

SMOKE FREE TAUPŌ



Taupō is now a smoke and vape free district, under the new Taupō District Council Smokefree Action Plan.

The plan supports the Government's goal for New Zealand to become a smokefree country by 2025 and covers public places across the district, including the lakefront, that will now be smoke and vape free.

"Encouraging our community to be smoke and vape free helps support the health and wellbeing of our families and whanau," said councillor John Williamson who holds the environment portfolio alongside councillor John Mack.

"We know the lakefront is an important part of who we are here in Taupō and we really wanted to ensure this was included in the plan and it will also mean we are looking after our lake by reducing litter and butts," he said.

"By creating these smoke and vape free environments across our district we are setting the best example for our children and de-normalising smoking. Evidence shows that doing this reduces the likelihood of smoking later in life," added Councillor John Mack.

"We're also encouraging any cafes with outdoor dining to come on board and encourage their diners to be smoke and vape free too," he said.

The areas across the district that are smoke and vape free are:

- CBD / civic spaces
- Reserves and parks, including lakefront reserves and beaches
- Sports grounds
- Outdoor dining
- Events on council property, and funded or supported by council
- Council buildings
- Bus stops and shelters
- Social housing

There will be signage in place where areas are smoke and vape free and while not a by-law, the plan aims to use education and awareness to reduce smoking and vaping.



PICTURED: L-R Environmental Ranger Shannon Hanson, Councillor John Mack, Councillor John Williamson with the signage that is about to be put in place across the district.



FIVE OF THE BEST FOR SUMMER CONCERT

ANOTHER AUCKLAND anniversary weekend means another Summer Concert for Taupō, as thousands of concert-goers hit town to enjoy this year's line-up of artists from yesteryear.

Council is again delighted to partner with the team at Greenstone Entertainment and join them in celebrating the 10th anniversary of the tour.

Events manager Steve Giles is looking forward to the upcoming festivities.

"The Summer Concert is a highlight on our calendar each year, and looking to the line-up we have this year, its looking bigger and better than ever," he said.

It's a musical smorgasbord with something for everyone as Smash Mouth hit the stage to start the action at noon, paving the way for Creedance Clearwater Revisited. Things will change direction as Anastacia will belt out her hits before veteran rockers George Thorogood and the Destroyers delve into their catalogue of hits. Just when you think that's the end of it all, the lip-curling sneer of Billy Idol will finish the event with a set forged from his numerous platinum albums.

The larger than life line-up is in line with celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the tour and 9th concert for Taupo, something not lost on the team of organisers.

CEO of Greenstone Entertainment, Amanda Calvert comments "We're really excited to be hosting the Taupō Summer Concert for the 9th year in a row. Taupō is our home town, and we're proud to play our part in showcasing this amazing region to the thousands of concert goers who travel to the show from right across the country each year, and also to our international artists and guests who'll often want to come back after experiencing what a beautiful town, region and country we're spoilt to live in."

We're expecting a busy weekend on our roads. You may want to consider alternative roads to get into town including Centennial Drive, Broadlands Road, Napier Road or Wharewaka by the airport, as we are expecting delays with motorists coming into town from across the bridge – although these delays will be shorter than normal with the installation of new traffic lights there.

Thanks for your patience and enjoy the long weekend!

ROAD CLOSURE

SUMMER CONCERT

Redoubt Street – from Tongariro Street to Story Place will be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic from noon on Friday January 24 to 9pm on Saturday January 25, 2020.

WHAT'S ON?

Jan 24	Pre-Party Taupo 2020 – Automatic 80's, Taupō Events Centre
Jan 25	Taupō Summer Concert, Riverside Park and Unison Amphitheatre
Jan 25-26	Thunder on the Great Lake, Lake Taupō
Jan 27	Auckland Anniversary Day, Taupō District
Jan 29	Tattletale Saints Album Release Tour, Taupō Museum
Jan 30	Council Meeting – Public Forum Council Chambers, Taupō
Until Feb 17	Ko Taupō Te Moana, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.lovetapu.com



GREAT LAKE WALKWAY WORKS UNDERWAY

ATTENDING THE SITE BLESSING: L-R Council Chief Executive Gareth Green; Kaumātua Te Reowhakakotahi Wall of Waipāhīhī Marae; Mayor David Trewavas; Waipāhīhī C75 Trust Chairman John Rameka; Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board staff member Tredegar Hall; Councillor John Williamson; Council landscape architect Fraser Scott; Waipāhīhī C75 Trust Trustee Ruruhira Rameka.

EARLY JANUARY SAW a blessing to mark the beginning of the Great Lake Walkway upgrade.

Members of the local hapū joined kaumātua, local business owners, residents and other stakeholders for the blessing which kicked off the project to revitalise and widen the path, in addition to some erosion control, and planting out areas adjacent to the walkway too.

The upgraded section will be from the water treatment plant on Lake Terrace, opposite Rifle Range Road, to Kowhai Road at Rainbow

Point with work to be completed in stages along the walkway.

Taupō District Council landscape architect Fraser Scott said he is excited about the advantages of the improvements.

"We have multiple users on the path, and it will be great to see it widened and made safer for everyone, regardless of whether they're walking with a pram, riding a bike or out with the dog," he said.

"Not only will we see a more user-friendly experience for visitors and locals, we'll be

able to accommodate the increasing and changing use of our lakefront and enhance the cultural importance of the area."

Those thoughts were echoed by Taupō District mayor David Trewavas

"What an iconic site and walkway this is going to be, next to our beautiful Lake Taupo," he said.

"A joint venture between so many people, it's a collaboration of excellence."

The project is expected to be complete mid-year.