

BE RID OF YOUR WEEDS

CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE

Information & Application Form for:

WAITAKERE'S GREEN NETWORK COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME #3

WAGING WAR ON WAITAKERE'S WEEDS

Waitakere City Council is supporting those who are ridding the area of weeds by offering help to clear the worst weeds.

A weed is a plant that is not wanted. Environmental weeds are not wanted because they are invasive. In their home country they would be controlled by browsers, pests or climate. In NZ they spread rapidly and overrun the native plants that make up the NZ bush and streamsides. This destroys the ability of these areas to remain healthy, and support the plants and wildlife that naturally live there. This then damages the water quality of our streams. Remember, weeds spread beyond your land using wind, water, birds and people. Keeping them in control in the garden is not effective.

HOW WE HELP!

Waitakere City Council may pay up to 50% of the cost of a contractor employed to control weeds.

However this assistance is for those who for health reasons or the scale of their weed problem cannot succeed by themselves.

This fund is **specifically targeted at environmental weeds**. The worst environmental weeds are listed on the back of this sheet or illustrated in Waitakere's Worst Weeds. For a full list of the weeds in Waitakere City ask for Invasive & Environmental Weeds Of Waitakere. Call Council, on Ph839 0400. For colour pictures visit www.boprc.govt.nz/www/green/weeds/htm or call 0800 80 60 40.

MORE HELP - FOR FREE

Council also offers other options for getting rid of weeds:

- **Ginger Bags.** Obtain a special ginger bag (or bags) from Council by phoning 839 0400. Dig out your ginger, stuff your bag(s) with the ginger roots and flower heads and put the ginger bag out on the kerbside on rubbish collection day. It will be safely disposed of to avoid any further spread.
- Free off-loading of boot loads and trailer loads of ginger at the Refuse Transfer Station, The Concourse, Henderson is available.

Through the Green Network Community Assistance Programme Waitakere City Council also provides free:

- Plants to rehabilitate an area after weed eradication. Planting will limit weed regrowth. Priority is given to planting projects where weed removal has occurred, for stabilizing stream banks and for projects where neighbours are working together. (Up to 200 plants maximum).
- Weed bins (one per property per year maximum.)
- Herbicide spray voucher

For general advice on how to kill specific weeds and safely dispose of them Ph Auckland Regional Council's Enviroline 0800 80 60 40.



YOU NEED TO KNOW...

- All financial assistance for weed contractors must be approved by Council before work commences.
- You must have at least two written quotes - outlining the work to be undertaken and the estimated cost of this work.
- These quotes need to be attached to the application form (see over the page).
- The maximum rebate for contractor assistance is 50% of the quote, up to maximum of \$300 (exclusive of GST) per property per financial year.
- Funding is limited so get in early.



Waitakere City Council
Te Taiāo o Waitakere

YES
I would like help to
attack my weeds!

My name is

I live at (address)

(suburb)

Waitakere City

You can reach me at:

Ph #

Email address?

The property I want to 'de-weed' is at:
(If different from above)

Please indicate whether the property
adjoins a park, stream or public road.
.....

Please indicate approximate area of the weed
infestation,
.....metres bymetres in size

The invasive weeds I have and want to be rid of
are:

1.
2.
3.
4.

I have attached to this form copies of quotes
from Weedfree Waitakere Trust or from 2
Growsafe certified contractors - please name
them.

1.
2.

The contractors work is to: (tick which of these
they will work on)

1. dig out weeds
2. spray weeds
3. dispose of my weeds.

The weeds on my property will require
ongoing work to achieve eradication. I'm
pleased to take on this task.

Signed

and / or

I would like to become a weed free site.
Please send me more information.

Signed

Send this slip to:
The Community Projects Assistant,
Landscape Development, Waitakere City Council,
Private Bag 93 109 Henderson, Waitakere City

Then what happens?

- Your application will be assessed and approved or rejected.
- Either way you will receive an answer to your application by mail.
- If your application is approved you will need to manage the job. We will ask for a copy of the receipt from the contractor and confirmation the work was done well.
- Then we send the contractor a cheque for our agreed share of the cost.



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.

YOU NEED TO KNOW ...

The following weeds are among the worst in Waitakere and are priorities for assistance.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Pampas Grass | Agapanthus |
| Blue Morning Glory | Plectranthus |
| Wandering Jew | Ginger |
| Privet | Woolly Nightshade |
| Jasmine | Climbing Asparagus |
| Crack and Grey Willow | Bamboo |
| Sweet Pea shrub | Japanese Honeysuckle |
| Giant Reed | Elaeagnus |

WHO CAN HELP?

To get a quote for your weed control work approach either:

THE WEEDFREE WAITAKERE TRUST

The Council and the Weedfree Waitakere Trust have a partnership agreement based on the shared goal of reducing the weed threat in the City. If you use the Trust, you may not require a second quote. The Weedfree Waitakere Trust can use manual methods for weed removal. Ph 818 6803.

or

WEED CONTRACTORS

Contact weed eradication people by going to the weed control or weed spraying section of the Yellow Pages. These contractors are more likely to use herbicides and chemical sprays to control your weeds. Check they are "Growsafe" certified. You will require quotes from two companies.

KEEPING GOOD COMPANY

You are in good company. In the last year Waitakere people binned over 220 tonnes of weeds which Council disposed of safely to avoid further weed spread.

DOING OUR BIT

Council concentrates on weed control on the land it owns - i.e. the 562 parks and reserves and the 1500 kilometres of roadsides in the city. Council is currently blitzing weeds in target areas such as Moire Park, Karaka Park, and Rahui Kahika Reserve, Piha Reserve and along the Opanuku stream.

