



Follow the stars for Matariki

Applications close on Friday for groups and individuals planning community events for Matariki.

Masterton District Council is again offering grants of up to \$500 to help organisers, and planning a map of events running from Monday 24 June to Sunday 14 July.

To register for inclusion on the Follow the Stars events map for Te Ara O Ngā Whetū O Matariki, and apply for a grant, activities must be aligned to one of the nine stars in Matariki (set out below) and be open to the public.

Registrations close Friday 24 May and can be made via the Council website or using hard copy forms available at the Council's Queen Street Office or Masterton District Library.

Matariki rises in midwinter and for many Māori heralds the start of a new year.

Matariki - signifies reflection, hope, our connection to the environment and the gathering of people.

Pohutukawa - is connected to those who have passed on.

Waiti - is connected with all freshwater bodies and the food sources that are sustained by those waters.

Waitā - is associated with the ocean, and its food sources.

Waipuna-ā-rangi - is connected with the rain.

Tupu-ā-nuku - is the star connected with everything that grows within the soil to be harvested for food.

Tupu-ā-rangi - is connected with everything that grows in the trees: fruits, berries and birds.

Ururangi - is the star connected with the winds.

Hiwa-i-te-rangi - is the star connected with granting our wishes, and realising our aspirations.

Applications close Friday 24 May

Accessibility improvements for McJorrow Park playground

Masterton District Council has begun work to improve accessibility at McJorrow Park playground, removing an area of bark chip and replacing it with a soft pour flexi surface.

A path is also being introduced as part of improving access for people with mobility limitations to the Lilypad swing.

The work is being paid for using a \$28,000 grant from the Trust House Foundation. There will also be two interactive play panels installed.

Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of May.



Pool inspections continuing

Pools come with rules around fencing and access, and Masterton District Council will be continuing pool inspections next month.

A leaflet drop will be carried out in areas in which inspections are planned. This will include information on how to book a time to be present for the inspection, if desired.

Section 165D of the Building Act requires councils to inspect pools every three years to make sure they meet requirements, with warranted Council staff entitled to enter properties to inspect pools at any time.

All pools intended for swimming that hold more than 400mm of water need a building consent for

the safety barrier (fence).

Requirements for pool fences are explained in the Swimming Pool Fencing Guidelines which can be found on our website: www.mstn.govt.nz

Common ways in which pool fencing fails Building Act requirements:

- the gate does not close automatically
- the fence has deteriorated, with gaps allowing access or climbing
- vegetation near the fence, inside or outside, provides assistance to climbing
- temporary pools purchased without consideration of fencing requirements.



Dog registration fees unchanged

Dog owners can celebrate unchanged registration fees for 2024/25 following the Council's decision to spread the cost of animal control activities from a 20 per cent contribution from general ratepayers to a 30 per cent share of the cost. However, dogs that are impounded will incur increased costs for their owners.

The unchanged fees are:

Responsible owner	(25% discount)	\$82.00
Urban Neutered		\$109.00
Urban Entire		\$188.00
Permit Breeder		\$109.00
Rural 1st Dog		\$109.00
Rural 2nd and Subsequent		\$29.00
Dangerous Neutered		\$163.50
Disability assist		No cost
Dog in approved foster care		No cost

The following fees will apply from 1 July

Service	(Current fee)	New fee
Poundage Fee: First impounding (registered)	(\$75)	\$82.50
	(\$75)	\$100.00
	(\$150)	\$165.00
	(\$200)	\$220.00
	(\$25)	\$27.50
Surrender of dog (acceptance must be on prior approval)	(\$300)	\$330.00
Micro-chipping of Masterton registered dog	(\$20)	\$22.00
Application for Permit - keep more than two dogs in urban area	(\$65)	\$65.00
Replacement registration tag	(\$5)	\$7.00
Dog seizure fees	(\$150)	\$165.00
Afterhours dog release (additional to impounding fees)	(\$150)	\$165.00
Bark collar hire (2 week hire, plus bond)		\$23 + \$23
Administration rate (per hour)		\$125.00
Officer rate (per hour)		\$190.00

Council Meetings

The meetings of the Council and its committees for the coming month are listed below.

Unless specified, all meetings will be held in the Kiwi Room at Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road, Masterton. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. The meetings will also be accessible to the public via the livestream on the Masterton District Council YouTube channel. Agendas will be available on the Council website (www.mstn.govt.nz) and copies will be available for inspection at the main Council office, 161 Queen Street, and at the Library, 54 Queen Street, two working days prior to the meeting.

Opportunity for Public Comment

At the beginning of some meetings, a period is available for those who wish to speak or comment on any matter relevant to the meeting in question. Requests to speak at a meeting should be made to Harriet Kennedy, Governance Team Leader, phone 370 6300 or email mdc@mstn.govt.nz at least one clear day before the meeting.

What's On

- Today Wednesday 22 - Friday 24 May**
 - 9am Long-Term Plan hearings
- Today Wednesday 22 May**
 - 1pm Audit and Risk Committee meeting
- Friday 24 May**
 - 12noon Winter firewood giveaway closes - for details check instagram or your email inbox if you are signed up for our emails
 - 4pm Applications close to be included on the Matariki Follow the Stars grants and to be included in the calendar
- Wednesday 29 May**
 - 3pm Infrastructure and Services Committee meeting
- Monday 3 June - King's Birthday**
- Wednesday 5 June**
 - 9am Council meeting to deliberate on the Long-Term Plan
- Monday 24 June**
 - Matariki Follow the Stars events begin
- Wednesday 26 June**
 - 9am Council meeting
- Friday 28 June - Matariki holiday observed**

Thanks for having your say!



LTP submissions go past 800

A total of 837 submissions were received on the Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-34 consultation document, more than the total combined submissions received for the LTP consultations in 2018 (339) and 2021 (346).

And with 89 submitters wanting to express their views in person to the Council, an extra day has been added to the hearings process.

Mayor Gary Caffell thanked the community for engaging with the process.

"Staff and elected members did a great job to make people aware of what has been proposed in the consultation document and we have received a lot of feedback about how readable and clear the document was.

"I want to thank everyone who has made a submission. Of course, the hard work is just beginning."

Hearings will be held from today (Wednesday 22 May) until Friday. Final numbers will depend on those who take up the offer to speak.

All submissions will be available in the agenda for the deliberations meeting by the Council, to be held on 5 June. The agenda is scheduled to be online on 3 June.

Following the deliberations meeting, the Council will meet on 26 June to adopt the long-term plan.

To keep up-to-date and report issues, download Anteno from your Apple App Store or Google Play store.

