

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

Thursday 21 February 2019

Returning home

We're delighted we could allow Redwood, Teapot and Eves Valley residents controlled access to their homes today. Thank you for your patience and willingness to work with us under very trying circumstances. We appreciate it's been a long and difficult couple of weeks.

As you know, we're not yet in the clear and there are still a number of precautions we need to take to ensure your safety.

Controlled access for residents

Controlled access means **residents only** can go home, stay overnight, and come and go as you wish, under 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 while you now have controlled access to your homes, 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.

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 access first by calling Tasman District Council on 03 543 8400.

We'll assess applications on a case-by-case basis. Generally speaking, we'll only grant access to 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.

The ban on machinery use – what this means for electric fences

We're aware there is some confusion about whether electric fences are included in the ban on outdoor machinery use.

Electric fences pose a significant fire risk, especially in areas where the grass is dry. Please don't use your electric fences during the outdoor machinery use ban.

For more information on the outdoor machinery use ban, visit <https://bit.ly/2H1juBJ>

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=IwAR2SRez71YUhrOXJkJTLah9NqfFOPmf_cHBOl1u_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.

Nelson Suburbs Football Club

The wonderful volunteers from Nelson Suburbs Football Club are handing out food parcels from the clubrooms at Saxton Fields from 9am to 12pm tomorrow. This is their last shift before the need to pack up and leave the clubrooms.

More information

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

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