



Community Link



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Essential Council regulatory services

Essential regulatory services at Whanganui District Council are continuing under the COVID-19 lockdown.

Council Compliance services operating during the lockdown include the sampling of Whanganui’s drinking water supply as normal. The Council’s Environmental Health staff also remain available to attend any nuisance complaints where there is an immediate risk to public safety. The Council’s Animal Management Officers will continue to attend incidents where there is an immediate risk to people or property. Please note the dog pound remains closed to the public until further notice – impounded dogs are being cared for by Animal Management Officers during the lockdown.

The Council’s Planning team is still able to receive and register resource consent applications that are lodged online. Please note that applications submitted in hard copy form or emailed to the Planning team WILL NOT be processed during the lockdown period. Please direct **planning enforcement enquiries ONLY** to Council Customer Services at (06) 349 0001.

The Council’s Building services team continue to respond on a limited basis to reports of damage or other issues relating to dangerous or insanitary buildings within the district, or to assist with any essential services. For more information about available Council Compliance, Planning and Building services, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/covid-19

Recycling centre closed

The Whanganui Resource Recovery Centre in Maria Place is now completely closed until further notice to ensure the safety of staff and the public during the COVID-19 lockdown. Kerbside collection of wheelie bins and stickered rubbish bags, as well as rural waste collection services, continues as usual.

Creative Communities

Revised round-two funding date

Because of the COVID-19 lockdown, Creative Communities Scheme round-two funding is now for projects taking place between 13 June 2020 and 13 June 2021. Applications close at **12 noon on Thursday, 14 May 2020**. Please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/creative-communities-scheme

More time for nominations

The deadline for the Whanganui Community Awards has been extended to **Friday, 8 May 2020**. The Whanganui Community Awards are an opportunity to recognise the huge contribution volunteers make to our community. You can nominate your community heroes in three categories: Environmental, Social, and Arts, Heritage and/or Culture. To submit a nomination, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/Community-Culture/Whanganui-Community-Awards



Digital library open to all

Although all Whanganui libraries are closed and cannot accept returns, the digital library is very much open. Whanganui District Libraries Manager, Pete Gray, says, “In our modern world we’re lucky to be able to access a wealth of films, e-books, audiobooks, and digital magazines and newspapers while staying at home to stop the spread of COVID-19.” For a full list of digital library services and information about affordable internet access, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/digital-library-information

Council meetings

Meeting next week		
Council Meeting	1.00pm Thursday 16 April	via Zoom
This meeting will be livestreamed online – for more information, please visit Whanganui District Council’s website at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings		

Unite against COVID-19

HEALTH MATTERS

Mā tātau katoa e ārai atu te COVID-19

MANAGING CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) ANXIETY

For You

- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage
- Connect through calls/text/internet
- Add extra time for daily stress relief
- Practice self-care
- Focus on your mental health

BlessingManifesting

For Kids

- Reassure them that they're safe
- Let them talk about their worries
- Share your own coping skills
- Limit their news exposure
- Create a routine & structure

For Quarantine/Isolation

- Keep in contact with your loved ones via social media, texts, and phone calls
- Create a daily self-care routine
- Keep yourself busy: games, books, movies
- Focus on new relaxation techniques

Image from: Covid-19 Resource Compilation, Dr Monica Johnson [Psych Reg] MHAIDS 3DHB Porirua CAMHS, 3/30/2020

Shopping safely

Supermarkets are operating a little differently than normal. Keep the 2m rule at all times and please be patient and kind to staff and other shoppers.

Simple tips to follow when you go to the supermarket:

- If you are unwell stay away from the supermarket.
- If possible only send one person from your household to do the shopping.
- Come with a list, so you know what you need and can get in and out quickly.
- Be kind to staff, and others you're sharing the shop with.
- If there is sanitizer provided – use it on the way in and on the way out.
- Keep 2 metres away from others at all times, including staff – they need to keep safe too!
- Only touch what you want to buy.
- Use a contactless card if you can, not cash.
- Bag groceries away from others if you can.
- When you get home, wipe down packaged goods with a soapy clean towel, then dry and put away.
- Wash your hands before and after you shop.

If you're over 70, if possible please get someone else to do your shopping for you or shop online. Stay safe, stay home. <https://covid19.govt.nz/help-and-advice/for-everyone/shopping-safely/>

We all need to work together if we want to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Be kind. Check-in on the elderly or vulnerable

Washing and drying your hands kills the virus

Cough or sneeze into your elbow

Stay home if you are sick