

# CREATING CONNECTIONS AND EMPOWERING ACTIONS FOR TE WHAU

EVENT SCHEDULE - SUNDAY 19 MARCH, 11AM - 3PM

11:00am	<p><b>Karakia and Welcome</b></p> <p>Join us at the EcoHub, for our opening karakia from Te Kawerau ā Maki, followed by a welcome and overview of the day from Carla Gee (EcoMatters) and Jinny Baker (ESR).</p>
All day	<p><b>Creating Connections and Empowering Action for Te Whau - Stalls</b></p> <p>Auckland University, Auckland Council, ESR, Cawthron Institute, Te Kawerau ā Maki, EcoMatters, Te Whau Pathway, Unitec, Business Pollution Prevention Programme, Whitebait Connection, Auckland Transport, Whau Wildlink, Sustainable Coastlines, West End Rowing Club, Whau and Henderson/ Massey Local Board area schools, Te Atatu Whānau Marae, Auckland Museum.</p> <p><b>Location: Olympic Place car park</b></p> <p>Meet the partners and learn about the projects playing their role to help restore health and vitality to Te Whau. Discover the actions and steps that we can all take at a community level to restore Mauri to the awa.</p> <p>Korero, presentations and hands-on activities, including UN Global Plastics Treaty, Aotearoa Plastic Pollution Alliance, innovations from tertiary and Masters university students, water testing and collection, life and pollution observations in the water, research and actions that are taking place at grassroots and global levels.</p> <p><b>Food, coffee and other drinks will be available to purchase.</b> This will be a zero waste event - please bring your reusable cups, plates, cutlery.</p> <p><b>Native Nursery Potting</b></p> <p>Get hands on and pot up your own baby native plant to take home while learning more about how to care for plants from seed, to seedling, to planting and care. Find out about the School native care and planting programme that will enable schools to engage in meaningful action to restore the Whau awa.</p> <p><b>Bike Hub / Auckland Transport</b></p> <p>Bike to the event or discover the amazing bike paths in West Auckland you can explore with family and friends. Learn more about the benefits of biking for your own wellbeing and the health of our environment. The EcoMatters Bike Hub will be open for advice on basic bike maintenance, local cycling guidance, maps and second hand bikes available to purchase.</p>
11:10am	<p><b>Te manu e kai ana i te Matauranga – knowledge and practice</b></p> <p>Dion Pou - independent ecologist and Te Atatu Marae Whanau Committee EcoHub</p> <p>Matauranga Maori is knowledge generated from a philosophy of systems level thinking but is also a framework for applying it. Within Western knowledge some areas of science have generated understandings entirely consistent with this philosophy, but often inconsistent in application. Matauranga Maori can provide a philosophical context that ensures systems level knowledge is not only generated but applied in a systems level manner, in order that we can better practice what we preach.</p>

11:25am **Imaging Potential of Te Whau awa thriving within a nested Living System**  
 Amanda Hookham- Kraft - EcoMatters  
 EcoHub

A guided ( facilitated ) imaging process to align and uplift thinking for regenerative outcomes and processes to take place.

12 noon **Connection and Discovery Walk to Te Whau**  
 Te Kawerau ā Maki, Pamela Gill (EcoMatters) and Ruby Moore (Auckland Museum)  
 EcoHub, followed by a guided walk (limited numbers, booking advised)

This session starts with a presentation called *What's In A Name?*, about the cultural significance and value of place names along the Whau awa. Followed by a guided walk to the local stream in Olympic Park with Pamela Gill from the EcoMatters Nature team and freshwater ecologist Ruby Moore. Learn about what species have been found in the Whau, both native and exotic, historically and today. Understand more about how water is collected for monitoring, and how we all have a part to play in caring for these natural areas so that stream life can thrive. Areas of sharing and connection to water health will include Wai Care monitoring, eDNA testing, stream clean ups, weeding and planting.

This walk is limited to a maximum of 20 people. [Please reserve your free place by registering here](#) as we cannot guarantee spaces will be available on event day.

**Fresh Water Testing and Observations**

Briar Broad - Whitebait Connection  
 Carpark area meeting point to walk to stream together

Between 12 noon and 2pm, you can join one of four sessions (running every 30 minutes) to explore the freshwater biodiversity of the Wai Tahurangi (Avondale) stream, investigate the state of the health of the wai (water) and discuss how surrounding land use impacts the freshwater environment. Each session can take up to 20 people. Please register on the day at the Whitebait Connections stall in the Olympic Place car park area. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Streamside location shown on red pin in map. Directions on the day will be provided.



1:00pm

## Te Hau o Te Whau and Partners

EcoHub

Hear from a revolving panel of speakers, switching every six minutes, covering a systemic overview of engagement for restoring and retaining the health and vitality of Te Whau in Tāmaki Makaurau:

### Jinny Baker and Jamie Ataria - ESR

Te Hau o te Whau

The importance of mana whenua, science, community, and local government partnerships in building actionable knowledge.

### Tony Miguel - Te Whau Pathway

Nature-based Solutions for Improving Water Quality in Te Whau

The presentation will cover the state of water quality and how it can be improved by implementing Nature-based Solutions.

### Louis Tremblay - Cawthron Institute/University of Auckland

Emerging contaminants and environmental health

Our research on Whau has detected the presence of multiple contaminants that can pose a risk to the health of the receiving ecosystems. We are in the process of identifying the chemicals that are responsible for these activities so that we can confirm the sources and better manage the risk.

### Jaqs Clarke

Sponge dynamics: a biological metaphor for community resilience

This presentation will unpack the ancient history and contemporary practice of sponge dynamics and show why it is a powerful unifying metaphor for community resilience at multiple scales whilst also acting to mitigate against the excess fallout of climate change. This presentation should appeal to anyone working on community regenerative practices, water sensitive urban design and infrastructure.

### Dion Pou - independent ecologist and Board member of Te Atatu Marae

Moana tu i te repo

Moana tu i te repo is part of whakapapa o te wai, the genealogy of water. She and whakapapa o te wai are an example of how Maori knowledge is embodied and also delivered. She is also an example of how a philosophy of Maori thinking can guide knowledge generation and application, and connect people and place.

### Hamish Allen - Auckland Council - RIMU

State of the Environment sediment contaminant monitoring in the Whau

Hear about Auckland Council's ongoing sediment contaminant monitoring programme, what is monitored and why, and what has been learnt over time from this monitoring in the Whau.

	<p><b>Kevin Simon - Auckland University</b>  How much plastic is in your awa and what does it do?  This talk will provide an overview of the research being done by students at the University of Auckland who are working to help us better understand plastic in our awa. We have been measuring amounts of plastic in our local streams, how plastic moves through streams to the coast, and the effects plastic has on the organisms in our freshwater systems.</p> <p><b>Carla Gee - EcoMatters</b>  Radical Collaboration - Why is it important?  This short talk will discuss the importance of radical collaboration across sectors and industry if we want scientific data and research to reach communities and inspire action to care for our environment and mitigations against climate change.</p> <p><b>Te Kawerau ā Maki</b>  Te Taiao – a mana whenua perspective  Te Kawerau ā Maki will share their cultural connection to the environment, in particular, place names associated with Te Wai Whau and learnings from being involved in Te Hau o te Whau project. 15 mins presentation.</p>
2:00pm	<p><b>Open Discussion of Reflection and Where to From Here ?</b>  EcoHub</p> <p>All welcome, led by Akasadaka Robison and supported by Amanda Hookham, Dan Ducker and Hannah Miller</p> <p>Reflect together on the day’s learnings while we use visual system scribing to capture the potential of what is emerging from this sharing. We’ll ask ‘where to from here?’, ‘what is needed and required from us to regenerate Te Whau awa, people and place?’ and ‘What effect does this have on Tāmaki Makaurau?’</p>