Media Release

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

1 October 2014

Restricted fire season begins

A fire permit will be needed by anyone wanting to light an open fire in a rural area in the Taupō District from today as the restricted fire season gets underway. October 1 signals the end of the open fire season.

Taupo District Council's principal rural fire officer Phil Parker said as the weather became warmer, long periods without rain could be expected. "Dry conditions can cause open fires to quickly escalate and get out of control," he said.

The fire permit system makes the council's rural fire officers aware of any open fires in rural areas in the district so they can be monitored. "This keeps our communities safe and protects our environment," Mr Parker said.

Members of the community who want to apply for a fire permit need to submit their application to council 48 hours before they are planning their fire to ensure their permit is processed in time. Forms to apply for a fire permit can be obtained from council offices on Lake Terrace, in Turangi and Mangakino or by contacting the council on 07 376 0899.

All applicants must sign the permit before it is issued.

The restricted fire season is expected to continue through summer until at least April 30. This may be extended if conditions remain dry.

END

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
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