

Volunteering for Taranaki CDEM

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM).

We warmly welcome everyone of all ages and abilities who want to make a difference in their communities.

The work that CDEM groups do before, during and after emergencies is highly varied, and therefore requires a wide variety of people with different skills and perspectives.

Why volunteer?

Communities and people are at the heart of Civil Defence, and volunteers are vital to its success.

We exist to make communities prepared for and more resilient to emergencies.

By volunteering at Taranaki CDEM, you will be making a tangible difference in your community.

You will meet likeminded people, learn new skills, and gain new experiences. There are many opportunities to receive training, many of which are NZQA recognised.

It will also look great on your CV.

Volunteer roles

Volunteering at Civil Defence can take on many forms – from leadership roles in an emergency centre, to on-the-ground community work.

The skills for each role can vary, but generally we are after people who are great team players, excellent communicators, and have a can-do attitude.

Examples of common volunteer roles include:

Function staff in operations and coordination centres	<p>In CDEM operation centres, there are specific functions that need to be performed, such as logistics, intelligence, and communications.</p> <p>Staff are assigned to a particular function and carry out tasks as delegated by the function desk lead. Tasks can vary between functions, but normally include report writing, intelligence gathering, and generally mucking in.</p> <p>More experienced volunteers can become function leads – we provide specific training for this.</p>
Civil Defence Centre (CDC) staff	<p>CDCs are where the grassroots Civil Defence happens, and often are a rallying point for locals during an emergency.</p>

	<p>CDCs are in many towns throughout the region. CDC staff look after their community and have a range of practical, hands on tasks.</p> <p>We provide specific training for CDC staff.</p>
Community outreach	<p>Community-minded people can put their connections to use in a number of ways before, during, and after emergencies.</p> <p>We're always after people that can help with leaflet drops and community information evenings.</p> <p>During an emergency you may be assigned to a water tank, go door knocking, or being on a cordon.</p>

Where does volunteering happen?

Wherever you live in Taranaki, there is a role for you to play.

The Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) is in New Plymouth. The ECC coordinates the emergency response across the region for large-scale events.

Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) coordinate local emergency responses and work closely with their communities. EOCs are located in New Plymouth, Stratford and Hawera.

Civil Defence Centres (CDCs) are all over the region, and we need people helping on the ground wherever is needed.

Training opportunities

We provide training for all CDEM roles.

All CDEM volunteers start with the half day Foundation Course. If you then decide that you would like to continue as a volunteer, you can then take a two-day Intermediate course.

Following that there will be opportunities to attend function-specific training along with other courses, such as first aid and radio operation.

How to sign up

To start, all volunteers need to [complete a volunteer application form on our website](#).

We will then be in touch about getting you registered for training.

If you have any questions about volunteering for CDEM, please get in touch with our office at 0800 900 049 or at emo@cdemtaranaki.govt.nz

We look forward to meeting you soon.