

connect



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 26 APRIL 2019

FEES AND CHARGES – HAVE YOUR SAY!

It's that time of year when we want your feedback on our proposed fees and charges for the next financial year. Every year we review what we charge for the services we deliver. The way we set our fees and charges is guided by our revenue and financing policy which sets out the amount of rates funding required for each activity and how much money we need to collect from those directly receiving the benefit in fees or charges. We are required to consult with our community on fees

and charges for our regulatory services, water supplies, trade waste and solid waste and parks and reserves, but we are also seeking feedback on some other proposed changes, including small increases to the entry charges for our pools. A full list of our proposed fees and charges are available on our website. You can have your say until May 10 online, by calling into your nearest council office or by posting your submission to Fees and Charges Consultation, Taupō District Council, Private Bag 2005, Taupō 3352.

ARE YOU A DOG OWNER?

Last year we removed the 'rural dog other' category from our animal management fees and that resulted in an increase in registration fees for those affected from \$30 to \$95. Following concerns about the size of the increase, the fee was reduced to \$65. We also broadened the working dog category to include all dogs used for a working purpose like breeders and pest control. This year we are proposing to increase working dog registration fees from \$30 to \$32. We are also proposing to broaden the Responsible Owner criteria to enable more rural dog owners to apply for 'Responsible Owner' status which qualifies for the reduced fee of \$65. For those who do not already hold that status, there would be a one-off application fee of \$32 to cover administration costs and, if necessary, a property inspection fee. The intention is that more rural dog owners with non-working dogs can have access to a reduced registration fee, and that "good" dog owners, whether in the urban or rural environment, will pay less going forward.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO START COMPOSTING!

We still have two opportunities for you to join a composting workshop! The aim of these workshops is to educate on how to make more effective use of waste in your own backyard. Composting is an inexpensive and natural way to deal with waste, helping reduce greenhouse gas production and decreasing landfill deposits. When we throw away green waste, such as food scraps or lawn clippings, it all ends up in our landfill, so we want to minimise this and you can help! We have two dates left this year, with workshops in both Turangi and Taupō. The Taupō workshop will take place at the Taupō Community Gardens and in Turangi it will be at the Awhi Farm Centre. Bookings are on a 'first in, first served' basis, so book now to avoid disappointment! Register for the workshops at taupo.govt.nz/composting or call 07 376 0899. All workshop attendees go in the draw to win a composter!

WORKSHOP DATES



- Saturday 27 April**
Taupo Community Gardens, 1.30pm
Awhi Farm Centre, Turangi, 1.30pm
- Saturday 25 May**
Taupo Community Gardens, 1.30pm
Awhi Farm Centre, Turangi, 1.30pm



TIME TO SLOW DOWN ON THE HILL

A new speed limit will come into force at the northern corridor into town on May 1 – the last change to be implemented following the introduction of our Speed Limits Bylaw 2018. The section of Wairakei Drive known as Control Gates Hill will be reduced to 50km/h from 100m north of Norman Smith Street to 500m north of Huka Falls Road on May 1. Up until this date it remains at 80km/h. All of our other speed changes were implemented on December 1, but this particular section of road was delayed to coincide with the roadworks that will soon be underway in the northern corridor area.



OTUMUHEKE COMES UP TRUMPS

We've been awarded the Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM) Minister of Local Government's Award for innovation in council and community relations. The Otumuheke restoration development and restoration project was judged to be the best collaborative effort and use of local resources. The beautification project involved a wide range of people across both Taupō District Council and Waikato Regional Council. Other organisations and partners from across our district were pivotal to the successful outcome, with Patuiki Māori Reserve Trust, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Department of Conservation, Taupō Police and local building contractors all putting in lots of hard work! Funding for the upgrade came from us and the government's Regional Mid-Sized Tourism Facilities Grant Fund, with The Craters of the Moon Trust contributing to the new bridge. Landscape architect Fraser Scott was happy to receive the award following the huge effort from everyone added up to a fantastic finished product we can all enjoy. "It really is a wonderful drawcard for our district and something we can all be proud of," he said. "As far as beautification projects goes – this is a great example of a community wanting to look after the place we love and, in this case, improve and preserve the Otumuheke area." Some final finishing touches were added earlier this year in February when local artist Gary Bennett painted a mural on the changing facilities, adding to the new seating, bridge, café area, viewing platform and planting.



» WHAT'S ON?

- Apr 27 Taupō composting workshop, Taupō Community Gardens
- Apr 27 Turangi composting workshop, Awhi Farm Centre
- Until Apr 28 Taupō Red Bike Treasure Hunt, i-SITE
- Until Apr 28 Turangi Blue Duck Treasure Trail, i-SITE
- May 1 Adam McGrath – Ragged Ramble Tour, Taupō Museum
- Until May 13 Colour my Autumn, Taupō Museum
- Until May 20 Our Garden of Earthly Delights, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

