

# RATES REBATE

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A RATES REBATE?



AUGUST 2007

## DID YOU KNOW THAT 65% OF THOSE THOUGHT TO BE ENTITLED TO A RATES REBATE IN THE 2006/07 YEAR DIDN'T APPLY?

The Taupo District Council supports and endorses the Government funded scheme and encourages ratepayers to look into whether they are eligible for a rebate. Rates rebates are available, not just to older members of the community, but young families too - in fact anyone on a low income. If you are on a fixed or low income, or benefit, you may be eligible for a rates rebate of up to \$500. You will need to provide evidence of your income for the tax year ending 31 March 2007.

If you have received a rate rebate last year (2006/07) you will be posted an application form shortly for the 2007/08 rating year.

If you did not receive a rates rebate last year, but think you may qualify, contact the Council on 07 376 0899 for an application form.



### HOW DO I APPLY?

Firstly you will need to complete an application form. Council will then process this and if you qualify pay your rates rebate directly into your rates account, which will reduce your rates immediately.

### CAN I GET A RATES REBATE IF MY RATES ARE OVERDUE?

Yes, talk to our customer services team - you may still qualify for a rebate even if your rates are overdue. The rebate may help you get your rates up to date and keep them up to date.

### CAN I GET THE RATES REBATE REFUNDED TO ME?

You can only receive a refund if you have paid your annual rates in full.

### WHAT IS THE LAST DAY THAT I CAN APPLY?

Rebates can not be backdated for previous years. You must make your application by 30 June 2008 for the 2007/08 rating year. Don't leave it until then, apply now and receive the benefit of the rebate immediately.



The table below will give you an idea whether you qualify or not for a rates rebate. It doesn't take into account the number of children you have - so if you have children, you may still qualify or be eligible for more than is shown below.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME UP TO:	\$20,000	\$23,000	\$25,000	\$27,000	\$29,000
Rates up to \$800	\$426.67	\$51.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rates up to \$1,000	\$500.00	\$185.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rates up to \$1,200	\$500.00	\$318.33	\$68.33	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rates up to \$1,500	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$268.33	\$18.33	\$0.00
Rates up to \$2,000	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$351.67	\$101.67
Rates up to \$3,000	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Rates up to \$3,500	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00

To see if you qualify for a rates rebate go to [www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz) or phone 07 376 0899.

# COUNCIL UPDATE

YOUR LOCAL UPDATE ON COUNCIL NEWS

## YOUR COUNCIL UPDATE

Welcome to your first District Update of the year. We understand that receiving your rates bill may not be all that exciting. Or is it? Did you know your rates pay for the beautiful parks and gardens around town, protecting the lake, the new library upgrade, roading, water supply and waste water treatment and much more? Or that you are living in one of the lowest rated areas in the country?

That's right, even though your rates may have increased a little, the average rates bill in Taupo is only about \$30 a week. Compare that with spending \$30 a week on power or phone - and you're certainly getting a lot more for your money.

## IT'S GOOD TO RECYCLE

Maintaining a clean environment is a priority for us, which means we need to make sure your rubbish is properly discarded. From 1 July 2007 you can recycle more in your green bin:

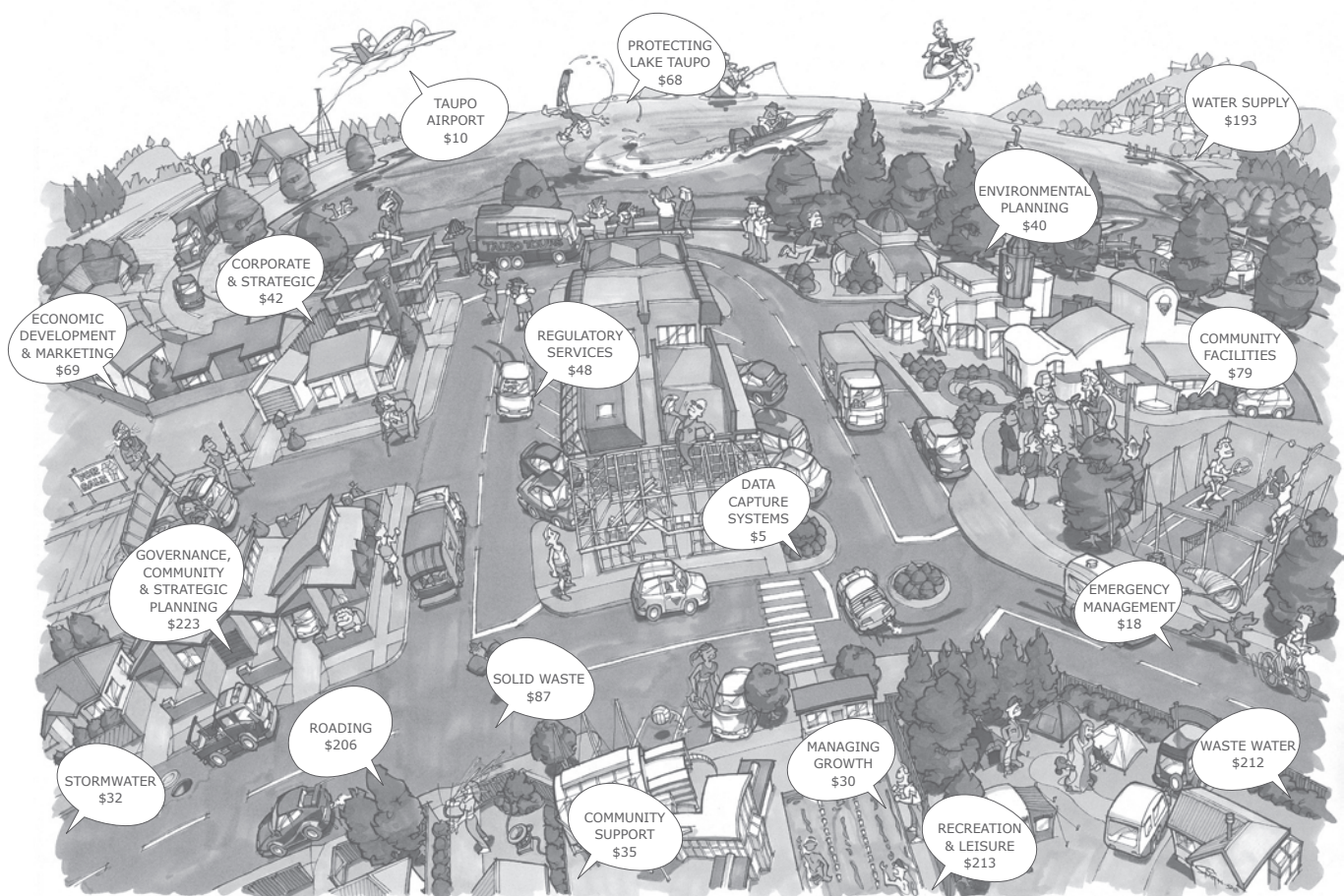
- Plastics with a  or a  symbol
- Aluminium cans (drink cans)
- Tin cans (food and pet food cans)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Flattened paper and cardboard that is clean, including junk mail, envelopes, old phone books as well as newspapers and flattened boxes

Recycling can save you money, just remember to put your recyclables in the green bin, not in the rubbish. From 1 July rubbish bag stickers will cost \$1.50. The \$1.50 stickers are ORANGE. Use one orange sticker per 60 litre bag.

You can use half an orange sticker for two supermarket bags tied together. If you have yellow stickers left, you can still use them - just use one and a half yellow stickers per 60 litre bag.



Sample \$1.50 orange refuse sticker



## HERE'S HOW YOUR RATES WERE SPENT

In the 2005/06 year, on average it cost each ratepayer \$1,608 to operate these services.