



# Rubbish bags on borrowed time

Wheelie bins are coming which means from 1 July 2024 Council rubbish bags will no longer be collected from the kerbside in Marlborough.

Rubbish bags are on “borrowed time”, Council’s Solid Waste Manager Mark Lucas says. “Replacing rubbish bags with the new wheelie bin kerbside collection service will save more than 750,000 rubbish bags from going to landfill every year and the wheelie bins have a larger capacity than the existing bags,” Mark said.

Council has a limited supply of rubbish bags left and will sell them until supplies are exhausted. Most supermarkets in the region have already stopped selling them.

“People can use up their supply of rubbish bags but from 1 July these will not be collected from the kerbside. Council will continue to accept them at transfer stations, the Waste Sorting Centre, or the Resource Recovery Centre, but that option will be removed as demand diminishes,” Mark said. You can redeem your rubbish bag voucher at Council’s Blenheim or Picton Service Centres or get a rebate until 30 June this year. While stocks last, rubbish bags are

available to buy from Council’s Blenheim or Picton Service Centre either individually (\$1.85), in packs of 10 (\$18.50) or packs of 52 (\$96.00).

The new and expanded kerbside collection service covers Blenheim, Grovetown, Havelock, Picton, Rarangi, Rai Valley, Renwick, Seddon, Spring Creek and Tua Marina with household waste collected one week and recycling the next. Two wheelie bins will be delivered to each household from March (ready for the kerbside service starting 1 July), one for household waste and one for recycling, except glass, which will go into the maroon crate currently used for recycling. Residents in new areas covered by the service will also be delivered a maroon crate.



Let's get it sorted for future generations - an expanded kerbside collection is coming with wheelie bins rolling out

For more information on collection areas and days go to Council’s Smart Maps page: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/kerbside>

If you have questions about the new system go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/Kerbside-FAQs> or Ph: 03 520 7400 or email [mdc@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:mdc@marlborough.govt.nz)

# Every drop of water counts



Saving water at home may feel like it’s just a drop in a bucket but at this time of year every little bit helps.

Regardless of where you are or what water supply you use, saving water is good for everyone and there are lots of ways you can make a difference. Council has put together some top water saving tips – you can find more on our website. Go to [www.marlborough.govt.nz](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz)

[www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/utilities/water-supplies/water-saving-tips](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/utilities/water-supplies/water-saving-tips)

### In the garden

- Remove the catcher from your mower and let the cut grass act as a mulch on the lawn
- Start a compost heap with lawn clippings, leaves, garden

rubbish and food scraps; the mulch created can save up to 73% of the water lost by evaporation

- Maintain good shelter around your garden - strong winds dry out the soil
- Water your garden in the cool of the morning or late evening, on the appropriate irrigation day when your plants get maximum benefit from the water you give them
- Adjust sprinkler heads to avoid water being wasted on pavements, drives and patios

### Around the home

- Check taps for leaks
- Use a glass of water to rinse when brushing your teeth

- Take shorter showers
- Keep a jug of cold water in the fridge - this prevents wastage when running the tap
- Use your washing machine and dishwasher once a day with a full load and select the water saving option
- Keep covers on pools and spas when not being used - this reduces evaporation and chemical costs

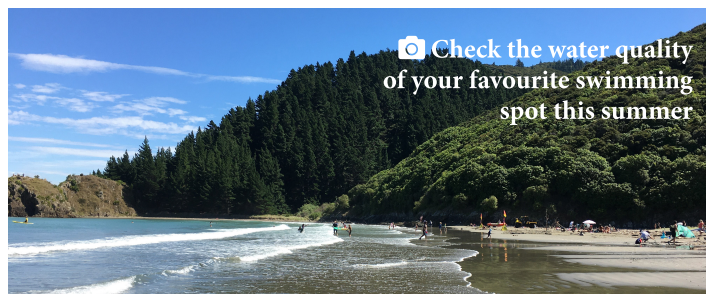
Did you know if you brush your teeth twice a day for 3 minutes and leave the tap running while you're brushing, you'd use around 5 litres per minute. That's 10,950 litres per year! Remember, every drop counts.

# Remember, rainfall affects water quality

Marlborough’s long, hot summer has meant lots of visits to the beach and rivers for locals.

In summer the risk of catching a bug from swimming is usually low. However, after heavy rain, contamination can occur through runoff into waterways. Swimming after rainfall or in discoloured water increases your chance of catching an infection. As a rule of thumb, don't swim for at

least 24 hours after a weather event if the water looks dirty or murky, smells or has scum on its surface. Even if water appears clear it is important to avoid swimming after rain due to the lack of visual clues indicating a health risk. It's easy to check the water quality of your favourite spot



Check the water quality of your favourite swimming spot this summer

before you head out because Council’s recreational bathing monitoring programme includes weekly samples collected from 17 sites across Marlborough.

You can check the latest results for Marlborough’s favourite swimming spots on the Land

and Water Aotearoa website: [www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/swimming/](http://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/swimming/) Testing continues until March. You can also find information at: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/swimming-and-boating/swimming-locations](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/swimming-and-boating/swimming-locations)

# Summer maintenance works underway

Drivers travelling on SH1 in southern Marlborough can expect to see road crews carrying out maintenance over the coming weeks, with work underway in Seddon until 15 March.

Over the next four weeks, crews will do drainage, kerb and channel works, road resurfacing, and line marking along the state highway corridor. This work will be carried out during the day, between 7 am and 6 pm, under stop/go traffic management. Road users can expect traffic delays of up to 10 minutes and must factor this into their travel plans. No works are planned to be carried out in the evenings or at weekends, but reduced temporary speed limits through the site will remain in place. Drivers must obey these speed limits at all times.

Contractors must carry out this work now when the weather is warm and dry to ensure the new road surface bonds properly. Resurfacing work cannot be done effectively during wet and cold winter conditions.

NZ Transport Agency/Waka Kotahi thanks residents and road users for their patience and understanding while this work is completed. Regular state highway maintenance is essential and helps prevent costlier and more disruptive repairs.