Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPO DISTRICT COUNCIL 14 MAY 2020



AS A RESULT of the government's move to Alert Level 2, the majority of Taupō District Council's community facilities will be progressively reopening, with restrictions in place.

From today, Thursday 14 May:

- Turangi Turtle Pools
- All playgrounds
 - All public toilets with running water
- SuperLoo
- **Great Lakes Centre**

From tomorrow, Friday 15 May:

- AC Baths (new opening hours Mon Fri 6am 7pm. Sat - Sun 7am - 7pm)
- **Events Centre**
- Fitness Studio (new opening hours Mon Fri 6am -8.45pm. Sat - Sun 7am - 7pm). No classes.

From next Monday 18 May:

- Turangi, Taupō and Mangakino Customer Service Centres (reduced hours open 10am - 3pm)
- Taupō, Turangi and Mangakino libraries
- Taupō Museum

Further details on these facilities and what restrictions will apply when you visit at Alert Level 2 - including physical distancing, contact tracing and limit on numbers - can be found at taupo.govt.nz.

The following facilities remain closed at Alert Level 2 due to the lack of contact tracing and physical distancing:

- Rockwall
- Three council-managed freedom camping areas at Hipapatua/Reid's Farm, Whakamaru Domain, Mangakino



A 'STATE OF THE DISTRICT' report is now being developed to clearly identify the effects of COVID-19 across the Taupō District.

The report is the first step towards developing a wider recovery plan that will provide clear direction for restoring and reimagining the Taupō District.

Taupō District mayor David Trewavas said the effect on the district from COVID-19 was likely to be long lasting and far-reaching and the need for a collaborative approach to recovery was imperative.

"As a tourist destination, we know that we are going to be one of the most affected areas in the country and it is going to be a long road ahead for our economy to bounce back. That has wide-spread effects across our community – not just in terms of our businesses but also in terms of the wellbeing of our people," he said.

"We need to ensure that we understand what those effects are and how to address them. The best way to do that is to ensure a local, sector-led response that has the ability and insight to identify opportunities for our district, that can then be supported at a regional and national level.

Once the report is finalised, the next steps will include a series of stakeholder engagement activities to ensure we are hearing from as many people as possible, including wider ideas and voices to feed into the wider recovery plan.

"We know there are people hurting from this and it is up to us as a community to take the lead in developing what our new normal will be," said Mr Trewavas.



LANDFILL AND TRANSFER STATIONS NOW ACCEPTING RECYCLING

ALL OF OUR landfill and transfer stations across the district are now accepting recycling. This signals a return to normal service levels at these facilities.

Please be mindful that physical distancing remain in place at Alert Level 2, and we are still continuing to accept eftpos payments only.

At Omori, while we are now accepting recycling, we are still only accepting prepaid rubbish bags as we cannot accept cash payments for larger rubbish loads.

We are working to address this and ensure eftpos is available at this transfer station as soon as possible.



A FRIENDLY REMINDER that the latest rates instalment is due on 20 May. There are heaps of ways to pay including over the phone, on-line at taupo.govt.nz, through internet banking or with direct debits, automatic payments or other instalments.

Give us a call on 07 376 0899 if you need any guidance we're here to help. And remember, if you have any concerns about being able to pay due to your financial situation, please get in touch to discuss your options.











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Mayor Deputy Christine Rankin





















