

Silt collection FAQs

How can I get silt collected from my property?

Please call **0800 108 838** and press '2' for cyclone-related waste collections or head to the website www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/silt-collection. You will be asked a few questions to help our collection teams choose the right collection and disposal options for the type of silt you have.

The free collection only applies to silt that has been gathered and put into piles on your property ready for pick up. We will collect silt, but as part of the service will not gather and pile it up on private property.

Please do not put silt on the verge outside your property as it will go into drains and gutters, increasing the risk of flooding even with a small amount of rain. Please place your silt in a pile as close to the front of your property as possible, accessible by truck. Let us know if this isn't possible on your property when you call the 0800 number to arrange collection.

We will endeavor to let you know the day that your silt will be picked up.

How is Council managing the silt collection?

We have developed a system with six zones across the Hawke's Bay region. Each zone has dedicated contractors to collect silt from orchards, farms, roads and residential properties.

The contractors will also be responsible for picking up any remaining flood-damaged household items within their zones, based on request lodged with Hastings District Council.

What types of silt are there?

When you call to arrange silt pick up, you will be asked to describe your silt in general, to enable the right disposal site to be selected. There are four types of silt:

- **Clean silt** – Silt from places like roads and streets, gardens that do not have a septic tank, and does not contain solid items like flood-damaged household furniture.
- **Mixed silt** – Silt mixed with small amounts of litter such as waste from flood-damaged household goods (e.g. plastic, small toys and food waste), and food affected by the flood, e.g. apples and onions.
- **Contaminated silt** – Silt that may have had septic tank, spilt paint, diesel, chemicals etc, mixed through.
- **Woody silt** – Silt mixed with quantities of timber and other storm-related debris like fence posts, trees etc.

Is the silt being tested?

Hawke's Bay Regional Council initially took random samples across the region to test the silt and understand the make-up of the silt. We found that outside of Awatoto, there no significantly contaminated silt. People should continue to take precaution and wear suitable PPE, but silt can safely be taken from around the region.

Now, the loads being collected are subject to regular and random contamination checks by land contamination specialists to ensure the material is safe for disposal or stockpiling. A documentation system has been established to better understand where it has come from and if its origin brings any additional risks.

When you arrange for silt to be collected from your property you will be asked what general type of silt you have (see What types of silt are there?). If you have concerns that silt on your property is contaminated please let us know by calling us on **0800 108 838**.

Where do I put my silt for collection?

It needs to be in a pile as close to the front of your property as possible, accessible by a truck. If you have a small urban property

which makes this difficult, please advise the 0800 team when you call to arrange collection.

We will collect silt, but as part of the service will not gather and pile it up on private property.

Please do not put silt on the verge outside your property as it will go into drains and gutters, increasing the risk of flooding even with a small amount of rain.

If you want to work with us to have a contractor directly access one of our deposit sites, please call the 0800 number and we can discuss options.

Where is the silt being stored? Is it safe for people and the environment?

Six silt collection sites have been established and are storing silt around Hawke's Bay.

HDC and HBRC have been working under the emergency works provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 to enable works to commence as soon as possible to allow for roading connections to be re-established and drainage areas maintained.

Before any new site is opened it is assessed looking at whether there any special features or characteristics such as: archaeological sites, wahi tapu areas, significant flora and fauna, waterbodies and wetlands, alongside proximity to neighbouring sites and community uses. Given the urgency of clearing silt and other debris from roading corridors, the six established sites are currently being consented retrospectively.

A further eight sites are being investigated to determine whether they are feasible for use.

How long will it take to clean up the silt?

We're working through our jobs list from the community, and are prioritising areas where silt is blocking property or drains. The jobs list we have at the moment in April 2023 is for around 500,000m³ tonnes of silt, which will take around six months to complete.

We estimate that this is 25% of the total amount of silt to be cleaned up. With the sheer volume of silt over a large area we expect the complete clean-up of all of the silt to take many months.

What's the long-term plan for managing silt?

The taskforce is looking at a range of options for storing and using silt in the future, and working closely with other councils, industry, and landowners to develop solutions for the region.

I'm an orchardist/farmer/rural landowner and have a lot of silt on my property. Can I move it straight to a disposal site?

If you have a large amount of silt and are able to move it directly to one of our disposal sites please get in touch with us on **0800 108 838** and we will work with you.

How do I get silt out from under my house?

You need to contact your insurance company regarding this work who can assess the need for silt removal and the best way to do this.

How do I clean silt from my swimming pool?

Cleaning or draining of your swimming pool has to be carried out by a suitably qualified or experienced pool company due to the risk of further damage being caused.

How can I dispose of flood-damaged household goods?

Got to www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/flood-damaged-household-items-collection to fill in the form to dispose of flood-damaged household goods.

FlexiBins for flood-damaged household items

As we move onto the next stage of our flood-damaged household item collections we are offering the use of FlexiBins to help speed things up and take the pressure off our contractors. These are ideal for smaller volumes of waste as they do not need specialised machinery for collection.

WHAT'S A FLEXIBIN?

A FlexiBin is a tough, heavy duty, disposable bag that can be used instead of a skip bin. They are 3m³ so can still hold a skips worth of waste.

The FlexiBins are available for flood-damaged household items only and are not to be used for general waste disposal. See what can and can't go in FlexiBin on the back of this leaflet.

HOW CAN I ORDER ONE?

If you think a FlexiBin would be suitable for flood-damaged waste on your property please fill out a form online at www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/floodcollection and we'll organise delivery. If you don't have access to a computer then call our customer services team on **06 871 5000** – they'll be able to fill out the form on your behalf.

WHAT DO I DO ONCE IT IS FULL?

Once full you can organise collection via phone, on **0800 10 10 10** or online at <https://trade.flexibin.co.nz/s/>

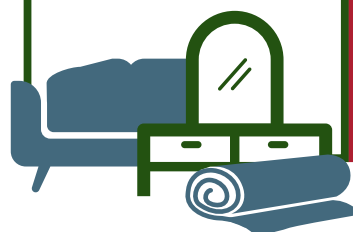
GETTING READY FOR COLLECTION

WHAT CAN BE COLLECTED



Flood-damaged household items including:

- Furniture
- Carpet
- GIB
- Curtains
- Clothes



WHAT CAN'T BE COLLECTED



- Whiteware
- Electronic waste
- Silt
- Gas bottles
- Hazardous waste
- Chemicals
- Batteries
- Paint
- Tyres
- Green waste
- Asbestos



If you have any of these items and are unsure of how to correctly dispose of them, please register this detail on the form on www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/floodcollection

For advice on cleaning up safely see Te Whatu Ora's website www.ourhealthhb.nz

Flooded septic tank waste disposal

Many rural properties have been affected by the floods, potentially leaving onsite wastewater systems and septic tanks compromised. However, Hastings District Council has now completed inspecting and cleaning a representative number of tanks in various locations which shows the impact of flooding on most onsite wastewater systems has been minor. In these cases we can authorise contractors to take the waste to the East Clive Waste Water Treatment Plant, to assist property owners to get back into their homes.

The following contractors are approved to operate and dispose of septic waste at East Clive (starting Tuesday 21 March 2023):

Where there is a large accumulation of silt and sludge in these systems, the disposal of this contaminated waste cannot be accepted at the East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant.

NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
Beard's Environmental Ltd.	dan@beardsenvironmental.co.nz	06 879 5800
T Flanders Waste Ltd	office@flanderswaste.co.nz	06 877 9075
Davies Waste Dispatch	despatch@davieswaste.co.nz	06 870 0339
Waste Management NZ Ltd	smends@wastemanagement.co.nz	06 879 8400
INO Complete Ltd	gordonanddeb@xtra.co.nz	06 877 7341
Kenneth Davidson	kenneth@kliercontractors.co.nz	06 878 3549
Comac Industrial Services Ltd.	comac1@xtra.co.nz	06 835 5506

If contractors encounter systems that have been badly affected, they will be unable to clean these tanks out for disposal. Council will work with those property owners on a solution for their waste.

Property owners are advised to contact their insurer to seek advice on cover for the cost of this cleaning.

For further information contact 06 871 5000.