

# Central Link

He karere tā te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Whakaahurangi  
News from the Stratford District Council

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TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
WHAKAAHURANGI  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

## 50,000 milk bottle lids for recycling competition, and they're only halfway through

### Choose the right plants now to save water later

Water is a precious resource and the life source for all living things, so it's important to find ways we can conserve it. With the Labour Day long weekend coming up, it's the perfect time to start planting, but it pays to think now about the types of plants that'll do well in the hot, dry summer to come.

#### Native plants are an excellent choice

Having adapted and evolved for New Zealand conditions, native plants are an excellent water-wise choice for your garden. And having native plants around our neighbourhoods helps to support our native critters and bird life, too.

#### Look at the leaves for clues...

Plants that have good drought tolerance often have small, leathery, or hairy leaves. Think coprosmas, lamb's ears, or dry herbs like rosemary, thyme and oregano.

#### Tip for planting

Try grouping your plants, rather than planting in rows. It'll help reduce water evaporation, and taller plants in the group can give some shade shelter to the smaller ones. Once you've planted, don't skimp on the mulch to help keep moisture in the soil.

Stratford District Council's competition to encourage local schools and early childhood centres to collect plastic milk and cream bottle lids, keeping them out of home recycling bins where they contaminate recycling, has hit its halfway point and the results are already impressive.

Over 50,000 milk and cream bottle lids have been collected during term 3 by nine schools and early childhood centres.

The winner will be one that collects the highest average number of lids for each family that attends by the time the competition closes, so small schools have the same chance of winning as large schools. So far, Marco School, Stratford Childcare Centre and Avon Primary are top contenders for the main prize of a \$1,000 local business voucher, with one term left to go.

Peter McNamara, Waste & Water Education Officer at SDC, says his original goal for the whole competition was to collect 15,000 lids.

"The schools and their students, whānau and communities, have blown my goal out of the water, or maybe that should be out of the milk," he laughs. "And they're not even done yet."

"I've got milk bottle lids coming out of my ears, but they'll soon be on the way to The Junction Zero Waste Hub in New Plymouth and Egmont Refuse & Recycling in Hawera, where the lids will all be recycled and reused. Let's hope they're ready for them all," Peter says.



Left to right: Blake Caguilla, Jedidah Peralta, and Kezia Herbert with lids collected by Marco School

Stratford district has some of the cleanest recycling in Aotearoa New Zealand, with an average recycling contamination rate of around 3%. But, when a recycling bin does contain contamination, lids are often the cause.

Peter says, "Well done to everyone that's reduced a bit of waste and saved a lid from contaminating recycling bins. You've inspired us to now try and collect 100,000 lids by the time the competition closes at the end of term 4. Come on, we can do it!"

Final competition results will be announced in December. Anyone can drop clean plastic milk or cream lids off at a participating school.

More information about the competition is available at [Stratford.govt.nz/Lids](https://Stratford.govt.nz/Lids)

"Taking one financial burden away from families and allowing the focus to be solely on the benefit of sports, was a huge plus."  
- Fund recipient

### Apply for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund for junior teams!

Find out more:  
[Stratford.govt.nz/RTF](https://Stratford.govt.nz/RTF)



Take clean plastic milk & cream lids to a participating school for recycling & help them win a \$1,000 voucher!  
[Stratford.govt.nz/Lids](https://Stratford.govt.nz/Lids)

### Support Otago and Dunedin flood recovery. Donate to the Taranaki Regional Disaster Relief Fund

The Taranaki Mayoral Forum has activated the Taranaki Regional Disaster Relief Fund to support recovery in Dunedin after recent widespread flooding and slips.

Mayor Volzke said all funds raised through the Taranaki Regional Disaster Relief Fund would be distributed to the Dunedin Mayoral Relief Fund to support the people worst impacted by the extreme weather event.

Every little bit helps. If you're able to make a donation, please visit [TaranakiFoundation.org.nz](https://TaranakiFoundation.org.nz) or scan the QR code. Thank you for your help.



### Public Notices

#### Meeting Schedule - October 2024

- **Workshop:** Tuesday 22 October at 1pm
- **Policy & Services Committee:** Tuesday 22 October at 3pm

Meetings and workshops will be held in the Council Chambers on Miranda Street, unless stated otherwise.

Visit [Stratford.govt.nz/Schedule](https://Stratford.govt.nz/Schedule) for updates to meeting times, as these may change.

S Hanne | Chief Executive

#### What's on the agenda?

Agendas go up on our website the week before the meeting at [Stratford.govt.nz/Agenda](https://Stratford.govt.nz/Agenda)

Download the **Antenno** app for agenda info straight to your device!



One week to register for the Stratford Scarecrow Trail...

Make sure you sign up to make a scarecrow for this year's trail AND be in to win a share of \$2,000 worth of prizes. Register at:

[Stratford.govt.nz/Scarecrow](https://Stratford.govt.nz/Scarecrow)



Youth Council applications close on Sunday...

Be a voice for young people in the district, support youth events, and experience awesome opportunities. Apply today at:

[Stratford.govt.nz/YouthCouncil](https://Stratford.govt.nz/YouthCouncil)

#### Library and Visitor Information

Phone 06 765 5403

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Sunday & Public Holidays Closed

#### Transfer Station

Phone 06 765 8500

Monday - 12.00pm - 5.00pm

Thursday - 10.00am - 1.00pm

Friday - Sunday - 12.00pm - 5.00pm

#### Wai O Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre

Phone 06 765 6275

Monday – Friday 6.00am – 6.30pm

Saturday 7.00am – 5.00pm

Sunday and Public Holidays

10.00am – 5.00pm

#### Glockenspiel

Performs Daily at 10.00am, 1.00pm, 3.00pm and 7.00pm

16 October 2024