

# Storm Fehi UPDATE



## Refuse

### ***Transfer Stations***

The Westport Transfer Station will be closed on **THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018** to allow the clean up and removal of the high volume of refuse that has accumulated at the transfer station since the storm. The transfer station will be open as usual on Friday and Saturday, and will be open for extended hours on Sunday 11 February 2018 from 9am to 4pm.

### ***Refuse from Red and Yellow Stickered Properties***

Refuse from red and yellow stickered properties is able to be dumped at the transfer station free of charge until Sunday 18 February 2018. Staff have a list of the properties affected to ensure you are able to drop off your refuse without needing to pay.

### ***Greenwaste***

Greenwaste from the storm can be dumped free of charge at the Westport and Reefton transfer stations until this Sunday 11 February 2018.

## Water damage

**If water has entered your home or property, please remember to contact your insurance company before you undertake any clean-up work.**

### ***Red stickered properties – these properties cannot be inhabited***

Properties that had flood inundation within the dwelling and have been issued a red sticker may require the frame cavity to be dried out before re-habitation. This will involve:

- Removal of all internal linings to at least 300mm above the flood level.
- Removal of the batts and allowing the framing to dry.
- Spraying a bleach solution on floors and in the wall cavity.
- Contacting an electrician to check the wiring.

Council will do a free moisture check of framing before batts and linings are re-installed.

Check your property file on what internal bracing was installed. It is important to replace the bracing elements 'like for like'.

If the framing is dry and Council is satisfied that there are no issues, then the sticker can be changed from red to yellow, and the dwelling will then be habitable during repairs.

Dwellings that have been red stickered will need the carpets to be pulled up and floor framing dried and skirtings removed to assist drying. Wall linings will need to be checked to ensure they have not been damaged. If Council is satisfied that there are no issues, a yellow sticker will be issued, allowing the dwelling to be inhabited while repairs are completed. Once the repair work has been completed, contact Council to remove the sticker.

If the dwelling has had structural damage then a building consent may be required.

### ***Yellow stickered properties***

Dwellings that have been issued yellow stickers have had parts of the dwelling affected. Ensure the carpets and framing is dry and that the framing has also been sprayed with a bleach solution before any re-instatement. If a moisture check is needed before replacement then contact Council to arrange this. Council may remove the yellow sticker once satisfied that the carpets and framing is dry.

### ***Properties that have had sections inundated***

- Check your gully traps to ensure they are free from debris.
- Check the sewer line to ensure it is not blocked (flush the toilets to check for backup overflow through the gullies)
- If you have bark gardens that have had flood water through them, you should turn the bark over and leave for a minimum of a week to weather. If you have bark gardens that children are likely to play in or near, it is recommended that the bark is removed along with any weed mat underneath and discarded. Allow the ground to dry out for a week and then replace with new materials.
- Outdoor furniture and play equipment must be thoroughly waterblasted before use. If these items cannot be cleaned effectively, they need to be discarded.

### ***Properties with septic tanks***

The tanks and effluent disposal field may be overloaded. Check the Fresh Air Inlet to see if the level of the tank is in the normal position. If not then the tank may require emptying (from an effluent disposal firm) to rest the tank.

**As a health and safety precaution, Council reminds all residents who are cleaning up around their properties to treat anything that has been affected by floodwaters as contaminated and to take necessary precautions to avoid any illness. This includes the wearing of suitable protective gear including gloves, gumboots and face masks.**

**Any soft furnishings such as lounge suites, beds and mattresses, as well as any clothing, linen, blankets etc that have been affected by contaminated flood water must be discarded.**