

Information and updates for residents affected by the Pigeon Valley Fire, from Nelson Tasman Civil Defence and our fire response partners

Friday 22 February 2019

We had some good news today with the decision made to lift the conditional re-entry status for Wakefield residents. As you know, the fire-fighting effort is still ongoing and we appreciate your patience with this. Here are a few things to note today.

Controlled access for residents

Controlled access is still in place for residents of Redwood, Eves and Teapot valleys, with the condition that you remain ready to evacuate again immediately if the situation changes and the fire risk increases again.

We're still keeping a close watch on the fire fighting progress and weather forecast and will let you know if you need to evacuate again via text, Facebook and the Nelson Tasman Civil Defence website.

Fire zone still active

Please be aware that many of your properties are still in an active fire fighting zone. This means there may be some areas of your property you can't access as they're part of the fire-fighting operation, and parts of your property that firefighters may need to access to keep the fire under control. The 'no-go zone' on the fire map outlines the areas you are to avoid, and is updated as the situation changes.

For a map of the zones, visit

<http://www.nelsontasmancivildefence.co.nz/pigeon-valley-fire-map/?fbclid=IwAR2xcoKB9W08mJfKI1548ZdU3BD8rb9sy5MA1HyWp1kwoo37Y21CDtGZvN0>

Access for contractors to the valleys

If you need to have a contractor, insurance assessor or other advisor visit your property in the restricted area, please make sure they apply for a permit first by calling Tasman District Council on 03 543 8400.

We'll assess applications on a case-by-case basis for essential service providers.

Extra rubbish and recycling collection for Pigeon Valley

Good news for any Pigeon Valley residents who didn't manage to get the trash out this week - Tasman District Council is putting on an extra rubbish and recycling collection from 9am this Saturday, 23 February.

Red Cross and Rural Support visits

Over the weekend Pigeon Valley residents may receive a visit from Red Cross and Rural Support Trust to check on your wellbeing and to see whether you need any help or support. Remember that the Government Helpline is also available if you need support (0800 779 997).

Rapid impact assessments

If you live in an area which has been affected by the fire, you may have noticed that Urban Search and Rescue teams have been conducting high-level assessments of the impact of the fire over the past couple of days. We are still analysing the information from these assessments and the results will be used to inform the recovery plan and prioritisation for the area.

Civil Defence Centre

The Civil Defence Centre at New Life Church, 85 Wensley Road in Richmond will be open from 10am to 4pm this Saturday and Sunday.

If you were affected by the Pigeon Valley fire and would like to know where you can get support, please visit us this weekend and we'll put you in touch with the services you need.

After the weekend, we'll be deciding when to close the centre.

Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund

The Nelson Tasman District Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund has been set up by the Tasman District and Nelson City Councils to help those most severely affected by the Pigeon Valley fire.

The application form will be available on the Tasman District Council website from Monday. If you would like to apply for funding before then, please contact Sandie Hutchinson at sandie.hutchinson@tasman.govt.nz

For criteria and more information, visit

https://tasman.govt.nz/my-community/grants-and-funding/available-grants-and-funding/mayoral-disaster-relief-fund/?fbclid=IwAR2SRRez71YUHrOXJkJTLah9NqfFOPmf_cHBOI1u_X5ZYk_IB5-KQeZncYho

Nelson Fire Clean-up Crew

The Nelson fire clean-up crew will be at the Wakefield Village Hall from 10am to 3pm this Sunday, 24 February. Please drop in if there are any tasks you need help with as a result of the Pigeon Valley fire.

They'll be coordinating clean-up tasks over the coming weeks.

Food parcels

The wonderful volunteers at the Nelson Suburbs Football Club closed up shop today, and we thank them for their efforts. If you need food assistance, you can request a food parcel on the Nelson Community Food Bank website:

<https://www.nelsoncommunityfoodbank.org.nz/>

More information

See our Facebook page for the latest information and updates:
www.facebook.com/nelontasmancivildefenceandemergencymanagement.

Our updates are also online at www.nelontasmancivildefence.co.nz/