

**Get Ready Get Thru**

For further information on Auckland Council planning and hazard risk assessment or sign up for emergency emails and text messages visit [aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz](http://aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz)

**Tsunami**

If you are near the coast and feel a strong earthquake, or a weak rolling earthquake, move immediately to the nearest high ground or as far inland as you can.



For more information:  
[aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz](http://aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz)



**Essential contact information**

**For doctors, nurse or ambulance call**

- 09 429 0356 or 09 429 0047 for North Barrier

**Water and boating emergencies**

- channel 16 for marine radio
- channel 60 or \*500 on your mobile for Coastguard.

**Police**

*In an emergency (life threatening)*

- 09 429 0343
- 111

*for non-emergency*

- 105
- or go online to [105.police.govt.nz](http://105.police.govt.nz)

**Family violence helpline**

- 0800 456 450

**For wildlife and conservation issues**

- 0800 DOCHOT (362468)

**Fire emergencies**

- 111

**Auckland Council Emergency helplines**

*Auckland Council (trees down, transport issues)*

- 09 301 0101

*Auckland Emergency Management*

- 0800 22 22 00

All instructions given by the emergency services must be followed without exception.



**Essential information  
Aotea/Great Barrier Island**



**Prohibited Fire Season (total fire ban):** from the first of December until the end of summer, GBI and all other islands of the Hauraki Gulf have a declared Prohibited Fire Season. This means that fires in the open air are **PROHIBITED**. A fire in the open air is any fire from which a spark could blow into the receiving environment. This does not include gas barbecues or solid fuel burners installed within dwellings, but does include any outdoor fire structures which do not have both adequate screening around the fire box or a flue with spark arrester.

Sky lanterns can easily drift into vegetation and start fires. Their use is prohibited as they are deemed to be an uncontrollable fire in the open air.



**Fire and Emergency New Zealand**



**Restricted Fire Season:** for the remainder of the year the inhabited islands of the Hauraki Gulf have a Restricted Fire Season, which means that a fire permit is required for all fires in the open air.

**Fireworks:** are an uncontrollable fire in the open air. Fireworks are not allowed to be used during a Prohibited Fire Season and fire permits will not be issued for fireworks over the Restricted Fire Season.

**Flares:** it is illegal to let off a flare unless being used as a safety device during an emergency situation. The illegal use of flares has been responsible for a number of wildfires on A/GBI. Please do not let off flares except in an emergency.

**Fires in public places:** are not permitted at any time. This includes all beaches.

For fire permits and further information visit [checkitsalright.nz](http://checkitsalright.nz)

The Department of Conservation (DOC) land covers 66% of the A/GBI and there are many wonderful walks for the public to enjoy. Be aware the tracks can be steep, long and isolated; with very limited mobile phone coverage so let someone know where you are going at all times. Please carry water, food, sun block and protective clothing.

**Kauri dieback** was discovered on A/GBI and it is important we don't spread the disease any further or take it to the kauri trees on the mainland. **Clean your shoes and bikes when entering and exiting DOC land and GBI. Cleaning facilities are provided at the airport, wharves and entrances to DOC tracks.**

**Injured birds:** call Karen Walker (bird lady) 09 429 04 78. If you have any concerns about birds being harassed or injured intentionally please call 0800 DOCHOT (362468).

**Hut and campground bookings:** phone Auckland Visitor Centre 09 379 6476 or [booking.doc.govt.nz](http://booking.doc.govt.nz) otherwise contact Destination Great Barrier Visitor Centre at Claris Airport 09 429 0033.

**Dogs:** are not permitted on DOC conservation land.

**Marine mammals:** keep your distance if you see whales, dolphins or seals.

**Whale strandings:** call 0800 DOCHOT (362468).

**For any other enquiries and concerns:** call the DOC office, Great Barrier Island Field Base 09 429 0044.

**DOC office opening hours:** 8am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

**Department of Conservation**



## Water safety (Police)

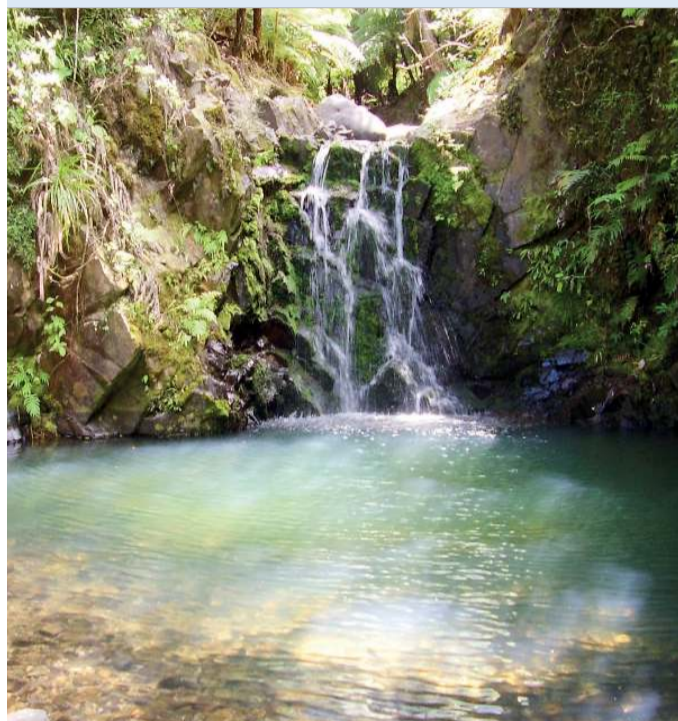
For water related emergencies contact the local police by ringing the local police station on **09 429 0343**.

If there is no answer on that number the call will either be transferred to the on call officer directly, or there will be a message which will give you an alternative number to call in case of emergency.

**Beach safety:** we have no Surf Lifesaving organisation on A/GBI. Watch out for rips, currents and dangerous waves, particularly on eastern beaches.

Watch your children who should never be in or near the water unsupervised. If in doubt, stay out.

**Rivers and waterfalls:** check that there is enough depth of water and there are no rocks, logs or other debris before you jump in.



**Boating safety:** for emergencies the marine radio channel to use is **channel 16**.



**We also use:** our local marine radio channel - **channel 1**.

Our coastguard radio channel - **channel 60 or \*500 on your mobile** and the Coastguard Nowcasting weather **channels 20, 21 and 22**.

**Be aware:** there may be no cell phone coverage on the eastern side of A/GBI. Please consider this when planning your boating trip.

To avoid any issues please ensure that you check your boat and equipment thoroughly before you head out to sea and consider these key safety messages:

- **Lifejackets: take them and wear them; it will increase your survival time.**
- **Skipper responsibility: keep everyone safe and stay within the limits of your vessel and your experience.**
- **Communication: take at least two separate waterproof ways of communicating.**

## Health

Visitors to and residents of A/GBI have access to comprehensive primary health care. For all emergencies please contact **09 429 0356** in the first instance.

If you are still unable to get medical support then call **09 429 0047**. In the unlikely event of no answer then call **111**.

### Community Health Centre, Claris (near airstrip)

- For general practitioners and rural nurses.
- Weekday clinic hours 9am to 4pm by appointment.

Call **09 429 0356** (24/7 emergency number).

### Nurses Cottage, Port Fitzroy (near wharf)

- For rural nurses.
- Weekday clinic hours 9am to 4pm by appointment.
- Doctor clinic wednesday morning.

Call **09 429 0047** (24/7 emergency number).

For doctor, nurse or ambulance call **09 429 0356** or North Barrier **09 429 0047**

## Police crime prevention

The fastest way to contact the local police on A/GBI is to ring the local Police Station on **09 429 0343**.

If there is no answer on that number the call will either be transferred to the on call officer directly or there will be a message which will give you an alternative number to call in case of emergency.

**Road safety:** The roads on A/GBI are narrow and winding and there is no centre line to separate the lanes. It is very important to keep as far left as possible and to drive slowly.

People often walk and bike on the road so watch out for pedestrians and bikers. It is also important to drive with consideration for others and if you are driving slowly and someone behind you wishes to pass, pull over where you can to let them go. Watch your speed.

**Drink driving:** Our roads are dangerous enough without adding alcohol to the mix. It is not easy to get a taxi or any other form of public transport so think about this before you go out and ensure that you have a sober driver or another way of getting home if you intend to drink. The drink driving limits are lower these days and Police will be out enforcing these laws.

**Seat belts:** Please ensure that you wear them at all times - it is the law. You may hear, "but it's the Barrier" however the same rules apply here as they do anywhere else in New Zealand.

**Bike helmets:** Contrary to what people may tell you the tar seal is just as hard here as it is anywhere else in the country. We spend lots of time in our local schools ensuring that our children wear bike helmets, please support this by ensuring that you set a good example by also wearing a helmet. If you are seen riding a bike without one you are likely to be walking it

home or getting a monetary reminder of why it is a good idea to wear one.

**Crime:** In general A/GBI is a low crime area, however it is still important to lock your cars and accommodation, and take any valuables with you. Avoid leaving valuables on display in your vehicle.

**General safety:** There are no street lights around A/GBI so it can get very dark at night time.

If there is a chance that you will be out after dark, make sure you have a torch with you.

If you are exploring any of our fantastic tracks and bush walks please ensure that someone knows where you are going and when you plan to be back out just in case anything goes wrong.

**If you have any concerns about family violence please contact us for advice or if you are happier talking with someone who is not a member of Police you can contact the Family Violence Helpline on 0800 456 450.**

## Auckland Emergency Management

• In the event of an emergency incident on A/GBI, emergency services are supported by local and city based Auckland Council personnel and resources.

• A/GBI emergency services and Auckland Council have access to a robust high frequency radio network. This enables emergency services to communicate widely across GBI to assist in the coordination of any given incident.

• Public information and warnings are broadcast via various channels such as:

- TV, social media, national and local Aotea/Great Barrier radio stations (Aotea FM frequency 94.6 south and 104 north – change over at the top of Okiwi Hill - Windy Canyon entrance)

- a local telephone tree that will be activated by civil defence local coordinator

- public announcement systems on emergency service vehicles

• It is important you listen to all warnings and instructions. A disaster can strike quickly and without warning it can force you to evacuate.

### Are you prepared?

Following a disaster, emergency services may not be able to help everyone as quickly as needed. You may need to be self-reliant for some time.

- Are you able to take care of yourself till they arrive?
- Do you have enough food, water and medication for at least three days?