

What we're doing

SAVING OUR LAKES

Sewerage Schemes for Lakeside Communities

- Septic tanks do not treat nutrients and bacteria in sewage
- Up to 90% of nitrogen from septic tanks enters the environment,
- 95% of phosphorus enters the environment,
- Septic tanks are the main cause of localised bacterial contamination of waterways
- Environment Bay of Plenty's on-site Effluent Treatment Plan
 - Will affect all properties within the Rotorua lakes catchment and are:
 - 2 hectares or less
 - within 200m of a lake edge
 - within a designated sewerage scheme area.
 - These properties will need to either:
 - replace their existing septic tank with an advance nutrient removal system, or
 - apply for a resource consent for their existing system (only applicable under certain conditions), or
 - be part of a council reticulation network where one is available.

By 1 December 2010 for Lakes Rotorua, Rotoiti, Okareka and Tikitapu, or
By 1 December 2014 for Lakes Rotoma and Tarawera and for the lakeside community of Hamurana



Blue-green algae in Lake Rotoehu



Blue-green algae in Okareka



Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant



Ohau Channel Diversion Wall

Fact:

Per Hectare: Life style blocks with a septic tank, a few animals and the use of garden fertilizers, can produce the same level of nutrients as a working farm.

- District Council Sewerage Reticulation is proposed for the following lakeside communities:

- Mourea and Okawa Bay (completed)
- Hinemoa Point (completed)
- Rotokawa and Brunswick (available November 2009),
- Okareka and Tikitapu (November 2010),
- Okere Falls, Otaramarae and Whangamarino (February 2011),
- Rotoiti (Ruato Bay to Hinehopu) (2012)
- Rotoma (2013)
- Hamurana (2014)
- Tarawera (2016)
- Mamaku (2017)

Fact:

The Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant and land treatment system removes 90% of nitrogen and 95% of phosphorus from the environment.