual.

#### **DISTRICT LIBRARY**

CLOSED 12 noon Tuesday 24 December 2024 RE-OPEN 10am Monday 6 January 2025

> Please note, the District Library is closing for the holiday period. Please, plan ahead and make sure you get all the

books you've been wanting to read over the holiday period, before 12 noon on Tuesday 24 December.

#### **MAURIE KJAR AQUATIC CENTRE**

OPEN Tuesday 24 December 2024 8am – 12 noon

CLOSED Christmas Day (no private hires)

Usual hours resume 26 December 2024 Monday to Sunday 8am – 6pm

#### **KAWERAU ISITE**

OPEN Tuesday 24 December 2024 9am - 12 noon

**CLOSED Christmas Day** 

OPEN 26 December 2024 9am - 1pm

OPEN 27 December 2024 9am - 4pm

OPEN 28 and 29 December 2024 9am - 1pm

OPEN 30 December 2024 9am - 4pm

OPEN 31 December 2024 9am - 1pm

OPEN 1 and 2 January 2025 9am - 1pm

OPEN 3 January 2025 9am - 4pm

OPEN 4 and 5 January 2025 9am – 1pm

# For urgent assistance outside of Council opening hours please contact us 24/7 on 07 306 9009

- Select 1 for Noise and Animal Issues
- Select 2 for Duty Supervisor (water, refuse, trees etc.)

#### Report an issue

Contact Council to lodge a request for a service for a non-urgent issue or service



via the **Kaweraudc.govt.nz** website

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