

## BLM 9a: Water crisis in Kapiti continues

# Resident doing her bit as Kapiti water crisis continues

Otaihanga resident Nan Scotney, 87, has been saving used water and carrying it outside to her garden in an effort to save her plants during Kapiti's drought.

She has been abiding by the council restrictions and doing her best to reuse water for her plants outside.

"So far I have saved about two thirds of the plants by reusing washing up water. I have even restricted my showers to about twice a week and have put a basin in the shower to catch the water."

Mrs Scotney would rather be using a hose but knows she has to do her part to conserve water.

"I'm doing my best but it's an awful job taking all the water outside especially when you're 87."

Mrs Scotney said she would take advantage of free bore water being offered at Otaihanga and Waikanae Beach by Kapiti Coast District Council.

Another Otaihanga resident Harry Coburn said it was good people were being offered the water.

He said people had to be mindful not to drink the water as it was untreated and had high levels of iron and manganese.

Council operational services manager Iain McIntosh said "Even though the town water supply is off limits to everyone for outside use, in almost all cases there are other ways to carry out the activity or alternative sources of water that can be tanked either from the bores at Otaihanga, Waikanae Beach or even Otaki."

"So with a little bit of effort it can be done and the council appreciates those people making an effort to help the community."

Water has been restricted to household use only throughout most of the district which has affected both businesses and keen gardeners.

(from Horowhenua-Kapiti Chronicle, 20 March 2003)

1. What are the differences between water from bores and water from the town supply?
2. If you could not use water from a tap anywhere outside your house, what sort of activities would be difficult to do?
3. Nan Scotney thought of 3 ways to save water, what else could you do to save water? (Hint: Try using the Greater Wellington website for help, [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz))
4. How could you educate others about how to save water, so you didn't need to use bore water?
5. Explain in your own words how low water levels can affect the quality of water.
6. At what time of the year are water levels likely to be at their lowest?
7. What sort of business might use a large amount of water?

