

WORKING SAFELY TOGETHER

Horizons Regional Council staff are tasked with ensuring that environmental regulations are being followed for the good of the environment and the wider community.

Please note that as part of this, Horizons officers are permitted under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to enter your land to assess compliance with this Act and Regional (One Plan) rules.

When Horizons officers are undertaking compliance monitoring please note the following in relation to health and safety requirements:

- Horizons officers will, so far as is reasonably practicable, consult, cooperate with, and coordinate our activities with you.
- Our staff have been appropriately trained and are equipped with personal protective equipment.
- They will take reasonable care for their own health and safety and will take reasonable care that their actions or presence does not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons.
- Health and safety legislation does not prevent or delay Horizons access to private property to undertake its compliance role.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING SAFELY TOGETHER.



HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ACT 2015 (HSWA)

OUR INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Horizons Regional Council (Horizons) staff are required to carry out inspections of private property in their capacity as enforcement officers under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

However, these inspections must be completed in compliance with health and safety legislation. This notice details the responsibility of Horizons, and you, as the lawful owner or occupier of the property being inspected, under that legislation.

Section 332 of the RMA allows Horizons enforcement officers to enter private property, without permission or invitation of the lawful land owner or occupier, for the purpose of assessing compliance with environmental regulations.

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) Horizons is a PCBU (person conducting a business or undertaking). An enforcement officer carrying out their normal duties is defined as a worker by the HSWA. A PCBU's worker's workplace includes any place where a worker goes, or is likely to be, while at work. This includes your property.

That means when a Horizons enforcement officer is on your property for this purpose they are operating under the jurisdiction of Horizons PCBU. Likewise, you also constitute a PCBU and this imposes certain responsibilities on you.

Horizons' responsibility is to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of its workers at its workplace, in this case, on your property. Be assured that Horizons staff visiting your property have been appropriately trained for the work they are undertaking and are equipped with personal protective equipment which is fit for purpose.

Horizons enforcement officers will, so far as is reasonably practicable, consult, cooperate with, and coordinate our activities with you.

Your responsibility, potentially as a PCBU, is to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that the health and safety of any person (including Horizons staff) is not put at risk from work carried out as part of the conduct of the business or undertaking. Please note:

- We will not be able to attend an extensive induction process.
- We do however appreciate you making our staff aware of any out of the ordinary risks at your property.
- We do expect that you will work safely in their presence.

Horizons staff have a responsibility too:

- Our staff will take reasonable care for their own health and safety.
- They will take reasonable care that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons.
- They will comply, as far as they are reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given.
- They will cooperate with any reasonable policy or procedure that has been appropriately notified.

The HSWA cannot be used to prevent, or unduly delay, Horizons enforcement officers from carrying out their lawful duties under Section 332 of the RMA.



For more information visit www.horizons.govt.nz
or freephone Horizons on **0508 800 800**