

# Taking the chore out of rubbish



**ENVIRONMENTAL FRIEND:** Waitomo District Landfill transfer station attendant Vicky Ngauma says recycling is crucial to reducing waste and protecting the land as much as possible for the next generation.

BY JAMES PAUL

*"We are the caretakers of the land darling, and everyone needs to do their part".*

So says Waitomo District Landfill transfer station attendant Vicky Ngauma who gives "environmentally friendly" a whole new meaning.

The Te Kuiti resident took the opportunity to work for the Waitomo District Council two and half years ago, and says she saw it as a chance to do something for other residents.

"You know darling it's a chore to do the rubbish so I thought why not make it a fun day, bring the kids, the wives and the girlfriends out and make it a fun day.

"So I'd greet them with a smile and chat with them, and try to change people's attitudes towards dumping their stink rubbish.

"We want to keep our land clean and green, and I want our next generation to care about our land so it's great to see grandparents, middle-aged people and kids come and do their recycling.

"Recycling teaches everyone to be more environmentally savvy. People nowadays are more aware of recycling than they were 20 years ago."

There are three main types of plastic and each bottle displays a number underneath which represents which bin it should be disposed in.

## WASTE REDUCED

She says recycling has greatly reduced the amount of waste the council has to get rid of, and also stocks the shelves of the landfill's recycle shop.

The 'Re-use Shop' collects household items such

as books, brooms, furniture and beds which are in good condition and can be sold cheaply.

Recycle bins have been utilised in the North King Country since 2008, when the council met its rubbish obligations under the Minimisation Act and Council's Solid Waste (asset) Management and Minimisation Plan.

"Recycling is a generational thing," says Ms Ngauma.

**"We want to keep our land clean and green, and I want our next generation to care about our land so it's great to see grandparents, middle-aged people and kids come and do their recycling."**

"If we can teach our kids to do it properly, you know darling by putting the glass, plastic and cardboard in the right place, then hopefully when my generation is gone the next one can look after the land.

"It's a wonderful world and we can recycle pretty much everything which reduces waste in the landfill."

She says the best part of her job is the people, who she has known and worked with throughout her

life in Te Kuiti.

"I've got a lovely job hun. It takes two minutes to be nice to someone and it is rewarding because everyone goes away feeling happy.

"I give people hugs too because one day I might not be around to give them one. But sometimes I forget to keep some love for myself, and only give a little out so I have enough for my family."

## RUBBISH COLLECTED

The Waitomo District Landfill uses three large holes, called cells to collect 14,000 m2 of rubbish a year.

Pipes are laid underneath high quality plastic, used as liners, to ventilate any gas or leachate that is emitted from the rubbish.

## PRE-LOVED

**MARCH  
MADNESS**



**All clothes  
and shoes  
for the  
month of  
March**

**TE KUITI  
SPCA  
SHOP  
163 Rora Street  
Te Kuiti**

**Treasure  
Chest of  
Goodies**

### Clothing

Lace, evening wear, antiques, gloves/hats

### Collectables

Late 1940s china, antiques, pictures, kitchenware, old jars

### Furniture

Cash for furniture only

**Peas in a Pod  
Antiques**

94 Rora St  
Te Kuiti  
07 878 7392

**For all  
your  
family's  
clothing &  
footwear  
needs**

We also sell

- Books
- Kitchen & household goods
- Clean rags for your workshop

**Come and  
search out a  
BARGAIN!**

**St Luke's  
Community Shop  
92 Rora St, Te Kuiti  
07 878 5166  
Opposite Te Kuiti  
SuperValue**

**"Altogether Lovely"  
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**Pre-loved  
& new  
women's wear.**

**WE ARE  
MOVING!**

We will be closed from Tuesday, February 25th while we establish our new premises in Te Awamutu.

**Grand opening  
to be advised.**

Enquiries to:  
Angela  
Widdowson  
027 234 8993



**BRIGHT LIGHT:** Waitomo District Landfill transfer station attendant Vicky Ngauma says she tries to brighten every customer's rubbish dumping experience.



# enviro

A WAITOMO NEWS ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Chance to get rid of unwanted chemicals

WAIKATO farmers and growers are being urged to take a look in their sheds and get rid of any unwanted agrichemicals during the upcoming Agrecovery collection.

The booking deadline for those wanting to safely dispose of chemicals through Agrecovery is March 28.

Last year, Waikato farmers and growers used the environmentally sound collection to get rid of a record six tonnes of unwanted or expired agrichemicals.

That's five times the amount collected in 2012 and the largest take-back in a single region by Agrecovery since collections started in 2010.

"It's great to see the volume collected from Waikato farmers and growers increase year on year," says Agrecovery chairman Graeme Peters.

"These are chemicals that might have otherwise been left in sheds, posing an increased safety risk, or eventually ending up in our waterways or on our land. We know there are still some properties with old and unwanted chemicals and we'd like to see those farmers and growers book them in for our upcoming collection."

In its last financial year, Agrecovery completed



**BY THE TONNE:** Last year Waikato farmers and growers got rid of six tonnes of unwanted or expired agrichemicals. PHOTO SUPPLIED

five regional collections throughout the country totalling nearly 16,000kg of agrichemicals, 37% more than the previous financial year.

Many agrichemicals and animal health products are eligible for free disposal through the support of the 57 brand owners who participate in the programme.

Disposal of others may be subsidised through additional support provided by Waikato Regional Council.

*Users of horticultural, agricultural and veterinary chemicals, including farmers, growers, contractors and veterinarians can log their unwanted and expired chemicals for collection by phoning 0800 247 326 or visiting the website – agrecovery.co.nz.*

**Too hot and muggy??**  
Install one of these energy efficient systems today

**Smart Vent Home Ventilation**  
**FREE QUOTES!**  
**DIAL US BEFORE YOU DIG!**  
We now locate cables, we also do inspections and new underground services  
For all your air conditioning and electrical needs.

**Waite Electrical Limited**

A: 45 Waitete Rd, Te Kuiti P: 07 878 8842 E: waite\_electrical@xtra.co.nz

**Kerbside Recycling Collection Service**  
Waitomo District Council

**THESE WASTE TYPES WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR RECYCLING:**

**PLASTIC**

- Rinse containers and bottles clean and squash
- Remove and discard all lids.

*Plastic types 1 & 2 only.*

**ALUMINIUM & TIN**

- Rinse cans and tins clean. Place lid inside of tin and squash to secure.
- Ensure aerosol cans are empty

**NO solvent cans, paint tins, dirty tin foil.**

**GLASS**

- Rinse bottles and jars clean
- Remove and discard lids and caps

**NO light bulbs, drinking glass, ceramics, porcelain, window, mirror or broken glass**

**PAPER & CARDBOARD**

- Flatten & stack cardboard
- Secure paper in plastic bag

**NO food wrap, wax coated paper, polystyrene or insulated cups**

**www.waitomo.govt.nz**

**NOT ACCEPTED:**  
Un-recyclable items  
Overfilled Green Bins  
Recyclables in other bins

**Waitomo Liquid Waste Disposal**

**Code of compliance operators**

What NOT to flush into the septic tank:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Household bleaches • Kitchen fat

Steve or Marilyn McFall

P: 07 873 6220 M: 021 111 3911 F: 07 873 6110  
Locally owned and operated

**RECYCLE YOUR OLD TV TODAY for a greener tomorrow**

**Waitomo District Landfill**  
Williams St, Te Kuiti  
Open: Wednesday - Sunday  
9:00am - 4:00pm

**Otorohanga Recycling Centre**  
Progress Drive, Otorohanga  
Open: Friday - Wednesday (Closed Thursday)  
10:00am - 4:00pm

**Last Days for FREE Drop Off**  
Otorohanga - Saturday, 1 March  
Waitomo - Saturday, 29 March

RCN e-Cycle  
Waitomo District Council  
OTOROHANGA  
EnviroWaste  
Ministry for the Environment