



PLASTIC-FREE JULY A SUCCESS



Following a huge amount of effort and planning, Plastic-Free July has been deemed a success.

With plenty of education workshops and other initiatives in the mix, we reached approximately 450 children through schools, Youthtown, and holiday programmes. This was a combination of plastic education, games, litter pick-ups and beeswax wrap workshops.

It wasn't all about the younger generation though, as we hosted three spin-the-wheel giveaways throughout the district, one each in Turangi, Mangakino, and Taupō, where we gave away around 300 plastic-free items, including reusable shopping bags and bamboo toothbrushes. Towncentre Taupō donated items and some local businesses donated gift vouchers. Craft lovers were catered to, enjoying the opportunity to partner with Boomerang Bags in a bag-making sewing bee which proved very popular.

Another 60 or so people attended a free workshop Council hosted to learn about plastic-free alternatives you can use in your home. Everyone got to make and take home their own beeswax food wrap, which is a natural, biodegradable food wrap option used instead of cling wrap.

One easy way to kick-start change is to make a plastic-free pack by filling a reusable shopping bag or kete with alternatives such as Tupperware containers, cutlery, reusable drink bottles, produce bags, or a stainless steel straw if you have one. Keep these handy when you're out and about so you won't find yourself caught needing plastic.

Thanks to everyone who came together to make our events happen and raise awareness, and remember that reducing your plastic footprint can happen year-round, not just July!

CHECK CLEAN DRY

Rock snot, didymo and algae are terms we need to be constantly aware of with the lakes and waterways in our district constantly exposed to the threat of these freshwater pests.

If you've ever entered a swim or triathlon here, you would have had your wetsuit 'dipped' before the event or you may be a boat or jetski user and seen the Check Clean Dry signs about. This is all an effort to prevent these pests taking hold in our

lakes and rivers. Whenever you move between waterways you must check, clean and dry all your gear that comes into contact with water, regardless of the location.

Using these cleaning tips is a practical way to look after the place we love and keep our waterways enjoyable for many years to come.

For more information go to mpi.govt.nz/checkcleandry

CLEANING OPTIONS

OPTION	AMOUNT	TREATMENT TIME ²
Dishwashing detergent or nappy cleaner	5% solution (500mls diluted to 10 litres in water)	Soak or spray all surfaces for at least one minute
Bleach	2% solution (200mls diluted to 10 litres in water)	Soak or spray all surfaces for at least one minute
Hot water ¹	Above 60°C Above 45°C	Soak for at least 1 minute Soak for at least 20 minutes
Freezing		Until solid

¹ 60°C – hotter than most tap water; 45°C – uncomfortable to touch

² Allow longer times for absorbent items.

FEEDBACK IS JUST A TAP AWAY WITH ANTENNO!



By now you will all know about Antenno.

Over 800 individuals have now downloaded the app, with users getting updates on road closures, recycling and events amongst other things.

The application was previously a one-way communication model, which was great to get messages out from Council, but wasn't ideal for you to let us know your thoughts.

Antenno now has improved functionality in that users can generate a 'report', which makes it easy to submit feedback or communicate issues such as graffiti, full public rubbish bins, damaged footpaths, road potholes, or to submit any other idea to Council.

Remember to sign up if you haven't already, it is available for both Apple and Android devices.

» WHAT'S ON?

- Aug 15 The Merchant Wine, Craft Beer and Food Expo
Great Lake Centre
- Aug 16 The Royal New Zealand Navy Band,
Great Lake Centre

For more information visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com