

Awhi Awa

Embrace a Stream

Help Restore Waterways

Aotearoa is home to a variety of native freshwater fish species, many of which are facing extinction due to water quality issues. You can help by adopting a stream and reducing stormwater pollution in your neighbourhood.

Drains are Streams

Each year thousands of litres of stormwater flows down the pipe network and out into our rivers, streams and the sea. Whatever goes down our drains, flows untreated into our lakes and rivers via a complex system of underground 'streams' and effects all wildlife and the health of biodiversity.

By embracing a stream and reconnecting people with our waterways you can help create generational change in how we care for our water .



How to Embrace a Stream

You can care for a drain (which is actually a stream), at your whare (house), school or business.



Sweep leaves and remove rubbish from your drain



Use only eco-friendly cleaning products when you wash your car



Report pollution - If you see something going down the drain that doesn't look or smell good, please report it on the Pollution Hotline which is staffed 24/7 on 0800 800 033



Join a riparian planting project near you



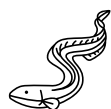
Put pet waste in the bin not into the drain / waterways



Support the increase of permeable surfaces to improve water absorption and reduce urban heat.



Visit the AquaWatch website to find out more about their water monitoring tool



Install your native fish signage and join our community!
(See next page)



How to Install Signage

Your tuna or kōaro metal signs are very simple to attach:



1 Find flat concrete around the drain and make sure the full steel fish sits flat on the edge of the curb.

2 Hold fish in place and drill/mark each hole.

3 Remove fish and drill holes to depth longer than the concrete nails.

4 Put fish back in place, line up holes, hammer fastenings into the holes.



Kia tūpato! Once you are finished, please sweep any excess concrete dust away from the waterways (not into it).

Healthy Waterways from Your Whare



In the kitchen

Don't pour fat down the sink. This can create "fat burgers" in the pipes which cause major blockages and sewerage overflows.

In the bathroom

Only pee, poo and paper down the loo. Wet wipes and sanitary products cause major blockages.

In the laundry

Get a PlanetCare filter which attaches to your washing machine and captures microplastics



Everywhere

Use eco-friendly cleaning products.

Avoid pouring common household products down the drain – they are hazardous to fish and wildlife:

- Paints & solvents
- Pesticides
- Motor oil and petrol
- Antifreeze
- Drain & toilet cleaners
- Dry cleaning agents
- Household cleaners
- Washing detergent
- Degreasers
- Disinfectants



Join our hāpori

Sign-up to get our e-news and project updates:
<https://www.endangeredspecies.org.nz/e-news>