

**Taking an Integrated
Approach to Farm Planning:
Your Farm Emergency Plan**



This module is brought to you by Taranaki Catchment Communities.
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Your Farm Emergency Plan

This plan will help you prepare for the worst and ultimately it will help with:

- **Survivability:** Planning can substantially improve the likelihood that you, and your business, will be resilient after a disaster, so it should be high on your priority list.
- **Opportunity Spotting:** An emergency response plan can help you identify opportunities for you and your business and become more resilient – whether it's having access to backup sites or workspaces, or essential items like generators, preparedness pays off.
- **Peace of Mind:** It can boost confidence among your family and staff members, especially if they're involved in the planning process.
- **Insurance Benefits:** It could help you negotiate lower business insurance premiums.

Planning for adverse weather events not only saves lives but can also be the game-changer for you, your family, and your business.

It's important to take proactive action before disaster strikes.

By investing time in planning and preparation, you can be better equipped to handle any situation. Whether it's a cyclone, earthquake, storm, tsunami, or even a cyber threat, being ready for whatever comes your way is key.

Who is this plan for?

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

What are your GPS coordinates?

Your Home

Step 1: Do you have anyone at home with special requirements:

Will anyone in your farm need assistance to evacuate, or while stuck at home during an emergency?	
Does anyone rely on mobility or medical devices or other special equipment?	
Does anyone rely on prescription medicine?	
Do you have supplies to last three days or more or alternatives if power is not available?	
Do you have babies or infants on the farm? Do you have nappies, formula, etc. to last three days or more if shops and roads are closed?	
Do you have pets? Your animals are your responsibility, so make sure you include them in your emergency planning. Do you have food and water to last three days or more? Do you have cages or carriers to transport them and keep them safe? Do you have someone to collect and look after your animals if you can't get home?	

Step 2: What will you need to do if there is no water at the house?

Do you have enough drinking water stored (three litres per person per day for three days or more)?	
What if your bore hole or supply is contaminated or cut off?	
Do you have water for your pets and your animals? What will you cook and clean with? What will you use for a toilet?	
Are your water distribution systems well-maintained and clear?	
Do you have an alternative source of emergency stock water if your only source is currently surface water from a stream or river?	
If your water source is from a stream or river, do you have adequate tank water storage or other covered storage and that stored water can be distributed if pumping facilities are disrupted such as gravity-fed systems?	
Does your farmhouse have a disconnect valve on roof-fed rainwater tanks and stockpile bottled water?	

Step 3: What will you need to do if there is no power?

How will you cook, stay warm, see at night (do not use candles as they are a fire hazard)?	
Do you have spare cash in case ATMs are not working?	
Do you have access to fuel in case petrol pumps are not working?	

Step 4: We're stuck on farm – what now?

Do we have emergency supplies?

Do we have food and drink for three days or more (for everyone including babies and pets)?

Do we have working torches, a radio, and batteries?

Are your first aid/medical supplies easy to find and up to date?

Who locally has the equipment you might need, such as generators or diggers? Your local Catchment Group Coordinator can help you complete this section.

Do we know how to turn off water, power and gas?

Only turn these off if you suspect a leak or damaged lines or if you are instructed to do so by authorities. If you turn the gas off, you will need a professional to turn it back on.

Step 5: We need to evacuate

What are your evacuation routes and assembly points?

How will you get there? If you live near the coast, make sure it is outside of all tsunami evacuation zones. Where will you stay if you can't get back to your home?

Your local Catchment Group Coordinator can help you complete this section, as there may be a local Hall or Marae that is the community assembly point.

Meeting location

Where will you meet if you can't contact each other and are separated when an emergency occurs? How will you get there?

If you have to leave in a hurry, do you have grab bags?

Does everyone have grab bags* in case you need to evacuate? At home, at work, in the car? **A small bag with warm clothes, a torch, radio, first aid kit, snack food and water.*

Keep stocks of P2 or N95 masks, goggles, sturdy footwear and protective clothing that covers arms and legs.

Make detailed notes on where the grab bags are stored:

Step 6: Helping our family, neighbours and community

Do you know your neighbours?

Are there any friends, family or neighbours who might need your help to get through an emergency at home or to evacuate?

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

Name:

Contact Number:

Who are your useful contacts?

Your local Catchment Group Coordinator can help you complete this section.

Rural Support Trust	
Catchment Group	
111 in an emergency	
Council emergency hotline	
Medical centre/Doctor	
Landlord/Farm Owner	
Insurance company	
Power company	
Day care/school	

What about the kids?

If you are not able to pick children up from school, day care, afterschool care, etc., who will? Do they know? Does the school / day care have their details?

Name: Contact Number:

Name: Contact Number:

Name: Contact Number:

Name: Contact Number:

Step 7: Getting information

How will you find the latest news/alerts? Which radio stations will you listen to? Which websites and social media pages will you check?

Your Farm

Step 1: Know your farm and know the types of emergencies that might impact it

What are the most likely local hazards facing your rural community, e.g. earthquakes, floods, storms, wildfires and isolation. Your local Catchment Group Coordinator can help you complete this section.

Assess Risks and Vulnerabilities	
What potential adverse weather conditions does your area usually get? (e.g., heavy rain, snowstorms, floods, extreme heat)	
How would these events affect your farm operations, infrastructure and people?	

Understand your insurance policy

Check your farm insurance policy so you know what is covered/excluded in relation to volcanic eruption. Understanding your insurance may help you make early decisions to protect your stock and assets.

Step 2: Livestock and Animal Welfare

Plan for the safety and well-being of animals:		Yes	No
Where could you shift livestock, e.g. to drier, lower-risk paddocks?			
How can you save crops in drier, sheltered areas?			
Are you strategically grazing paddocks, avoiding wet spots?			
Have you made arrangements to stand cows off on laneways or concrete yards?			
Have you considered cold stress in wet, windy conditions?			
Is there adequate food and water for livestock?			
Which parts of your farm may be safer for livestock during eruptions?			
As pasture in paddocks may be contaminated with ash until the next rainfall, what supplementary feed do you have available to feed stock and can it be supplied without it getting contaminated? E.g. covered feedpad.			
Plan for how you will evacuate stock – where they will go, and in what order of priority you will evacuate them?			

Make sure all of your stock has ID or NAIT tags so if they are moved off farm they can be identified.

The impact of ashfall on animal health cannot be predicted until the ash has been tested for its chemical composition. Having said that, animals will tend not to eat pasture contaminated by harmful ash due to the taste. Sheep and goats are more likely to be affected from ash ingestion than cows, due to how they graze.

Step 3: Infrastructure and Environment

Infrastructure and Environment	Yes	No
Have you chosen areas that minimise environmental impact, such as soil damage, runoff, and flood risk?		
Are you avoiding letting cows stand on hard surfaces for extended periods?		
Are you taking measures to prevent effluent runoff into waterways?		
Have you considered using feed pads or grass strips for standing cows off?		

Step 4: Power supply and equipment

Power supply and equipment	Yes	No
Have you assessed the power supply to electric fences?		
Do you have backup power sources available if needed?		
Is all your equipment in working order?		
Can you run equipment from tractor power take offs if necessary?		
Do you have enough filters for your generator and other key farming equipment and vehicles?		
Do you have fuel for your farm equipment and generators on site in case of accessibility issues?		
Do you have an air-compressor for effectively cleaning ash from machinery?		

Step 5: Communication

Communication	Yes	No
Does everyone on the farm know what to do if bad weather hits?		
Have you established communication channels (phones, radios) to stay connected during emergencies?		
Have you conducted drills to practice executing the plan?		

Risk identified	Rating	Existing actions	New actions (if needed)	Due date	Responsible person	Evidence