

## 12 Rakino Island

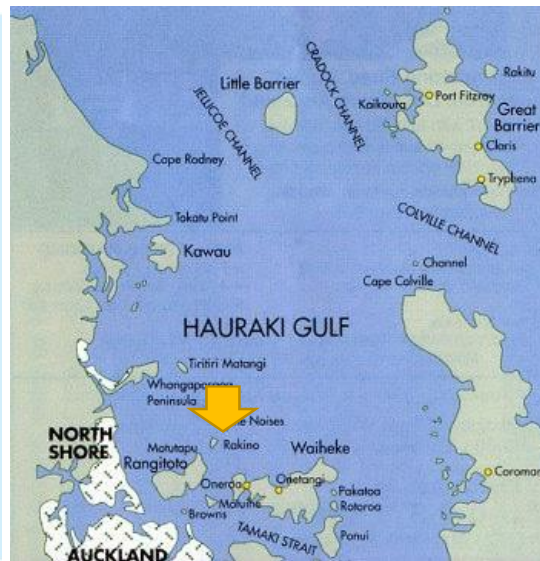
Rakino is part of the Waiheke Local Board area. Rakino lies north-east of Motutapu Island and has an area of 1.5km<sup>2</sup>. The island is largely privately-owned, with around 114 dwellings and 20 people who are usually resident, though this number varies. The New Zealand Census combines the usually resident populations for Rangitoto, Motutapu and Rakino and in 2013 this combined population was 63. Most Rakino property owners live on the Auckland mainland or elsewhere and have baches on the island.

There are no shops or grid electricity on Rakino. Households generate their own power (mostly solar), and have their own water, septic and drainage systems. The island has a passenger wharf in Sandy Bay, with a freight wharf allowing barge access in the adjacent Home Bay. There is a ferry service to downtown Auckland. There is an active Rakino Ratepayers Association on the island. See the [Association's website](#)<sup>25</sup> for more information.

Rakino is free of animal pests such as rats, which makes effective handling of waste critical to ensuring the island remains pest-free.



Map of Rakino Island



Arrow showing location/scale of Rakino

<sup>25</sup> Accessible at <http://www.rra.nz/rakino/>.

### Rakino waste profile

People on Rakino take their refuse and recycling to 11 drop-off bin stations located around the island. This is transported regularly to Home Bay for sorting and barging to the mainland for disposal and recycling. Home Bay is the main depot for waste collection and is the place where materials are stockpiled, awaiting transportation off the island.

An annual inorganic collection began in 2016 (previously it was biannual). The material collected is barged to the mainland for disposal. However, at least 30 per cent of the waste collected in this way shouldn't be disposed of via those services – lawnmowers, workshop refuse, and C&D waste.

Illegal dumping is also collected as required. Dumping of refuse at Home Bay by the waste stations is a significant issue. Twelve abandoned vehicles were taken off the island in 2015/2016. The cost of waste services in 2015/2016 was \$144,000, or around \$1640 per rateable property<sup>26</sup>. Rakino ratepayers pay a targeted rate for waste services of \$242 annually per rateable property, with the remainder funded through regional rates.

On Rakino, the major waste issues are:

- the high costs of transporting waste
- high levels of inorganic material, including abandoned vehicles
- high levels of cardboard and of food waste, especially in summer months
- illegal dumping, alongside difficulty in identifying those doing this dumping.

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<sup>26</sup> Financial information for Rakino is updated from information prepared for the council's 2015 Long-term Plan discussions.



Inorganic waste left beside rubbish bins at Home Bay

# Rakino– Waste Stats



Refuse (tonnes 2015/16)	
Refuse from public drop-offs	34
Inorganic collection	36
12 abandoned cars removed in 2015/16	

Recycling (cubic metres 2015/16)	
Paper and cardboard	187
Glass and plastic	122
<b>TOTAL RECYCLING (cu metres)</b>	<b>309</b>

## Key issues



Influx of visitor and boatie waste in holiday periods



High levels of food/green waste going to landfill



Illegal dumping and high levels of inappropriate and inorganic waste, including abandoned cars



Minimising packaging coming on to the island



Supporting on island use of cardboard

Cost of waste services (2015/16)	
Total annual cost is approximately \$144,000, or around \$1640 per rateable property (including GST). Rakino ratepayers pay \$242 of this per rateable property and the rest is funded through regional rates.	

**Support for community action**

Rakino Ratepayers Association obtained Waste Minimisation innovation Funding for an on island bokashi scheme. The Association has bigger plans (see story below).



## Bokashi for all on Rakino

On Rakino, at peak times up to 44 per cent of waste volume is food and green waste. With the local nursery needing compost, ratepayers' association applied to the council's Waste Minimisation and Innovation Fund for subsidised Bokashi bins. Forty-four households paid \$20 each for two bins.

A bokashi bin exchange facility will be established and potentially a food waste bin that visitors and boaties can use to create more compost. Longer term, mulching and processing green waste is an aspiration to help the nursery provide more plants for locals.



Bokashi bin set deployed per household



Compost from a bin waiting to go into the ground



Rakino Nursery



Planting natives on the slope into West Bay

### Community interests and priorities

Via discussions with members of the Rakino Ratepayers Association, members of this community would like the following.

Priorities	Waste services and community education that reflect the realities of the island.
	Increased composting and recycling to keep food and recyclables out of landfill.
We want	More transparency about waste costs and volumes.
	More food composting (in train as noted above).
	Alternative uses for cardboard.
	Effective approaches to inorganic material and dumping.
We are concerned about	Boaties, visitor and locals' waste polluting the island.
	Animal pests threat if waste is not handled properly.



The drop-off bin stations were renovated in 2016, including new signage.

### Waste goals for Rakino

As agreed in the WMMP 2012 and reinforced in the WMMP 2018, refuse, recycling and inorganic collections across Auckland, including the HGI, will continue to be rates funded.

Developing a disposer-pays system for marine and boat users for their waste will also be investigated in 2017/2018. Any changes here will need to be accompanied by a community education and awareness campaign. See the section on marine and boat users for more on this.

Drawing on community and council priorities, waste goals for Rakino in the medium term are as follows. These will be pursued by the local community, the council and other stakeholders working together.

GOALS	KEY ACTIONS	
	Community will	Auckland Council will
<b>Everybody composting their food and green waste.</b>	<p>Keep food and green waste out of refuse bins.</p> <p>Increase home and community composting, mulching and chipping.</p>	<p>Support local community education, composting and behaviour change.</p>
<b>Divert recyclables from landfill and reduce cross contamination of recyclables.</b>	<p>Keep recyclables out of refuse bins.</p> <p>Recycle properly at drop-off points.</p> <p>Promote recycling through community education.</p>	<p>Provide the local community with regular information on refuse and recycling volumes on Rakino.</p>
<b>Develop local uses for cardboard.</b>	<p>Seek to reduce cardboard coming on to the island and use all card on the island.</p>	<p>Support greater on-island use of cardboard.</p>
<b>Work together to divert reusable inorganic materials from landfill.</b>	<p>Keep reusable inorganic material out of landfill.</p> <p>Work with the council to divert reusable inorganic material from landfill.</p> <p>Seek to minimise illegal dumping.</p>	<p>Work with the Rakino community to divert more inorganic material from landfill and reduce volumes on the island.</p> <p>The waste team will work with Auckland Transport and the biosecurity team to remove illegal vehicles and help keep the island pest-free.</p>
<b>Tailored community education and ongoing support for community action and solutions.</b>	<p>Advise the council of any support needed for community action and solutions to minimise waste.</p>	<p>Provide support as required.</p>

### Waste services for Rakino to 2020

The waste services to be provided to 2020 are as follows.

Service type	Service to 1 July 2017	July 2017 – June 2018	July 2018 – June 2019	From July 2019
Refuse collection.	Eleven public refuse drop-off points, located around the island.	Eleven public refuse drop-off points.	Continue	Continue
	Illegally dumped refuse removal and abandoned vehicle collections.	Continue, but work with the community to reduce.	Continue.	Continue.
	Litter bins and loose litter collections.	Continue.	Continue.	Continue.
Recycling collection.	11 drop-off recycling sites.	Continue.	Continue.	Continue.
Inorganic collection.	Annual inorganic collection.	Continue.	Continue.	Continue.
Community education and support	Support for community education and waste minimisation, including council staff support for local initiatives.	Include an education campaign to increase onisland use of cardboard and reduce inappropriate waste and abandoned vehicles.	Continue.	Continue.

Any potential changes to waste related fees and charges from 2018/19 will be consulted on with Rakino residents and ratepayers.