

# News & Information from Mackenzie District Council



## New Slide on Fairlie Village Green

The playground at Fairlie Village Green has a new slide. Celebrate our lovely spring days by coming and giving it a go. This replaces the old one which had reached the end of its life.

## Ongoing road maintenance work



Above - Culvert work on Coal Pit, and Waratah Roads, Albury

Council's roading contractor Fulton Hogan have been busy during the past couple of weeks making the most of the 'settled' weather to recover from the weather event that hit the Canterbury Region in July.

Areas of focus include culvert, drainage and unsealed pavement repairs in Albury and Lochaber.

For the next month, focus will be on pre-reseal and pavement repairs, predominantly around the Twizel area and the unsealed road metaling programme.

The Fulton Hogan team are constantly looking at ways to mitigate the effects of the rainfalls in recent times in the Mackenzie District, and building resilience into the roading infrastructure to ensure the network withstands the evolving weather patterns continually experienced.

## Twizel Smart Meters Project

Council contractors will soon start installing smart water meters at every property in Twizel, including businesses. Where a property already has a water meter it will be replaced with one of the new ones.

### Why are we doing this?

Twizel has the highest consumption of water in Mackenzie. Drinking-quality treated water is expensive for Council to produce, and it is important that we do not let it leak out of pipes or valves and go to waste. We know the quantity of water that is leaving the treatment plant. By installing meters at the point of consumption we can calculate our real water loss between the plant and the consumer and find the places where we are losing water. By identifying areas of leaks and other losses we can target our repair work.



The meters will also let us know where a property has a potential leak so that we can alert the home owner that there may be a problem. This could mean we can prevent unexpected large bills from undetected leaks etc. This can be particularly useful for holiday home owners.

### Does this mean that water will cost more?

No, there is no intention to change the amount we charge for water. Currently, the first 700m3 are paid for by your water rate. That will remain unchanged. Anything over 700m3 currently incurs a charge, and this extra will continued to be billed.

### What you can expect

The meters will be installed at the toby. (The toby is the water shut-off valve, generally located at the boundary of the property, that sits between the council water main and your private water pipe.) This means that our contractors will need to access the property around the toby. We expect that some will be easy to do. However, we also know that there are some older tobys which need to be replaced as part of this work. Where our contractors do need to replace your toby there will be no charge to the home owner.

Most tobys are already situated at the property boundary on the road reserve. If a toby is somewhere else, where we can, we will also move it to the road reserve. Where this is not possible, it will remain inside the property.

### When will this happen?

Installation will start in October/November. Start date is still to be confirmed and we will advertise the date when before work starts. It is important to note also that no installation work will take place over Christmas/New Year peak holiday period.

### How will the meters work?

The meter will log the flow of water through meter and will send that information via the cell network to Council's systems in the office every day.

## Twizel Ring Main Renewal Project

Council contractors will shortly begin a project to replace the Mackenzie Drive ring mains. There are two ring mains here - one on each side of the road, and we are replacing both.

These pipes are made of asbestos concrete (AC) and we are replacing them before they can become a problem.

We are also taking the opportunity to up-size the pipes to allow for future growth in the town.

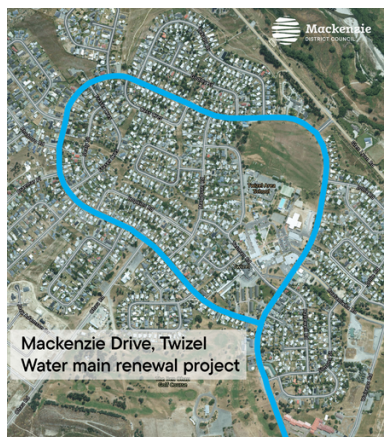
The work will start in October and is scheduled to continue until May 2024.

### What can you expect?

The contractors will be working in a trench. The trench will be kept covered as much as possible and any open trenches will be fenced and made safe.

Where the trench temporarily affects access to a property, our contractors will communicate with the home owners concerned. It should not be for more than a day.

During this project there will be a few occasions when the whole town water supply will be turned off. To minimize disruption this will be done overnight from around 11.00 pm until about 6.00am. We will communicate this in advance so you can ensure you have enough water to get through the night.



## Pest control night shooting - Tekapo, Pūkaki and lower Ohau rivers

The National Wallaby Eradication Programme intends to implement its quarterly wallaby control by night shoot, in weekdays from Monday 18 September to Friday 6 October 2023 in the Tekapo, Pūkaki and lower Ohau rivers. The shoot is weather dependent.

Some follow up control will be completed if animals are sighted but not able to be destroyed and in areas where cover is thicker or areas where higher numbers are known to be present. This follow up control will be completed during daytime hours with a gun/dog team. Environment Canterbury are planning on co-ordinating this with helicopter control in the rivers also. You will be re-advised if and when the helicopter component goes ahead.

Public will be advised through radio announcement the week before and during the week of operation. Warning Signage will be posted at normal points of entry.

For questions or concerns, contact Luke Biddle at Environment Canterbury on 027 306 9427.

## District Plan Review - Stage Four



The Mackenzie District Plan Review is continuing to progress, and Stage Four of the Review is underway. This stage covers a range of topics including Hazards and Risks, Historic Heritage, Notable Trees and more. We want to know what you think!

Visit [letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz](https://letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz) > District Plan Review - Stage Four to find out more and fill out a quick survey.



## Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday 26 September	Council Meeting	9:30am - 2:00pm	Fairlie
	Audit and Risk Meeting	2:00pm - 4:00pm	Fairlie
Wednesday 27 September	Tekapo Community Board meeting	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Tekapo
Thursday 28 September	Fairlie Community Board meeting	4:30pm - 6:00pm	Fairlie
Monday 30 October	Twizel Community Board meeting	4:30pm - 6:30pm	Twizel
Tuesday 31 October	Council Meeting	9:30am - 2:00pm	

The public are welcome to attend meetings. Occasionally times and venues change so please call and check beforehand. There is a public forum at the beginning of each Council and Community Board meeting and members of the public are invited to address Elected Members on relevant matters. Agendas are available on the Council website at least two working days before each meeting.