



November 2009

INFORMATION FOR ALL GROUPS USING LIVING SPRINGS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMES:

We have passed OutdoorsMark! OutdoorsMark is the national outdoor safety quality assurance programme.

Our success is the result of months of work in preparing and upgrading our policies and procedures paperwork. This was followed by a complete independent audit of those policies and procedures, and their subsequent application to the work we do with our clients in the outdoors.

We are absolutely delighted to have this certification. It means we are confident that all is in order. We can assure you that we meet current accepted practice in all aspects of our outdoors activity operation.

One outcome of our OutdoorsMark accreditation is that you no longer need to view or receive physical copies of our policies and procedures, including RAMS forms. This will save you a large amount of background work prior to your arrival. That work has been done for you by a qualified outdoor safety auditor. You can now spend that time getting yourself and your group ready for a great experience at Living Springs.

We recommend that you review the OutdoorsMark information on the Outdoors NZ website: www.outdoorsnz.org.nz. Here is one piece of information from that website: "OutdoorsMark accreditation is proof that benchmark standards are being achieved. It demonstrates a commitment to participants and staff that sound policies and procedures exist and provides an assurance of safety and quality."

BENEFITS OF OUTDOORSMARK ACCREDITATION

- Promotes safe participation in outdoor recreation and education.
- Raises standards in outdoor programme delivery.
- Provides assurance that national outdoor sector standards for safety and professionalism are being met.
- Reduces the risk of injuries and accidents in the outdoors.
- Establishes procedures for continuous review and revalidation.
- Accredited organizations are profiles on the Outdoors New Zealand website and other publications.

OutdoorsMark is recognized as the national standard for outdoor safety accreditation by:

- Department of Conservation
- Ministry of Education
- Maritime New Zealand
- ACC
- SPARC
- NZ Mountain Safety Council
- Water Safety NZ
- NZ Outdoor Instructors Association
- Education Outdoors New Zealand
- The Secondary Principals Council

We trust that this is helpful to you and allows you to check another matter off your list of preparations for your upcoming camp or outing to Living Springs.

On behalf of all our staff

Andrew Hill
Facility Administrator