



News letter

December 2014

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GET READY NOW...

Make sure you have:

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



Compliments of the season

It's that time of year already!

We here at Taranaki Civil Defence and Emergency Management hope you have had a great 2014.

We look forward to 2015 and the challenges and successes the year will bring. Some highlights over the last few months include the filming of the Whanau Resilience Project, a table-top exercise with the Oakura Community Emergency Planning Committee (OCEP), and the relocation of a Civil Defence Centre thanks to the Inglewood Community Emergency Planning Committee (ICEP) and TET Stadium.



Integrated training framework update

There has been another introduction to the Emergency Operations Centre course run in partnership with New Plymouth District Council. We are also involved with reviewing the intermediate course that is scheduled to be released in early 2015, and possibly piloted in Taranaki.

Civil Defence Emergency Management
24 hours - 0800 900 049

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

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During work hours

New Plymouth District callers **06 758 1110**

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

Community Emergency Planning



Above: a tornado swarm in July 2007 left this beachfront Oakura home without its entire top storey and seriously damaged 73 others in the Taranaki region. Left: image courtesy of www.fema.gov (USA)

We have had a few successes in the last few months with the Community Emergency Planning process. In November we ran a table-top exercise with the Oakura Community Emergency Planning Committee to put their plan into action. The “event” was a small tornado hitting the township, causing minimal damage, but disruptions to power and road access. The committee performed very well and we are confident the process and relationships formed will

be sound in an emergency.

The Inglewood Committee have also made some steady progress. They have looked at the effectiveness of Inglewood High School as the Civil Defence Centre and Inglewood, and initiated the change of the centre to TET Stadium, which is situated at 1 Elliot St, Inglewood. The stadium is equipped with commercial kitchen facilities, function room, and St. Johns medical room. The Inglewood Committee are now working towards

funding for a generator and water tank at the site. We also look forward to the Inglewood Christmas parade on Saturday 13 December 2014, where we will have a Civil Defence stand. Feel free to come and say hello between 10am and 1pm.

The Committee in Waverley has also been busy delivering skills and resources flyers to the local community and plan to meet again in the New Year.



Some interesting facts about Earthquakes...

A magnitude 9 quake releases enough energy to boil 10,000 litres of water for every person on earth!

NZ's largest earthquake on record is the magnitude 8.2 Wairarapa earthquake in 1855. Where the movement was greatest, the land shifted horizontally more than 18 metres along the fault, and part of the adjacent Rimutaka Range rose more than 6 metres.

Emergency Operations Centre upgrade

In November/December the Emergency Operations Centre underwent some upgrades. We have had a false floor installed. The installation of this floor ensures that we have access to better technology, which will allow us to operate at a higher level. We do understand that technology is not 100% reliable in an emergency, hence we have a back-up generator for power, and access to satellite phone and internet connections.



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Whanau Resilience Projects



Earlier in 2014, with the support of the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management's Resilience Fund, Taranaki CDEM partnered with Te Puni Kokiri and iStudios to conduct some research and focus groups to establish the effectiveness of our key messages among the Maori community.

The results of these focus groups steered our Whanau Resilience Project that was filmed by iStudios in November with TV personality Pio Terei, and is currently being edited before being released in early 2015. The finished product includes three 40 second advertisements promoting our key

preparedness messages in a slightly different manner. We are excited about the product, and will be releasing it via social media in early 2015, watch this space ...

The last few months have also seen some great progress made with the Puniho Pa Emergency Plan. The Puniho Pa in Okato are close to having a signed off emergency plan document, and becoming an official Civil Defence Centre. In early 2015 we will be running some welfare registration training for staff at the Puniho Pa.



New Plymouth hail storm

On 6 November 2014 at 4pm New Plymouth was hit with a significant hail storm. The New Plymouth Fire Station had around 20 callouts.

This included one from The Warehouse where panels of the roof fell, and destroyed all cash registers. The Warehouse estimated around \$100,000 of damages. Both The Warehouse and Pak'n'Save were evacuated.

Hail can be similar to ash fall in ways. It can block up drains and cause loading on roofs. Ash is at least twice as dense as hail, meaning that is hail and ash covered the same surface area, the ash would be at least twice as heavy.

This event reinforces the fact that something significant can happen without a lot of warning, and also that we have a dormant volcano sitting in our back yard that could significantly affect commercial roofing, drainage and roading.

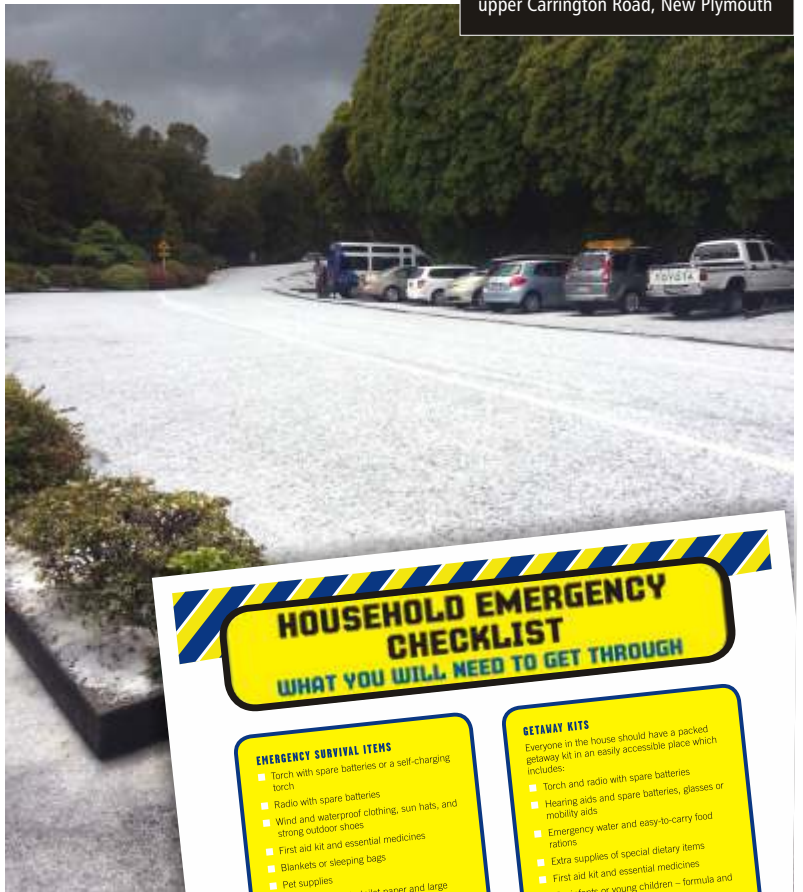
This is where your family emergency plan or business continuity plan can be extremely important.

For more information visit www.getthru.govt.nz

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



Photos taken by Clare Mewse at Pukeiti, upper Carrington Road, New Plymouth



HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY CHECKLIST
WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO GET THROUGH

EMERGENCY SURVIVAL ITEMS

- Torch with spare batteries or a self-charging torch
- Radio with spare batteries
- Wind and waterproof clothing, sun hats, and strong outdoor shoes
- First aid kit and essential medicines
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Pet supplies
- Emergency toilet - toilet paper and large rubbish bags
- Face and dust masks

Check all batteries every 3 months.

FOOD AND WATER FOR 3 DAYS OR MORE

- Non-perishable food (canned or dried food)
- Food, formula and drinks for babies and small children
- Water (at least 3 litres per person, per day) for drinking
- Water for washing and cooking
- A primus or gas barbecue to cook on
- A can opener

Consider stocking a two-week supply of food and water for prolonged emergencies such as a pandemic. Check and replace food and water every twelve months.

GETAWAY KITS

Everyone in the house should have a packed getaway kit in an easily accessible place which includes:

- Torch and radio with spare batteries
- Hearing aids and spare batteries, glasses or mobility aids
- Emergency water and easy-to-carry food rations
- Extra supplies of special dietary items
- First aid kit and essential medicines
- For infants or young children - formula and food, nappies
- Change of clothes (wind/waterproof clothing and strong outdoor shoes)
- Toiletries - towel, soap, toothbrush, sanitary items, toilet paper
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Face and dust masks
- Pet supplies
- Important documents:
 - Identification (birth and marriage certificates/driver's licences and passports)
 - Financial (insurance policies and mortgage)
 - Precious family photos

IF WE HAVE TO EVACUATE WE WILL:

- Take our Getaway Kit
- Turn off electricity and water
- Turn off gas only if we suspect a leak or if asked to do so by the authorities

HOW TO STORE WATER

Are you prepared for an emergency? Visit our website

www.getthru.govt.nz

**GET READY
GET THRU**

