



Stay water safe

The warm weather has arrived and with it comes responsibility around our rivers and lakes.

Summer is a great time to get out and enjoy water around the Taupō District but it's important to remember this comes with risks. Sadly, in recent years we have had people drown in the Waikato River and we want to minimise the risk of this happening again by being smart around water.

Last year we put up signs in two dangerous spots along the Waikato River to warn people against swimming in these areas.

The signs stand on the riverbanks at Riverside and Spa Thermal parks, two spots are notorious for strong currents and undertows, deep cold water and submerged rocks.

We want people to use safer areas for swimming. If you're unsure about the safety of a river or swimming spot, it is best to find somewhere else to cool off. Let's enjoy a safe summer season!



Merry Christmas

Christmas is nearly here and with it I know there will be plenty of good vibes and celebrations.

This is the time of year to reconnect with those you love, spend time doing things you enjoy and take some time out to relax. I hope you are all able to do that in our district this festive season.



For those after activities and things to do, our district never disappoints in the summer time. We have dozens of events to watch and take part in, a myriad of water-based and outdoor activities, and a bustling town centre to occupy those partial to a bit of shopping. I can't think of anywhere better to spend the festive season, and I think we are very lucky to live here.

I welcome all the visitors we have to our district at this time, and implore you to explore and experience all it has to offer. You'll find plenty to do on www.GreatLakeTaupo.com and I encourage you to go online to find something that takes your fancy.

Please take care these holidays and look after each other. I wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor David Trewavas • dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz



Remember the liquor ban

We want you to have fun this New Year period, but it's important to make sure you're aware of the rules before you head out.

Taupō town centre has a year-round liquor ban that is extended to 24/7 over the New Year period. It runs from noon on 27 December to 7am on 4 January. Popular camping spot Reid's Farm on Huka Falls Road is also a liquor ban area during this period.

The town centre ban stretches out to Kaimanawa Street in the east, north to Tamamutu Street, out to Ruapehu Street and to the Harbourmaster's office. The whole lakefront between these points is included. The ban also applies to a number of our reserves.

We are working with police to monitor liquor ban areas closely as the holiday season gets underway.

For detailed maps and more information go to www.taupo.govt.nz/liquorban

Handy holiday information

Office hours

Our offices will close at 1pm on Christmas Eve and not reopen until Tuesday, 29 December. Offices will be open from 9am-3pm from December 29-31 but closed from January 1-4. Normal opening hours resume on Tuesday, January 5. Our after hours service will be available when offices are closed – 0800 ASK TDC (0800 275 832).

Rubbish and recycling services

There will be no collection on Christmas Day. If your rubbish and recycling would normally be collected on this day, it will be collected the Thursday before, Christmas Eve. For those whose normal rubbish day is Thursday, your collection will take place as normal. There will be no change to New Year's Day collections.

Remember to have your rubbish and recycling kerbside by 7.30am on the day of collection.

Landfills and transfer stations will be open throughout the holiday period except for Christmas Day.

Visit www.taupo.govt.nz/holidayinfo for more information about rubbish collection and opening hours.

What's on

- 24 Dec Omori/Kuratau Carols by the Park, Community Hall
- 28 Dec-1 Jan Waterslide Mania, Riverside Park, Taupō
- 29 Dec Taupō Rodeo, corner Broadlands Road and Centennial Drive
- 30 Dec Interislander Summer Festival, Taupō Racing Club
- 30 Dec Reggae by the River, Riverside Park
- 31 Dec Omori New Year's Eve Concert, Omori Estate
- 31 Dec Taupō New Year's Eve Celebrations & Fireworks, Taupō lakefront

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com

Remember to consider your neighbours

We know it's a celebratory time of year, but it's important to consider your neighbours when it comes to noise this festive season!

We get quite a few noise complaints at this time of year, so we are encouraging people to keep the noise at a reasonable level after dark. We have many young families and residents who enjoy peace and quiet who will appreciate it!

Be aware that noise complaints don't just relate to loud music – people talking outside at night can prompt complaints too.

If you're planning a party, let your neighbours know early. This can help prevent noise complaints on the day – it works out for everyone!



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

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz

