

A prohibited fire season (total fire ban) was declared in Selwyn last week and is now in place.

Under the restrictions no outdoor fires can be lit in the district. The burning of crop stubble is also not allowed. Gas barbeques with a high pressure water source at hand are allowed but not charcoal barbeques. Fires are also not permitted in Council reserves and all fire permits previously issued by the Council are also cancelled

The district's Principal Rural Fire Officer Douglas Marshall says that vegetation in Selwyn District is now very dry and a prohibited fire season has been introduced to help ensure that the risk of fires breaking out is minimised

"Selwyn has been experiencing hot, dry weather along with strong winds and this provides ideal conditions for fires to spread quickly," he says.

Mr Marshall says that people need to be very vigilant in this weather to avoid any activities that could start a fire. "We would discourage people from mowing the lawn or operating machinery during the heat of the day as sparks can easily ignite in the heat, and instead carry out these activities when it is cooler. Letting off fireworks is also not allowed in the current conditions.'

Reducing fire risk

You can help to reduce the fire risk, and make sure that fire services can quickly access your property to put out a fire if one does start, by:

- · Avoiding operating lawn mowers or other machinery during hot weather as sparks can easily ignite in these conditions, and waiting until the weather is cooler to mow lawns or operate machinery. If you do need to use machinery or a lawn mower, having a source of water nearby for fire firefighting is advisable as a precaution
- · regularly checking and maintaining machinery and equipment so it is safe to operate
- · disposing of ashes from an indoor fire safely in a metal container and use approved incinerators
- · keeping a hose connected that can reach round the house
- · storing firewood and other flammable materials away from the house
- · check any old fires and ensure they are fully extinguished. Dig the fire with a shovel and douse
- · in rural areas keep a clear space between your house and buildings and vegetation like trees, shrubs and long grass to act as a fire break. Keep this space watered and green if possible or construct it from non-flammable material like paving stones.
- · make sure your property number is easy to see and that it has a clear access way four metres wide and high so that fire services can easily access your property if needed

If you see any fire – report it immediately by phoning 111.

Rubbish collection days and weeks changing

From this week, changes to rubbish, organic and recycling collection days will affect approximately 1,800 Selwyn households in several areas of the district. If your property is affected by a change, you should have received a letter from the Council about this. If you are renting, the letter will have been addressed to your landlord so please check the Council website, www.selwyn.govt.nz. You can check your collection day by entering your property address using our 'Collection Day Search Tool.

On the roads this week

Road repairs are planned to Springston Rolleston (between Waterholes and Shands Roads), Goulds (between Dynes and Springston Rolleston) and Ellesmere Junction Roads, with stop and go signs being used by contractors to control traffic. Road repairs are also planned to Telegraph Road (between Cardale and Creyke Roads) and Rockwood Road, which will remain open with traffic controls in place.

This week resealing work is planned along Dunns Crossing and Robinsons Roads, Robyn Place and Leinster Terrace. Stop and go signs will be used for traffic control.

Where work is not completed this week, work will continue next week. From the week of Monday 14 December Railway Road between Jones and Kerrs Roads will be closed to allow the installation of a new sewer line. Detours will be in place via either Kerrs and Wards Roads or West Melton and Hoskyns Roads. The road is expected to reopen in March 2016.

Malvern Community Board news

The Board held their November meeting at Tawera Hall in Springfield. The meeting received updates regarding the Greenwaste disposal day to be held on 5 December at Hawkins Pit, Local Government Act proposed changes and the Shop Trading Hours Amendment Bill.

The Board discussed the five nominations for Community Service Awards to be held on 24 November in Darfield. Members also planned a volunteers' morning tea for Friday 4 December to celebrate International Day of the Volunteer

The Board are holding a Christmas Grotto at the historic Darfield Jail from 16 to 24 December between 3pm and 6pm. Santa will be in residence and there will be a post box to send letters to Santa. The Board will also be accepting donations of nonperishable food to be taken to the City Mission.

The Board will be running the ANZAC poppy project again in 2016. The next meeting will be held at Darfield on 25 January 2016.

Water restrictions introduced

Formal mandatory water restrictions have been introduced for properties connected to Council water supplies.

Rainfall during 2015 has been much lower than normal, meaning that groundwater levels are significantly lower than usual and have not had an opportunity to recharge adequately over winter. Environment Canterbury has restricted groundwater consumption for a number water supplies because of low ground water levels.

Strong El Nino conditions are forecast to continue to affect Canterbury over summer, leading to low rainfall and higher than normal demand for water from households.

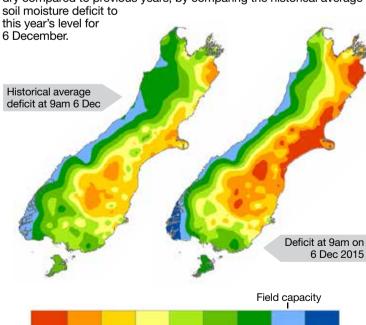
The water restrictions have been introduced by the Council to help manage demand for water so it occurs more evenly throughout the day and week, to sustainably manage water supplies and meet Environment Canterbury requirements.

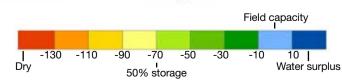
Under the water restrictions:

- · Watering of lawns is permitted between 9am and 4pm and between 9pm and 6am on alternate days only. If your street address number is even then you may water on even numbered days, if your street address number is an odd number then you may water on odd numbered days. For example if your property number is 2, 24b or 108 you can water your lawn as needed on the 8,10,12 December and so on during the permitted times. If watering during the daytime we recommend choosing a cooler day to reduce evaporation
- Garden watering is permitted at any time
- \cdot There is a requirement to decrease demand especially during peak periods. This means that you should only use as much water as you need to, only water during permitted hours and avoid wasting water

If demand for water is particularly high, water pressure will be reduced to sustain the supply. More stringent water restrictions could be introduced if demand for water continues to be high.

The NIWA graphic below shows that conditions this year are extremely dry compared to previous years, by comparing the historical average





Soil moisture deficit (mm) (source: NIWA)



Selwyn District Council Norman Kirk Drive Rolleston Ph 347 2800 or 318 8338 **Rolleston Library** Rolleston Drive, Rolleston Ph 347 2880 or 318 8338

Darfield Library & Service Centre 1 South Terrace, Darfield Ph 318 8338 or 347 2800

Notices

ALCOHOL LICENCE APPLICATIONS

The following alcohol licence applications are open for submissions until 15 January 2016. A notice is online at www. selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices. MBJKT Holdings Limited - off licence renewal application and Tai Tapu Hotel - on licence renewal application.

PROHIBITED FIRE SEASON

Notice is hearby given that pursuant to Section 22 (2) of the Forest and Rural Fire Act (1977), a PROHIBITED FIRE SEASON is extended over the whole of Selwyn district as from 8am Thursday 3 December 2015 until further notice.

During the Prohibited Fire Season, it is an offence to light any fires in the open air. The prohibition does not apply to gas barbeques lit on a property serviced by a high pressure water supply.

Douglas Marshall Principal Rural Fire Officer 3 December 2015

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES - LINCOLN CHRISTMAS PARADE

Gerald Street, Lincoln (from James Street to West Belt) will be temporarily closed from 8am-1pm on Saturday 12 December (postponement 13 December) for the Lincoln Christmas Parade. During the road closure, traffic will be requested to detour along the nearest alternative route. Any queries can be directed to Joanne on 347 2887.

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST: WATER RACE SUBCOMMITTEE

Registrations of interest are sought from users of the Selwyn District Council Water Race Schemes in Ellesmere and Paparua to join the Selwyn Water Race Subcommittee. The subcommittee provides

The subcommittee provides input into the management and operation of Council water race schemes. It has up to 12 members representing water race users, local Community Boards, Selwyn District Council and Christchurch City Council. It is monitored by Selwyn District Council, and supported by Council staff. Meetings are held quarterly, but no meeting fees or mileage is paid. The term of office is three years.

Water race users are invited to register their interest in joining this committee by submitting a resume of their background and interest. For information on applications see www.selwyn. govt.nz, phone 347 2891 or email maree.pycroft@selwyn. govt.nz. Registrations close on 18 December 2015.

DISCONTINUANCE OF PART OF STOCKWATER RACES

Ellesmere, Malvern and Paparua Schemes. Selwyn District Council, pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002, advises its intention to discontinue the following sections of water races:

Paparua

 Closure of 4.8km of race through 6 properties below SH1 and east of Burnham Road (Council)

Malvern

2. Closure of 5.1km of race through 3 properties between Milton and Stranges Road (Harrison)

Ellesmere

- Formalise closure of 3.5km of race through 3 properties at Frasers Road (Foster)
- Closure of 1.7km of race through 2 properties north of Terrace Road (Stuartfield)

- Closure of 1km race through 3 properties west of Headworks Road (Pangborn)
- 6. Closure of 1.7km race through 3 properties south of Rakaia Selwyn Road (Boon)

These closures are considered to be of low significance and do not alter the intended level of service of the overall water race schemes. Directly affected ratepayers have agreed to close these water races.

Detailed information including location maps is available at www.selwyn.govt.nz/wrclosure or from the Council's Rolleston office. For more information or to make a submission, phone Jo Golden on 347 2800 or email waterraces@selwyn.govt.nz by 18 January 2016.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

Wednesday 9 December Arthur's Pass 11.30am-12.30pm Castle Hill 1.40-2.15pm Springfield 3-3.30pm

Thursday 10 December Council Headquarters, Rolleston 12.45-1.15pm Cat's Pyjamas Rolleston 1.30-2pm Rolleston First Learners 2.10-2.40pm

Monday 14 December Dunsandel Playcentre 10-10.30am Burnham Montessori 11-11.30am Darfield Primary School 12.15-1.15pm

Tuesday 15 December
Kirwee 10-10.45am
Kirwee School 10.45-11.30am
West Melton Domain
12.15-12.45pm
West Melton School
12.45-1.30pm
West Melton Learning Centre
1.30-1.50pm
Cats Pyjamas West Melton
1.50-2.20pm

Meetings

Public Forums: Council,
Community Board and local
committee meetings are open
to the public. Time is available at
the start of meetings for people
to speak on matters of concern.
Please notify Bernadette Ryan
(Council), Kate Anderson
(Community Boards) or your local
committee at least three days
before the meeting.

Township, Hall and Reserve Committees: To list or make changes to meeting details, email meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz or phone 347 2800 or 318 8338 by 9am Wednesday the week before publication.

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARDS

Unless stated meetings are held at Rolleston Council Building.

Council Meeting Wed 9 Dec 1pm Followed by a public Citizenship Ceremony at 6.30pm

Selwyn Central Community Board Wed 16 Dec 4.30pm

LOCAL COMMITTEES & ASSOCIATIONS

Doyleston Community Committee

Wed 9 Dec 7.30pm Osborne Park Pavilion

Ellesmere Reserve Board – AGM Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm

Leeston Community Room
Glenroy Community Hall

Committee
Tue 15 Dec 8pm, Glenroy Hall
Applications for new members

Applications for new members invited phone 318 6876

Kirwee Community Committee Mon 21 Dec 7.30pm

Kirwee Community Hall Kirwee Recreation Reserve Management Committee

Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm Kirwee Reserve Pavilion

Lincoln Community Committee Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm

Lincoln Events Centre

Prebbleton Community

Association
Tue 15 Dec 7.30pm
Prebbleton Community Cottage

Prebbleton Public Hall Society Inc.

Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm Prebbleton Hall Supper Room

Rolleston Community Centre Committee

Thurs 17 Dec 7pm Rolleston Community Centre

Rolleston Reserve Management Committee

Mon 21 Dec 7.30pm Rolleston Community Centre

Springston Community Committee Mon 21 Dec 7.30pm

Springston Hall Supper Room

Springston Reserve & Associated Sports Combined Committee Inc.

Wed 9 Dec 7.30pm Errol Tweedy Pavilion

Weedons Reserve Committee Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm Weedons Reserve Pavilion

West Melton Reserve Board Committee

Mon 21 Dec 7pm, West Melton Rugby Football Clubrooms

West Melton Residents Association

Wed 9 Dec 7.30pm West Melton Community Centre

Whitecliffs Township & Domain Committee
Mon 14 Dec 7.30pm
Glentunnel Hall

Selwyn Events

WED-SUN The

9-3
DEC-JAN

The Small Show

A summer members' show, featuring small works from gallery members which make great Christmas presents. Open Wed-Sun 10am-4pm

SATURDAY

12
DECEMBER

Murder Mystery Night
The Tea House, Lincoln, 6-9pm

Register now for a timebanking event for 1 time credit for nibbles & a drink. For more information & bookings phone 423 0456 or email selwyntimebank@gmail.com

SATURDAY

12
DECEMBER

Lincoln Christmas Parade 9am-1pm

The parade starts at Lincoln Event Centre at 9am & goes down Gerald Street. With bands, Santa's Grotto, buskers, clowns & a dress up your bike competition. Market on Gerald Street 9am-12pm

SUNDAY

13
DECEMBER

Rolleston Envirotown Market

Rolleston Square Carpark, 10am-1pm

Choose from local produce & craft. enquiries@rollestonenvirotown.org.nz

WEDNESDAY

16 DECEMBER Christmas on the Green Lincoln Green by Lincoln Library, 6-8pm

A Youth Market with stalls, Christmas carols & bouncy castles. Young people aged up to 24 can register for a free stall at this event by emailing chris.martin@selwyn.govt.nz

TUESDAY

16-24

DECEMBER

Darfield Jail Christmas

Malvern Community Board welcomes Santa for sessions 3-6pm daily, with a small gift for children. Photos welcome. A mailbox will be available to post letters to Santa from 16-22 December. Also open late 3-7.30pm Friday 18 December

TUESDAY

22
DECEMBER

Lincoln Christmas Twilight Market

On the green by Lincoln Library, 4-7pm

A festive family event with lots of Christmas gifts, fresh produce & baking, live Christmas music, a visit from Santa, face painting & seasonal activities for children. See www.facebook.com/lincolnmarke

FRIDAY

25
DECEMBER

Christmas Day Community Lunch

Lincoln Baptist Church 530 Birchs Rd, 12-3pm

All welcome. Lunch provided at no cost. An alcohol-free event. Please RSVP by 15 December by phoning 325 3396. Transport assistance may be available, & donations of food, time & money appreciated

For more events in Selwyn visit www.selwyn.govt.nz/events

