

Climate Change Community Youth Forum Programme

Key details are as follows:

- When:** 9 am to 4 pm, Tuesday 14 April and Wednesday 15 April 2026. Participants can arrive from 8.45 am and must be collected by 4.15 pm.
- Where:** Wairarapa Events Centre, 50 Holloway Street, Carterton. Pick up and drop off will occur in the Events Centre Foyer, with other Events Centre-based activities occurring in the Rangatahi Hub.
Offsite visit is to Sparks Park for planting, weather permitting.
- Who:** Primary contact is Ricky Utting (contact: 027 444 1926)
- What:** Attendees are required to bring:
Comfortable clothing
Closed-toe shoes
Additional weather appropriate clothing (e.g., sunhats or rain jackets) on Wednesday
Water bottle
Any medicine or other health related items (e.g. inhaler).
- Cost:** \$20 for both days (paid through registration)

DAY ONE:

Climate change – what’s going on?

Learn about what climate change is, what are we experiencing, and what is likely as the planet warms. Carterton’s climate coordinator will give an overview of what’s going on.

Climate misinformation

In this session, communications specialist and researcher Emily Rosenthal will look at what false information is, how it works, and the specific tactics used to spread false information about climate change.

Art and Performance Making for Climate Cut Through

In this workshop Geoff Gilson, concept development, and co-writer of “The Ice Cream is Melting” will take you through an interactive workshop about Climate Change Action through Theatre and Story-making. Geoff did his Masters in Performance and Media Arts with a focus on Ecology, Protest, and the Performing Body. In this workshop, he will give some background and perspective on his work, then facilitate a hands-on look at different ways in which art-making and storytelling can be used to communicate messages around climate change. Participants will work together in groups to develop and create stories and concepts and explore these through physical storytelling.

School Strike for Climate (SS4C)

The Wellington coordinators of SS4C will update you on their actions and what is planned in 2026. See how you can get involved and contribute to the movement locally.

DAY TWO:

Plant a tree, save the planet

Join the Carterton Parks Team in planting around the waterways in Sparks’ park as part of improving resilience in the park. Bring boots or old shoes and a spade if you can (we have some if you forget).

What do you do in an emergency?

Climate change brings more intense weather events, and we’ve seen the damage these can bring through flooding, strong winds, and wildfires. Learn what happens in an emergency and what you can do beforehand to be prepared.

Waste minimisation and recycling

Carterton’s Waste Advisor will run a series of games and fun activities to get you thinking about resource use, waste recovery, and how to be a good environmental steward.

Getting involved – volunteering

Hear from some of the local groups working on sustainability, climate and the environment. Learn how you can become involved.