

MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release

Date
Time

Severe Weather for Bay of Plenty

The Met Service has issued a severe weather warning for the Bay of Plenty region, including Tauranga. Heavy rain and flooding is likely for/ has occurred in the following area(s) [area details].

Road Closures

All roads/the following roads in [area] are also closed at this time due to the flooding/fallen trees/debris. A recommended detour is [route]. People are advised not to attempt to drive through any flooded roads.

Tauranga City Council advises the following: *[Delete paragraphs that are not relevant]*

- Prepare your property for high winds. Strong winds can lift large, heavy objects. Anything not secured may cause injury or damage.
- Secure outdoor furniture or bring it inside.
- Be ready to act quickly. Floods and flash floods can happen quickly and without warning, be prepared to act immediately and keep your emergency response kit near.
- Listen to your radio for updates.
- Avoid driving through flooded areas and unnecessary use of your vehicle.
- Follow instructions and advice of emergency services and civil defence authorities.
- Use the phone for emergencies only.
- Store clean water for drinking, if your home is in a flood-prone area. An undamaged water cylinder may be your best source of fresh water after a flood.
- Avoid drinking or preparing food with tap water until you are certain it is not contaminated. If in doubt check with Tauranga City Council or the Bay of Plenty District Health Board.
- If in transit, inform family members of your whereabouts.
- Do not go sightseeing in your car – your presence may hamper rescue and other emergency operations.

Evacuation is Advised *[Delete if not relevant]*

All residents in [areas] must leave their houses immediately and move to safer ground. We advise:

- If you can stay with friends or relatives outside the flooded area, please relocate immediately.
- If you need help with accommodation, please go to [place].
- All residents leaving their houses should take the following; pets, warm clothes, medications, toiletries, some food, water and important documents such as passports, family photographs and insurance policies.
- Listen to your radio for updates.

More information will be available as the situation evolves.

ENDS

For more information contact:

Name:

Telephone:

Email:

Useful websites:

www.tauranga.govt.nz

www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz

www.civildefence.govt.nz

www.getthru.govt.nz

www.metservice.govt.nz

www.geonet.org.nz

www.nzta.govt.nz