



Enviro Matters



Visit us at the Town Hall to learn about what we do or volunteer in Whaingaroa!

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Tips for Getting Your Whare Winter-Ready



Nights and mornings are getting chillier, an reminder that winter is around the corner. Save money and stay warm and dry this winter with these tips:

Check your insulation for gaps

Heat is sneaky and will escape from the smallest gaps (making your home expensive to heat). Check in your ceiling and under your home to make sure your insulation is still well fitted, adjust to cover any gaps.

Clear your gutters

Make sure there is no debris that could be holding water in the gutters (making your home damp) make sure the drain pipes and spouting don't direct water under your house.

Check for water underneath your house

Place a plastic bag on the ground underneath

your house, if it has moisture on the next day this is probably a source of dampness in your home. You may need to look at draining water away or covering the area with polythene sheet of plastic to prevent your home from becoming damp in winter.

Is your hot water cylinder covered?

Check your hot water cylinder, it should have a cover to prevent heat loss. Place your hand on the cover, if you can still feel warmth add another layer of cover to save you money on your winter heating bill.

Look for leaks in the roof

Stop any drafts - draft tape is a really inexpensive way to do this.

Meet Juliana, Warm Home Service Coordinator

WEC coordinator Danielle Hart sat down with new Warm Home Coordinator Juliana Albertoni de Miranda to find out a little bit about the Warm Home Service, formerly the Curtain Bank.



Photo: Juliana, Warm Home Service Coordinator

Danielle: So Juliana, what you have been doing in Raglan and where you are from originally?

Juliana: I'm a Physical Oceanographer scientist and originally from Brazil. I moved to Raglan almost a year ago and I soon got involved with the great projects the Whaingaroa Environment Centre runs in the community. I have been volunteering for WEC ever since I got to Raglan.

Danielle: When did you start as Warm Home Coordinator?

Juliana: I started in the beginning of March 2015.

Danielle: WEC used to do Curtain Bank. Why has is now changed to Warm Home Service?

Juliana: There are so many different things people can do to keep their homes warm and cosy. Curtains are just one piece of the puzzle. This

new service provides a more complete approach to help every home in Raglan to become warm and healthy.

Danielle: What will the Warm Home Service do for me that Curtain Bank didn't?

Juliana: The Warm Home Service looks at the whole house and will suggest small easy changes that can have a huge impact on your energy bill, and the comfort of your home. Some are easy to do yourself and others we can help with. We will be referring eligible people to the Curtain Bank as required. We can also provide curtain rails and materials at cost price if you are not eligible for the Curtain Bank.

Danielle: What is involved in a home assessment?

Juliana: We will make a short visit to your home, and then give you a helpful report. We can also help you with making the changes that we suggest.

Danielle: Who will do the assessment?

Juliana: Our qualified Home Performance Advisor.

Danielle: Who pays for the assessment?

Juliana: The assessments are free if you hold a Community Services Card. We can also visit other households for a small fee.

Danielle: Who is funding this service?

Juliana: The Warm Home Service is made possible with the generous contributions from the Whaingaroa Affordable Housing Trust, WEL Energy Network and Norah Howell Trust.

Danielle: How can people access this service?

Juliana: Pop into the Environment Centre in the Town Hall or got to our website www.whaingaroa.org.nz and fill out an application form.

Danielle: Does WEC still want donations of curtains from the community?

Juliana: YES PLEASE!!! The Curtain Bank is still running, we have funding for at least 20 homes this year which will be referred from the Warm Home Service. We will also be providing curtains to recipients of the Warm Home Service.

WORKING BEE 4 APRIL 1-4 PM

Come and help volunteers at the Whaingaroa Environment Centre to measure and sort curtains for the **Warm Home Service Project** and **Curtain Bank**. It'll be a fun, relaxed afternoon with lots of tea and cake. Plus, it's a great way to get to know other members of the community!

Just come along with friends and energy! No specialty skills required. And you can earn Timebank credits!

TOWN HALL, RAGLAN

Any questions?
Pop into WEC in the Town Hall -Bow Street.
Or contact us on 82520480 and envirocentre@whaingaroa.org.nz

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