



# HOW I CAN HELP SAVE KAURI ...

## ... WHEN WALKING, RUNNING OR TRAMPING

**Kauri dieback disease is killing one of Aotearoa/New Zealand's taonga (treasures) – our unique kauri forests. But kauri will be saved ... by people like you**

- 1 Keep a cleaning kit in your vehicle that includes brushes, an adequate supply of Sterigene, and plastic bags for bagging any gear that can't be cleaned on-site. To avoid spreading contaminated soil inside your vehicle, pack a second pair of footwear for the drive home.
- 2 Clean all soil off your footwear and other gear (including hiking poles, clothing and bags), every time you enter or leave an area with native trees. This is to avoid introducing the disease to a new area, or moving it from an area where the disease is. A pinhead of soil is enough to spread the disease. Do not use water (including stream water) to clean, unless it will be captured in a sewer, for instance – the pathogen that causes dieback is a water mould, and is activated by water.
- 3 Use disinfectant only after you have removed all the soil. Spray it on all the areas that have come into contact with the ground.
- 4 If you are running, clean your gear before you do any stretching, so you don't risk injury by allowing yourself to cool down. Likewise, do your post-run stretches before the cleaning stations. Be prepared to encounter cleaning stations on route, and use them.
- 5 Avoid going off track, and going near kauri – unless the track is board-walked (a kauri's roots are extremely delicate, grow close to the surface, are susceptible to disease, and can grow outwards 3x as far as a tree's branches).
- 6 Carry a brush and disinfectant at all times (Sterigene is available for purchase from most vet clinics) if you are going to be going off track, if you are using tracks that do not have cleaning stations, or if you will be crossing multiple catchments. If possible, clean your gear between catchments; i.e. between – but not in – rivers or streams, or between valleys.
- 7 If you use hiking poles, use rubber feet on your poles to minimise the amount of soil your poles pick up.
- 8 When you're buying new footwear, consider how easy it will be to clean – is there a better option?
- 9 Never assume anywhere is free of kauri dieback. Infected trees may not show it.
- 10 Spread the word within your networks about the need for walkers, runners, and trampers to help stop the spread of kauri dieback, and be seen doing the right thing. Everyone has a part to play in saving kauri.
- 11 **If an area has been closed or is protected by a rahui (temporary closure), do not use it.** Closures are only made when the risk of spreading the disease from an area is extremely high, or because that area is at extraordinary risk.



**KEEP KAURI STANDING**  
STOP KAURI DIEBACK DISEASE SPREADING **KIA TOITU HE KAURI**

[www.kauridieback.co.nz](http://www.kauridieback.co.nz)

## About kauri dieback

The pathogen that causes kauri dieback is microscopic, 'smart,' and tough. It is possible for it to survive at least six years on footwear or equipment. It can sense where a kauri tree's roots are, and then 'swim' towards them through the soil. It kills most if not all kauri it infects, of all ages.

Kauri naturally occur throughout the upper North Island (in the Northland, Auckland and Waikato regions, and in

parts of the Bay of Plenty); if you're in natural bush and you're in the upper North Island, it's likely you'll be near kauri.

People are the number one way in which the disease is spread, through the movement of contaminated soil. But by taking the time to clean, and by factoring in kauri dieback when planning your trip, responsible walkers/runners/trampers like you are helping save kauri, along with the rest of the community.

For more information go to [www.kauridieback.co.nz](http://www.kauridieback.co.nz), email [kauridieback@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:kauridieback@mpi.govt.nz), or call **0800 NZ KAURI**.

Visit the **Department of Conservation's walking and tramping page**.

Visit the homepage of **Te Araroa Trail**.

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