THE 4Rs MARLBOROUGH

Marlborough Emergency Management GROUP

NEWS SUMMER 2019
ISSUE 2

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WELCOME TO THE PICTON WAIKAWA TEAM!

A big welcome to our new civil defence volunteers from Picton and Waikawa.

This is a fabulous group of local people, who have come together to support their communities to be better prepared to respond to an emergency. The group really reflects the terrific range of skills and knowledge that we have in our communities and adds significant value to local readiness for emergencies.

If you're interested in becoming part of this team, contact:

Jane Waite on janewaitemidwife@gmail.com

On the move

While we're talking about Picton and Waikawa, it's worth noting that the civil defence centre currently at Queen Charlotte College is moving to the Endeavour Park Pavilion.

Big thanks to Queen Charlotte College for your support over the past years, and thank you to Vanessa Evans and the Board members for making us welcome.

The Pavilion offers a great space for all the things we need to do in an emergency; it's easily accessed, has plenty of parking and outdoor space for animals if necessary. It also adds considerable value to the other facilities we can use as civil defence centres.

We don't need to open a civil defence centre for all emergencies, but it's great to have the right facilities there if they are needed. We have three sites that can be used as civil defence centres in Picton and Waikawa. They are; Holy Trinity Church, Waikawa Marae and the Endeavour Park Pavilion. In an emergency, listen to your radio and we'll tell you if a civil defence centre is open.

WE WANT YOU!

When we have an emergency, there's a whole bunch of people who work behind the scenes to gather and assess information and make the response happen as smoothly as possible.

That group is the Incident Management Team, working in the Emergency Operations Centre in Wither Road. If you have skills in analysing information, planning or organising, or you're a whizz on VHF radio, there's room for you to join us.

You will get regular training, support and plenty of challenges to keep you thinking on your feet!

If you're interested, get in touch with Catherine:

catherine.coates@marlborough.govt.nz

0275 731 996

or Gary:

gary.spence@marlborough.govt.nz

021 220 4612

Where can I listen?

Find out more about the radio stations you can listen to in an emergency, at

www.marlborough.govt.nz/civil-defence-emergency-management/an-emergency-how-well-inform-you

First response

You might have seen recent news media on the Alpine Fault and the Hikurangi Subduction zone, both of which could have a major impact on Marlborough.

TOGETHER in TOUGH TIMES

If we have a large scale emergency you may see emergency services vehicles driving through our streets, not necessarily stopping at each house. Here at Marlborough Civil Defence, we've divided the region into sectors and will be checking each sector as quickly as we can.

So, while you might not have someone in a uniform knocking at your door, we will be out and about getting a quick overview of the damage around us, and using that information to prioritise our response.

Remember, you might be the first person to knock at someone's door in an emergency, because preparedness and response is about all of us working together. This could involve Police, Fire, the Marlborough Emergency Response Team and volunteers from civil defence sector groups.

Myth

The Marlborough Sounds won't be affected by a tsunami, as the force of the water will be broken up by the bays and islands throughout the Sounds.

Busted

Not true! A lot of water moving into a confined space (such as the Marlborough Sounds) will gain speed and go higher.

Ask us!

Do we have tsunami warning sirens in Marlborough?

No! In the event of a local earthquake, we encourage people to follow the 'long or strong, get gone' message, rather than waiting to be told what to do.

If you live in a tsunami inundation zone, make an evacuation plan

You can find out more about inundation zones by using the smart maps we have provided here: https://maps.marlborough.govt.nz/smartmaps

Feel free to ask questions!

Just email us at **Catherine.Coates@marlborough.govt.nz** and we'll publish your question and our response in the next edition of the newsletter.

neighbours day AOTEAROA
Time to Celebrate Neighbours
March 22 - 31 2019

With our focus on the importance of neighbours in emergencies, it's time to think about Neighbours Day Aotearoa, coming up from 22-31 March.

Take a look at the Neighbours Day website on

www.neighboursday.org.nz

for some great ideas about how you can become involved and build a stronger community.

FIRE, FIRE, FIRE

As we are seeing with our neighbours in Nelson, a major fire is an emergency that affects people, their animals and their livelihoods. All of Marlborough is subject to a total fire ban, with a diversion in place on part of the Queen Charlotte track and access to the Wither Hills Farm Park is restricted. Whether you live in a rural or urban environment, own your own home or are renting, take a look at the Fire and Emergency New Zealand website for some has some really useful information about reducing your fire risk.

https://fireandemergency.nz | http://www.checkitsalright.nz