



Green Network Community Assistance for Residents on Private Land

Summary Information

PRIVATE LAND - HELP FOR PEOPLE HELPING NATURE ON THEIR PLACE

Many residents of Waitakere spend much time and energy on their land, working to encourage local birds, insects, lizards and plants. Stream-sides, coastal edges, wetlands, bush and other features on or around their land benefit. These people care, but often strike barriers that if overcome would let them achieve much greater or quicker results. The Green Network Community Assistance Programme provides that support and encouragement. It includes a range of measures from the easy-to-implement to more in-depth help.



Community Assistance and Technical Assistance offered

Assistance listed below is available by contacting the Waitakere City Council Call Centre on 839-0400.

| Free Assistance Available | Comments |
|----------------------------|---|
| Technical advice & support | # = Flyers with additional explanation and application forms are available The most popular assistance offered - is effective at helping people overcome obstacles to their plans to help nature on their place. Many residents have ideas or plans but are held back - "I didn't know where to start", or "I've worked on it for 5 years and it's still the same!" Expert information is available from Council over the phone, or during a site visit if your issue or question is more complicated. |
| Brochures & Information # | Council has fact sheets on many issues related to living with and caring for our environment. These include: gardening guides; weed info; revegetation for stream sides, ponds, storm water treatment areas, etc; understanding our rainforest; the Green Network. |
| Management plans | An on-site visit to a property to assess issues such as environmental weeds, erosion control, revegetation and enhancement of existing bush. A written record (Management Plan) of the information and topics discussed is made. This is left with the landowner. |
| Free plants # | Plants are provided of a size, a species, and in numbers relevant to the activity and size of the area (up to \$200 worth of plants). |
| Weed Bins # | This involves the supply of a 9m ³ bin. Available to households, groups or neighbourhoods working collectively. You need to be able to fill the bin and <u>bins are for environmental weeds only</u> . This is the most popular practical assistance offered. Weeds are a big issue, and help with a bin for disposal is enthusiastically received. |

Table continued overleaf.....



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| Ginger bags | For those with small quantities bags are available. These can be filled with ginger roots (rhizomes) and flower heads and placed at the gate for free collection as per household rubbish bags. (The stems and leaves of ginger can be safely composted.) |
| Ginger dumping | Car or trailer loads of ginger can be left at the Transfer Station free. This is for individual residential use. |
| Contractor subsidy for control of weeds # | Help for when environmental weeds become too hard. This situation may be because there's way too much; you're hurt and can't do the work or the weeds you're dealing with need specialist expertise. There is a cap of 50% of cost up to a maximum of \$300. |
| Supply of escort herbicide # | Offered where ginger infestations are sufficiently large to warrant, or where neighbours collectively have such a volume of weed and are working together. The minimum volume available is 80 litres of solution - which will control around 100m ² of ginger. Escort is the least toxic herbicide that effectively controls ginger. Vigilant can also be supplied for ginger removal. |
| Fencing subsidy to control stock # | Available where stock threatens valued natural areas such as bush, streamside areas, swampland or coastal edges. There is a cap of 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$1000. |
| Covenanting # | A covenant (voluntary legal protection for part or all of a property) enables landowners to give long-term protection to their land and gain access to significant resources from Council to support them in looking after that land. Owners keep ownership of the land; there is a commitment to be proactive in looking after the land; there is the opportunity to increase personal skills and knowledge. |
| Rates Relief # | Rates relief is offered for properties with a covenant in place. Rates relief is part of the Green Network Community Assistance Programme but has its own policy. |

Please note: The Community Assistance programme is not available to people fulfilling regulatory requirements e.g. undertaking landscaping or restoration required by a resource or subdivision consent. There are two exceptions to this:

- We will assist with technical advice that guides landowners in appropriately fulfilling their consent requirements
- We will assist if you are doing work to help nature beyond the requirements of the resource consent. Support is then available for that additional component of their project.

For further information contact the Waitakere City Council Call Centre, Ph 839 0400, Private Bag 93 109, Henderson, Waitakere City or visit the Council's website on www.waitakere.govt.nz



This is a Green Network Project

The Green Network joins natural areas to create a network of gardens, parks, streams, roadside plantings and coastlines. The Green Network gives you more places to play, connects you with the countryside, gives birds and other wildlife access to your neighbourhood and encourages them to make their home here in Waitakere

