



Connecting in
VERTICAL
Neighbourhoods

neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz

Know your neighbours

A well-connected community helps improve safety, resilience, and wellbeing for all.

Involvement in Neighbourhood Support comes in many forms. You might attend building meetups, stay connected online or by email, host pot-luck dinners, organise book/toy swaps, or undertake building or community beautification projects.

The most important action you can take to make your community safer is get to know the people who live around you. People who know each other are more likely to offer, accept, and ask for help when needed.

3 Ways To Connect With Your Neighbours:

Look Out

Help keep your community safe by looking out for your neighbours. If something doesn't look right, let someone know or get help.

Reach Out

It just takes a wave! Say 'Kia ora!' or introduce yourself. There are many ways to make your building welcoming to people of all backgrounds and cultures.

Help Out

The little things make a big difference. Chat with someone who lives alone, help a new neighbour move in, or help carry a neighbour's groceries up to their apartment.

Civil Defence/Emergency Management

Earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and severe weather can happen at any time. Follow these top ten tips to be ready!

- 1. Know your risks:** Check if your building is in a tsunami, volcanic eruption or flood zone.
- 2. Make and practice a Household Emergency Plan.**
- 3. Connect with people in your building.** Neighbours can support you in an emergency. Discuss with them how you can check in on and help each other.
- 4. Locate your nearest Community Emergency Hub.**
- 5. Know how to stay informed** during an emergency: Know your local radio station frequency; Follow your local emergency and council channels.
- 6. Store enough Emergency Supplies** (water, food, and essentials) to last 7 days.
- 7. Prepare a Grab Bag** with essential items in case you must evacuate your building with little or no warning.
- 8. Check your workplace and education provider's emergency plans.**
- 9. Make your home quake safe** by securing tall and heavy furniture that could fall and injure you in an earthquake.
- 10. Follow** your local Emergency Management **website** and **social media** to know what to do before, during and after an emergency.

Learn more at getready.govt.nz,
eqc.govt.nz/prepare and wremo.nz

Fire & Emergency New Zealand

You and your household should familiarise yourselves with your building's specific evacuation procedures so you can evacuate safely.

Familiarise yourself with the **fire action notice** (found by any manual fire alarm or on the back of your apartment door). Contact your building representative if you don't have a fire action notice.

Check where all the fire exits are in your building. Identify your closest exit and ensure everyone knows how to get to it. Never use a lift in an evacuation.

There are no legislative requirements for buildings to have designated building wardens, so you and others in your building need to **coordinate your own evacuation**.

Get to know your immediate neighbours, even if it's just those next door. Discuss evacuation plans with them and if anyone in your or their household requires assistance (including people with disabilities, elderly, large families).

When you have evacuated a building, attending fire crews may ask if everyone is outside. You can tell crews if there is still anyone potentially inside the building if you know who lives on your floor.

In a fire, alert as many people on your floor as possible as you promptly exit. Yell FIRE. FIRE. FIRE when exiting, or knock on people's doors.

Once outside, always call 111 if there are no fire crews present. Do not assume that someone else has called them.

New Zealand Police

Keep your **property** safe by

- Securing your doors, windows with good quality locks and installing security stays on windows
- Locking your doors and windows
- Keeping valuables hidden
- Ensure your keys/keyrings do not identify you or where you live
- Ensure no one tailgates/follows you into the building/car parking

Keep your **vehicle** safe by

- Always locking your car, motorbike, bicycle, or other vehicles
- A car alarm, steering lock, or good quality chains are extra deterrents
- Remove valuables from vehicles

Contacting Police

There are various ways you can get further information, or report a crime.

Call 111 when you need an immediate emergency response from Police, Fire or Ambulance if life or property are at risk.

Call 105 to report things that don't need urgent Police assistance. You can also report crimes such as lost property, property damage, shoplifting and theft online by visiting:

105.police.govt.nz

Call Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111 to report a crime anonymously. Crimestoppers is an independent charity.



How do I join?

Sign up as an individual or join your local group. Fill in the 'Join Now' form on our website neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz. Everyone is welcome!

Joining a Neighbourhood Group

If there is already an established group in your apartment, we will connect you!

Can't Find a Group Near You?

You can start one yourself! We are happy to provide resources to help you connect with your neighbours and form a group.

Neighbourhood Support NZ

0800 463 444

neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz

This brochure was compiled from NZ Police, Fire & Emergency NZ, and Civil Defence / Emergency Management resources.

