



News letter

April 2015

This issue

- Emergency survival items
- Mt Taranaki Volcanic Unrest Response Plan
- NZ ShakeOut 2015
- Community Emergency Planning
- Cyclone Pam

Check your emergency survival items

The recent end to daylight saving is a good reminder to check your emergency survival items and getaway kit.

Emergency Survival Items

- ✓ Torch
- ✓ Radio
- ✓ Spare batteries
- ✓ Food for at least three days
- ✓ Emergency water
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Pet food
- ✓ BBQ or camping cooker
- ✓ Face and dust masks



GET READY NOW...

Make sure you have:

- ▶ Household emergency plan
- ▶ Emergency survival items
- ▶ Getaway Kit

Preparedness tip:

To store water safely you can fill up your water containers until they overflow, so no air gets trapped, add one drop of standard household bleach per litre of water, screw the lid on tightly and store away from direct sunlight. This will ensure that bacteria does not grow in the containers. Do not drink the water for at least ten minutes, and the water will be safe and clean for up to twelve months.



Each person will need nine litres of safe drinking water for three days supply



Civil Defence Emergency Management
24 hours - 0800 900 049

www.trc.govt.nz/civil-defence/

twitter.com/taranakiCD

www.facebook.com/TaranakiCivilDefence

During work hours

New Plymouth District callers **06 758 1110**

South Taranaki & Stratford districts **0800 900 049**

or you can email: emo@trc.govt.nz

Mt Taranaki Volcanic Unrest Response Plan



The Mt Taranaki Volcanic Unrest Response Plan was adopted by the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group on 3 March 2015. The new plan replaces the Taranaki CDEM's previous Volcanic Strategy and Regional Volcanic Contingency Plan 2010. It is primarily for Civil Defence use in the lead-up to, and during a volcanic event, but it also provides guidance and advice to operational staff from a range of agencies that may not have detailed knowledge of volcanic hazards and effects. Since forming 130,000 years ago, Mt Taranaki has had moderate to large eruptions on average every 500 years, with smaller eruptions occurring about 90 years apart. There are no

indications that Mt Taranaki is about to erupt, however its unbroken geological history of activity tells us that it will in the future.

A 2009 forecast based on the best available eruption dates at the time indicated that there was up to 52% chance of an explosive eruption over

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the next 50 years (a 1.6% chance in any one year). With new dating of past eruptions, the most recent research estimates the chance of an eruption has increased to about 3% in any one year, or up to an 81% probability of at least one eruption in the next 50 years.

Mt Taranaki volcano is well monitored by the GeoNet project, and quiescent volcanoes like Taranaki almost always demonstrate unrest before an eruption starts, with warning periods likely to range between days and months.

Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency

Management's consistent message to the regional community has always been that an eruption of Mt Taranaki is a matter of when, not if.

The validity and importance of the message is further underscored by updated scientific estimates suggesting volcanic unrest is more likely within the coming decades than previously thought.

The latest estimates help Civil Defence in its forward planning. Just as importantly, the information should also encourage Taranaki people to prepare for an eruption or any other large-scale emergency by following the 'Get Ready, Get Thru' advice on household emergency plans, emergency survival items and getaway kits. Detailed advice can be found at www.getthru.govt.nz.

Brian Jeffares

Chair, Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.



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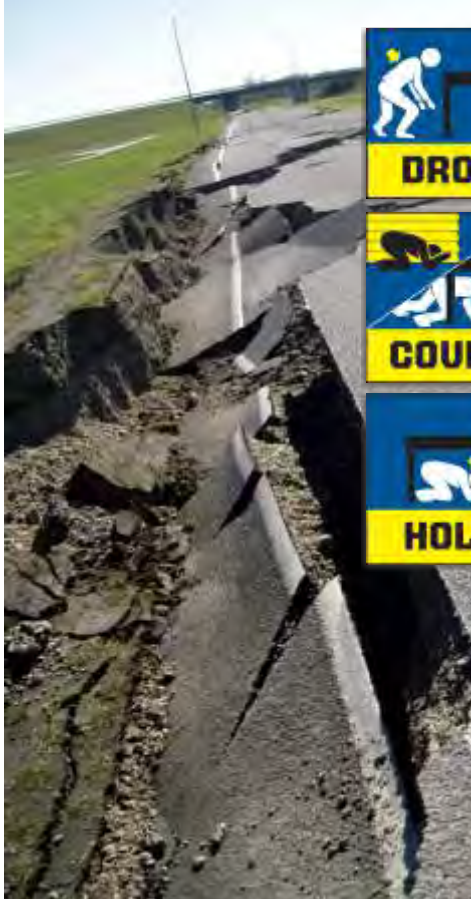
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New Zealand ShakeOut™

2015



9.15am Thursday 15 October



New Zealand ShakeOut is a national earthquake preparedness campaign, led by the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management. It is supported by Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups across the country, as well as Government departments, emergency and lifeline services, and many other organisations. In 2012, 1.3 million people took part in New Zealand ShakeOut. This year the aim is for 1.5 million people to take part. The 2015 campaign will involve social media, radio, print and, closer to the day of the drill, television

advertising, with the aim of ensuring New Zealanders know what to do before, during, and after an earthquake.

On January 6th 2015, a magnitude 6.0 earthquake hit 30km west of Arthur's Pass, at a depth of five kilometres. More than 30 aftershocks were recorded by Geonet after the quake and seventeen claims for damage were lodged with the Earthquake Commission (EQC) as a result of the earthquakes. KiwiRail suspended all services in the area, including the TranzAlpine train from Christchurch to Greymouth and all freight services, while tracks were checked. This resulted in losses for many West Coast businesses who rely heavily on the custom of tourists riding the TranzAlpine train.

From 28 April 2015, organisations will be able to sign up for New Zealand ShakeOut 2015 on the website: www.shakeout.govt.nz.



Community Emergency Plan update

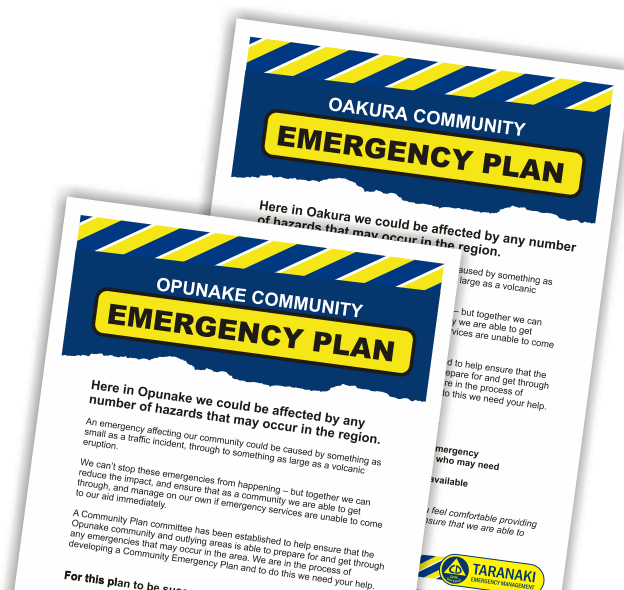
Opunake

A public meeting scheduled was recently held in Opunake for interested people to establish a Community Emergency Plan for the area.

For more information contact ben.ingram@trc.govt.nz.

Both **Inglewood** and **Waverley** Emergency Planning Committees will put their plans to the test mid-2015. The Inglewood Committee will also hold an open day to promote the committee and the change in location of the Civil Defence Centre from Inglewood High School to TET Stadium in the coming months.

After a successful tabletop exercise late 2014, **Oakura** will be meeting again later this year to put the plan to the test again.



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu
NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL
newplymouthnz.com





Cyclone Pam

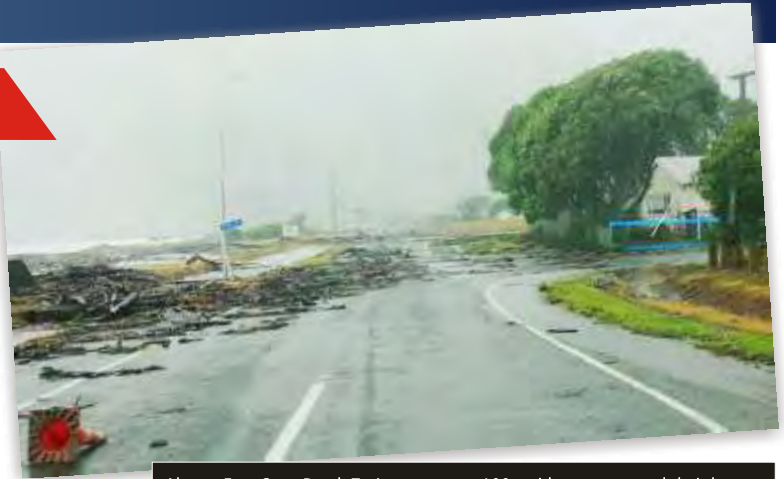
On Friday March 13th 2015 Cyclone Pam directly hit the Republic of Vanuatu, including the capital city of Port Vila.

The United Nations reported 24 people confirmed dead and 3,300 were displaced.

At the height of its strength, Cyclone Pam produced winds as high as 300 km per hour, making it a category 5 cyclone, as it approached the islands. Water levels peaked at about 60 centimetres above normal tide levels and the Vanuatu National Disaster Management office issued a red alert for the entire island chain. Keeping in mind storm surge impact is also heavily dependent on the size, as well as the intensity of a tropical cyclone, Category 5 wind impacts are likely to include:

- Some complete building failures.
- Small utility buildings blown over or away.
- Severe and extensive window and door damage.
- Complete destruction of mobile homes.
- Trees and signs blown down.

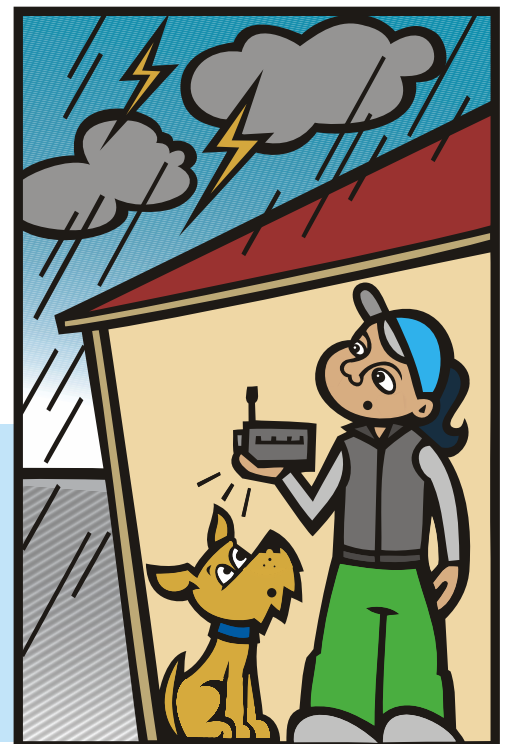
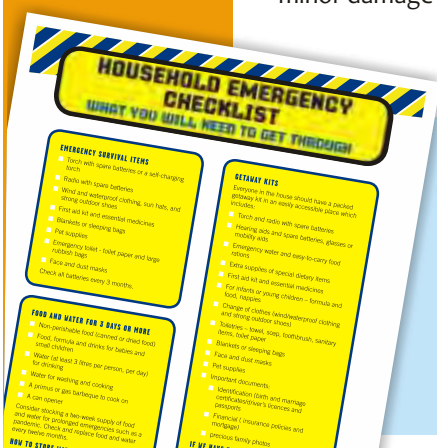
Cyclone Pam weakened significantly as it headed towards New Zealand. It brought some heavy rain but little destruction. Gisborne Civil Defence evacuated more than 100 people in the northern part of Gisborne district on Monday and more were ready to go as a precaution against the rising sea, flooding and slips overnight. Heavy rain fell across the region and strong offshore winds created nine-metre high waves, but only very minor damage was reported.



Above: East Cape Road, Te Araroa – over 100 residents evacuated their homes at Te Araroa, Waima (Tokomaru Bay) and Anaura Bay on March 15th, as rain, high winds and large swells affected the district.
Below: large downed trees found at Tuahu Road, Tolaga Bay. [Images courtesy of Gisborne District Council.]



These severe weather events serve as a timely reminder of the importance of personal preparedness, and having enough food, water and essential supplies for three days or more.



Are you prepared for an emergency? Visit
www.getthru.govt.nz

**GET READY
GET THRU**

