

Media Release



19 December 2012

Taupō District fire hydrants to be tested

Comprehensive flow testing will be carried out on urban fire hydrants throughout Taupō District during the summer to ensure adequacy of water supply for firefighting.

The testing will involve inspection of fire hydrants and testing for volume and pressure of the water mains in accordance with the New Zealand Fire Service Firefighting Water Supplies Code of Practice. The work is part of Taupō District Council's asset management strategy planning to ensure water supplies are adequate for fire-fighting.

Council's Infrastructure Manager, Denis Lewis, says: "We need to test the volume and pressure of our water mains and ensure our fire hydrants are up to code and able to cope in an emergency. If the testing identifies any areas that need improvement we will include this in our asset management planning and address it accordingly."

Testing will take about five to ten minutes for each hydrant. Some households may experience a slight drop in water pressure during the testing, but pressure will return to normal quickly. Testing will take place during early morning and in the late afternoon or early evening.

There are about 2,000 fire hydrants currently documented in Taupō District, and Council will update the records as the testing proceeds. Council staff plan to test over 100 hydrants throughout the District from December 2012 till January 2013.

END

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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