



With support from Emergency Management Bay of Plenty

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If you would like to be involved in the development of the Te Puke Community Response Plan, please contact a team member by emailing: tpcommunityresponse@gmail.com

Developed by your local Community Response Team and supported by local schools, churches and businesses in Te Puke.

# Te Puke

## Community Guide to Emergencies

Version 1



# Hazards in your area



## Earthquake

An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. They are usually generated by ruptures along faults (fractures within the earth's crust) where rock moves on either side of the fault causing a release in energy.

Sometimes earthquakes can trigger other natural hazards such as landslides, fires and tsunamis.

### What to do

- Prepare a household emergency plan.
- Fix, Fasten and Forget! Secure heavy objects inside your home.
- If you are inside when the shaking starts, move no more than a few steps to a safe place and drop, cover, and hold.
- Expect aftershocks.
- If you are on the coast think Long or Strong Get Gone... if the earthquake lasts longer than a minute or is strong enough to knock you off your feet, head to higher ground as a tsunami may follow.



## Tsunami

A tsunami is a natural phenomenon consisting of a series of waves generated when a large volume of water in the sea, or in a lake is rapidly displaced.

Tsunami can be triggered by large submarine or coastal earthquakes, underwater landslides, large coastal cliff or lakeside landslides or underwater volcanic eruptions.

### What to do

- If you are at the coast and experience any of the following: An earthquake that lasts longer than a minute or is strong enough to knock you off your feet, see a sudden rise or fall in sea level and hear loud or unusual noises from the sea, move immediately to higher ground or as far inland as you can. Think Long or Strong Get Gone.
- Sign up for text alerts to be updated and receive official tsunami warnings.



## Flood

Floods are New Zealand's number one hazard in terms of frequency, losses and declared civil defence emergencies. Floods can cause injury and loss of life, damage to property and infrastructure, loss of stock, and contamination of water and land.

Flooding that typically affects the Bay of Plenty include:

- River Floods: continuous heavy rain causing river levels to rise and overtop banks.
- Flash Floods: lots of rain in a short time causes flooding in the streets from blocked or overflowing storm water drains.

### What to do

- Check with your local council to see if your property is at risk from flooding.
- Prepare a household emergency plan.
- Stay informed (think radio, Facebook, Twitter)
- Keep drains and gutters clear and move stock to higher ground if necessary.



## Fire

Fires can be started from a variety of natural causes including floods and earthquakes causing electrical shorts, volcanic activity, lightning strikes, and high winds causing power lines to arc. Low rainfall and drought can also cause an increase in the number of rural fires started. Deliberate lighting of fires is another potential fire source that cannot be overlooked.

### What to do

- Make sure you have an escape plan.
- Make sure your house has working smoke alarms.
- Apply for a permit if lighting an open fire in a restricted season.
- If you see a fire, smell smoke, or your smoke alarm goes off remain calm, drop to the floor, and get out of the building or away from the fire. Then call 111 from a safe location.

# Know your neighbours

When a disaster strikes it is the community that are the first responders.

Help for those in need, comes mostly from neighbours, existing community groups, faith-based organisations and volunteer groups such as Neighbourhood Support, Residents Associations and so on.

No one knows a community better than the people that live and work in it and this is why the community must come together to develop a community response plan. This covers how the community plans to self-activate and respond to a disaster. The key message is that you are not on your own! You have friends, family, neighbours and a great community around you.

It is more important than ever to know your neighbours, to look out for and support each other (and maybe once in a while borrow a cup of sugar!) Neighbourhood Support and the Te Puke Community Board are there to help you connect to your community. If you haven't joined then give us a call or drop us an email - see front cover.

In a disaster the community will have to step up!

### Are you prepared to offer your skills and resources?

Join us as we develop the Te Puke Community Response Plan and find out how you can be better prepared to get through a disaster.



Visit [www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz) for more information and to download a household emergency plan template

In an emergency, radio is your main source of information.



### Tauranga frequencies:

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| National Radio | 101.0 FM, 819 AM |
| Newstalk ZB    | 90.2 FM, 1008 AM |
| Classic Hits   | 95.0 FM          |
| More FM        | 93.4 FM          |
| Radio Live     | 100.6FM, 1107 AM |

Keep up to date before, during and after an emergency by subscribing to emergency text alerts:

Simply text the two letters for the area you live to 2028:

- TA Tauranga
- WB Western Bay
- WH Whakatane
- KA Kawerau
- RO Rotorua
- OP Opotiki



bopcvildefence.govt.nz  
facebook.com/bopcvildefence  
twitter.com/bopcvildefence

Plan ahead for what you will do if you are in your car when a disaster strikes. In some emergencies you may be stranded in your vehicle for some time. A flood, snow storm or major traffic accident could make it impossible to proceed. Consider items in your car and keep enough fuel in your car.

### 4 Assist vulnerable people in your family or community.

If you, a family member or neighbour has a disability or any special requirement that may affect their ability to cope in a disaster, develop a support plan. For more information visit [bopcvildefence.govt.nz](http://bopcvildefence.govt.nz)

### 3 Keep your car ready.

Have a getaway kit in case you have to leave in a hurry.

### 2 Don't forget your pets.

If you have pets or livestock, include them in your emergency planning.

### 1 Get your family ready.

Get your family together to develop and practice your household emergency plan. Assemble and maintain an emergency survival kit.

## How to get ready:

# How to get ready and stay informed



# Flood Risk Zone

**Blue Zone** indicates areas expected to flood at least once every 50 years\*.

\* A 50 year average recurrence interval (ARI) flood event has a 2% chance of occurring in any year. The depth of flooding will be different across town and will be greatest next to natural waterways of storm water channels.

## What to do in the event of a flood

- Check with your local council to see if your property is at risk from flooding.
- Prepare a household emergency plan.
- Stay informed (think radio, Facebook, Twitter)
- Keep drains and gutters clear and move stock to higher ground if necessary.
- Sign up for text alerts to be updated and receive official tsunami warnings.

