

NOVEMBER 2020

24-hour Emergency Fire Brigade 028 313 8000/8111
028 312 2400

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

COASTAL CLEAN-UP: WORKING TOWARDS A TRASH-FREE OCEAN

In support of International Coastal Clean-up Day, volunteers the world over did their utmost to clear beaches, estuaries and rivers of debris and trash on 19 September in an attempt to keep the likes of plastic bottles and caps, polystyrene take-out containers, food wrappers, cigarette butts and discarded fishing tackle from washing out to the ocean.

Under the auspices of Overstrand Municipality's Environmental Management Services (EMS) and the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), a network of partners and organisations helped to rally and coordinate a whole platoon of volunteers who did a sterling job along Overstrand's coastline.

By way of example, no fewer than thirty-two bags of trash (weighing 185 kg) was collected along the 5 km-stretch of beach from Die Gruis to Sopiesklip in the vicinity of De Kelders.



Overstrand environmental officers, DEFF youth coordinators and CapeNature field rangers with their haul collected in the vicinity of De Kelders

Nearby, Gansbaai Tourism coordinated a team comprised of fire fighters, volunteers to help clean up a two-kilometre area around the loading dock at the Gansbaai harbour.

In addition to clearing a pile of discarded fishing gear, this team's haul totalled 41 bags weighing no less than 208 kilograms. Mind you, the discarded tractor tyre uncovered in the process might have added a kilogram or two to that figure.



Note that all collected rubbish and debris were separated as either recyclable (yellow bags) or otherwise (black bags). By separating and documenting trash in this manner, it is hoped that sufficient statistics will be gathered to determine the likely point of origin of pollutants and to convince manufacturers to change their production methods. Plastics SA collates all information, and this is fed into the global statistics held by the Ocean Conservancy.

THE NEW BABOON HOTLINE NUMBER TO REPORT BABOON ISSUES IS 072 028 0008

The HWS hotline number will be available for reporting and reaction on the operational projects for the Eastern Section which includes Voëlklip, Hermanus Heights and Fernkloof and in the Western Section in Pringle Bay. Issued by Overstrand Municipality.

CONTRAVENERS OF REFUSE REMOVAL ARRANGEMENTS TO FACE HEAVY FINES

Unfortunately, far too many residents have still not heeded our plea to NOT place their refuse bags and wheelie bins out before 07:00 on the day scheduled for collection.

Consequently, baboons, birds, dogs and cats are having a field day, resulting in rubbish being strewn and blown all over the show and, sadly, ending up in streams, estuaries and, ultimately, the ocean.

Given that failure to comply with stipulations regarding the collection of household refuse is a punishable offence in terms of Overstrand Municipality's Integrated Waste Management By-law, the municipality will have no option but to impose heavy fines on offenders in future.

Especially landlords and letting agents should take heed of the schedule published below and remind holidaymakers and weekenders of arrangements in this regard:

- ➔ Each household is allowed to place one wheelie bin or four black bags (with the proviso that only one bag may contain garden waste) with domestic refuse on the pavement for removal in areas which the municipality has not identified as a problem-animal area.
- ➔ In identified problem-animal areas, no refuse bags may be left on the pavement and waste containers must be secured with baboon-proof locking devices.
- ➔ In all instances, excess refuse should be taken to the nearest transfer station and not dumped next to municipal bins.
- ➔ In the case of weekenders and holidaymakers, please make arrangements with a nearby neighbour to dispose of household waste on the scheduled day.
- ➔ As far as practically possible, glass items should be packaged or wrapped before being placed into wheelie bins or black bags to prevent injury to waste collectors. Wherever possible, such items should rather be recycled or disposed of at public drop-offs or transfer stations.

For your convenience, please refer to the handy refuse removal schedule covering all areas in Overstrand below:



REFUSE REMOVAL SCHEDULE

HERMANUS ADMINISTRATION

Monday: Vermont, Fisherhaven, Voëlklip • **Tuesday:** Onrus, Chanteclair, Berghof, Sandbaai, Hemel-en-Aarde • **Wednesday:** Zwelihle, Mount Pleasant • **Thursday:** Westcliff, Northcliff, Houses in the CBD and Hermanus Industrial Area • **Friday:** Fernkloof, Hawston, Eastcliff, Hermanus Heights, Kwaiwater.

GANSBAAI ADMINISTRATION

Monday: Pearly Beach, Eluxolweni, Buffeljaags, Informal settlement of Masakhane • **Tuesday:** De Kelders, Formal settlement of Masakhane, Beverly Hills • **Wednesday:** Franskraal, Informal settlements of Masakhane, Industrial Areas • **Thursday:** Kleinbaai, Baardskeedersbos • **Friday:** Gansbaai, Perlemoen Bay, Masakhane, Beverly Hills, Blompark

STANFORD ADMINISTRATION

Tuesday: North of De Bruyn Street • **Thursday:** South of De Bruyn Street

KLEINMOND ADMINISTRATION

Monday: Rooi Els, Kleinmond Sea Avenues, Kleinmond Mountain Avenues, Klein Berlyn, Heuningkloof • **Tuesday:** Proteadorp, Overhills, Mountain View, Extension 6, Palmiet, Sunny Seas • **Wednesday:** Betty's Bay, Mooiuisig • **Thursday:** Pringle Bay.

DAYS REMAINS THE SAME REGARDLESS OF PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

EXTENSION OF KLEINMOND'S SEWERAGE RETICULATION NETWORK **UNDERWAY**

Amandla Construction began with extension work along 10th Avenue mid-September and is progressing well. Around the same time, the other contractor, Venleo Construction, started at the lowest point in 4th Street and will move upwards to construct sewers in 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Avenue.

Residents will be informed one week in advance before construction commences in their section of the avenues concerned and are advised to take note that construction between manholes can take up to two weeks to complete, weather permitting.

Even though roads will be closed to the general public during the construction period, residents will still have access to their properties except in instances where roads are too narrow. In the case of the latter, the contractors undertook to inform affected residents of the situation well in advance.

Nevertheless, all affected residents should please check the level of their sewage tanks and ensure that tanker services are ordered in the week before construction in their section of the avenue commences.

Call 028 271 8400/8435 to make a booking.

Please be patient while construction vehicles are at work and stay clear of the construction areas as far as possible. If you do not reside in any of the affected areas, kindly make use of electronic means to contact family and friends living in those areas.

In Heuningkloof, the contractor is finishing off and is busy with the restoration of roads and sidewalks. Once completed, Overstrand Municipality will conduct final inspections of the work. On completion of the latter, residents will be informed when they can connect to the extended sewerage reticulation network.

SNATCH-AND-RUN ROBBERIES ON THE INCREASE



PLAY SAFE

Overstrand Law Enforcement would like to caution everyone – pedestrians and patrons of restaurants and cafés especially – to pay constant attention to their surrounds and to not leave their valuables, especially cell phones and purses, in plain sight.

Snatch-and-run robberies typically involve someone approaching from behind and then grabbing something (your cell phone, your purse) before running off before you can react.

All too often, we tend to text and chat on our phones as we are walking along a pavement or while sitting in a café, oblivious to our surrounds. That is the ideal opening for criminals such as these to strike.

Since our attention is focused elsewhere, we will never see them coming.

Thus, when you do use your phone in public next time, please be vigilant. Someone may be watching.

A SPECIAL WORD OF CAUTION TO CYCLISTS

Unfortunately, several incidents have been reported in the vicinity of Sandbaai, Mount Pleasant and along the R43 where unsuspecting cyclists have been robbed of their bikes and cell phones.

For this reason, cyclists are advised to steer well clear of isolated roads and to rather cycle in groups.

And, as per the advice offered above, pay attention to your surrounds and keep those earphones and cell phones well hidden.

At the time of going to press, Fronwen Marais, head of the task team assigned to address this matter, gave his assurance that every effort is being made to corner the culprits and to ensure the safety of both the public and cyclists.

HERMANUS RESIDENTS STILL TO USE WATER SPARINGLY

Even though the De Bos Dam reached capacity early in October and overflowed for the first time in four years, this does not mean that water should be squandered and that residents should relax their prudent usage of this precious resource.

Over the past four years, Hermanus has been subjected to a devastating drought. Thankfully, residents were but all too willing to rally in an attempt to counter this disaster and, in the process, became water-wise citizens who understand the crucial role their habits fulfil in efficient water usage.

It paid off and, today, we are so much wiser. Let us not forget the lessons we have learnt. Despite the promising De Bos Dam level, Overstrand Municipality will continue to impose strict regulations and request all consumers to observe level xx restrictions (i.e. not to water gardens between the hours of 09:00 and 17:00).

Note, though, that the restrictive tariffs imposed to help curb excessive water consumption in the Greater Hermanus area have been lifted with effect from 01 September 2020.



LICENSING & REGISTRATION BACKLOG ADDRESSED

→ Hermanus Traffic now open every second Saturday from 08:30 till 12:00. The lockdown as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic has caused a huge backlog with regards to the renewal of driver's licences and public driving permits. Furthermore, no roadworthy tests or tests for learner driver's licences could be performed. In an attempt to counter this situation, all traffic offices in the municipal area will be fully operational between the hours of 08:00 and 15:30 on weekdays. Furthermore, officials at Hermanus Traffic will be on standby every second Saturday between the hours of 08:30 and 12:00 to render assistance wherever they can.

→ Do your bit to expedite safe processing. Even though Overstrand Traffic will ensure that every measure is in place to safeguard visitors to its offices, all attempts should be made to avoid a large number of people gathering in one place. To this end, we kindly request that you do the following:

→ Where ever possible, pay the requisite fee in advance by making use of EFT facilities. You can verify the amount due by calling 028 313 8175/8031/8166 (Hermanus Traffic), 028 384 8339 (Gansbaai Traffic) or 028 271 8400 (Kleinmond Traffic).

■ Ensure that you have the following on hand:

- Identity document, passport, traffic register (original or copy)
- Proof of address (e.g. a utility bill, telephone or retail account not older than three months)

■ If you are renewing a licence disk on behalf of someone else, please have the following on hand:

- A letter stating the registration number of the vehicle in question authorising you to renew the licence disk on the owner's behalf and/or in the case of married couples, a copy of your marriage certificate
- A certified copy of both your ID and the ID of the person whose licence disk you will be renewing
- The licence disk or registration papers of the vehicle in question



KEEN ON SELLING YOUR PROPERTY?

Be warned: Cluttering the pavement with "FOR SALE" signs can result in a fine. In accordance with the Overstrand Municipality: By-law relating to Outdoor Advertising and Signage, 2011, only two "For Sale" signs are permitted per property, of which not more than one may be of a particular estate agency. This by-law stipulates that:

1. In the case of a corner property, each of two agencies may erect a "For Sale" sign on the two street frontages of the property.
2. Signs are to be fitted to frames or standards and erected inside the boundary of a property. Where this is not possible due to a boundary wall or fence, the sign is to be placed within 0.5 m of the wall or fence and parallel to it. Where warranted, a sign may be fixed to a gate or wall or fence of the property.
3. Agencies and agents are to inspect their signs on a regular basis to ensure that they are well maintained and comply with this by-law.
4. "For Sale" signs may only be erected on the property concerned and may not be used with arrows or similar indicators to lead clients to a property that is for sale, except in the case of a pan-handle erf.
5. In the case of an enclosed residential development, only one "For Sale" sign per agency may be displayed outside such development.
6. These signs shall be placed at or fixed to the building concerned, or attached to the boundary fence of the premises concerned, or displayed within the boundaries of such premises or, where acceptable to the municipality, in the road reserve within a distance of 0.5 m of the boundary of the premises concerned.
7. All "For Sale" signs are not to exceed 0.27 m² in size and are to be fitted to frames or standards. No other items may be affixed to such signs.

It is the responsibility of the owner of the property to ensure that the above provisions are adhered to. Failure to remove excess "For Sale" signs and signs that do not comply with the above stipulations will result in the owner being fined as per the regulations stipulated in the applicable by-law.

LIBRARIES REOPEN BUT WITH STRICT PROVISOS

Having instituted several safety measures, including the rearrangement of public access areas, all libraries in the Overstrand are now open to patrons from Monday to Friday between the hours of 09:30 and 17:30 with the exclusion of the study and reading sections. In short, this implies that patrons can once again check out books, but they cannot browse magazines or newspapers at their leisure in the reading room. Likewise, access to the references section has been suspended. Internet access will, in future, also be limited to 30-minute slots booked in advance. Other than following the basic rule, no mask, no access, Overstrand's libraries will ensure that social distancing is maintained by limiting a patron's time to 30 minutes. For this reason, no leisurely browsing will be allowed. Patrons of Overstrand's libraries are also requested to drop the material they borrowed off in sealed bags (clearly displaying their membership details) in the bins/boxes placed at the entrances to the respective libraries. Material returned in this manner will be "quarantined" until such time as they are deemed fit to return to the shelves. Given that some books may be quarantined, Elna van der Linde, Gansbaai Librarian, advises patrons to visit the online library catalogue accessible via www.overstrand.gov.za to see which books are available. At the bottom of the page, click on Web Links, then click on 'libraries' and SLIMS to request library material. Alternatively, go to wc.slims.gov.za/desktop/desktopwcheplhe. Requests can also be sent via email to the chief librarian of your local library. Details required include library card number, name and surname, identity number, physical address and contact number. The library staff will do their best to collate all books and other library material requested within two days and make arrangements for collection but must caution that some of the material might be in quarantine and, therefore, unavailable.