Wellington's above ground emergency water network

Helping to make our communities resilient





EMERGENCY RESPONSE ISLANDS

Road and transportation networks, water, wastewater, power, gas, and telecommunications will all be significantly affected in a major earthquake.

We've worked with central and local government emergency management experts to agree our approach for emergency planning. The emergency response 'island' concept recognises that after a significant earthquake communities will be isolated. Inaccessible roads, landslides, debris, and flooding will make Wellington into 'islands' that need to be totally self-sufficient.



ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES

Wellington's drinking water network is vulnerable. Some suburbs could be without water for more than 100 days after a major earthquake.

The above ground water sources won't be the only supply of emergency water. Water within existing reservoirs at the time of the earthquake can also be used.

Where will the water come from?

Rivers and streams

Twelve sites will take water from local rivers and streams

Bores

Nine new groundwater bores where streams aren't available

Desalination

Units will be transported into areas without access to other water sources



Streams





Desalination







Bores

SAFE AND RELIABLE EMERGENCY WATER

Once the water has been extracted from a bore, stream and/or river it passes through a community water station, where it is treated and made safe.



A water treatment plant . . . in a box!

Extracted water from bore or stream/river

The water supplied from community water stations is treated to NZ Drinking Water Standards.

Carbon filter

> Ultraviolet light

Chlorine

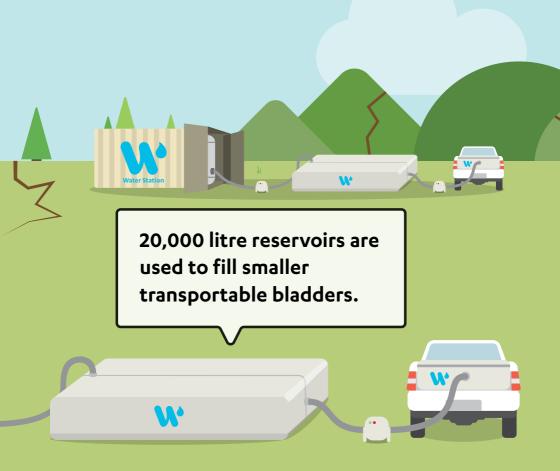




ON-SITE RESERVOIR

Each community water station will have a 20,000 litre emergency water bladder. Some sites will have two, depending on the size of the community.

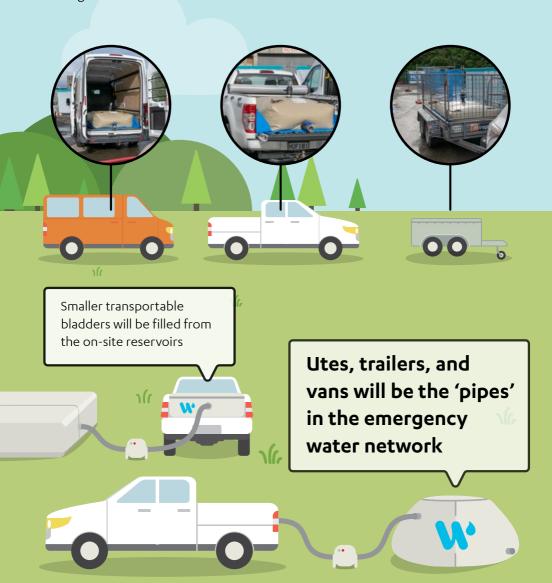
These giant bladders act as a reservoir, and are filled with safe water once it has been treated by the community water station.





TRANSPORTING WATER: PIPES ON WHEELS

Underground water supply pipes won't stand up to the force of a major quake. We estimate around 75 per cent of the 2,000 kilometres of buried pipes will be damaged.



COMMUNITY: COLLECTION POINTS

Water collection points will be set up in locations like schools, parks, and roadsides.

The aim is to make water collection points easily accessible from every home. Locations will be advised through official information channels following the emergency.



HOUSEHOLD: STORE WATER NOW!

Following a major earthquake, the first thing people rely on is themselves and their families — storing water is a must for every household.

You should have 20 litres of stored water for every person, every day — for at least seven days. That's 560 litres for a four-person household.

You may need to store more if you have unwell people, or small children in your home.



Find out more about emergency water

Wellington Water is owned by the Hutt, Porirua, Upper Hutt and Wellington city councils and Greater Wellington Regional Council.

We manage their drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services.