

JUNE 2021

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

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

REHABILITATION OF SLOPE AT GROTTA EAST PARKING AREA UNDERWAY

Having obtained the necessary authorisation, the rehabilitation and repair of the storm-damaged elevated parking area at Grotto East is underway and will be completed by the end of May if all goes according to plan.

Due to the unique characteristics of dune formation, the natural outlet for the Klein River estuary was blocked by the dunes that formed after vehicle access was banned some years ago. When the Klein River estuary filled with water from the upstream catchment, it took a different path of least resistance to breach and the outlet then flowed past the Grotto Bay east parking area. This breach coincided with



an extreme offshore storm and spring tide.

As a result of these conditions and the position of the breach right against the man-made parking lot embankment, scour conditions caused a partial collapse of the sea-most bank. This situation was exacerbated during the winter season of 2013, to the extent that the dunes have been cut back to within six meters of the tarred road.

The area that requires rehabilitation is a 160-metre-long curve. The project entails shaping the face of the parking area on the seaward side to a slope of 1:2 vertical to horizontal from the top of the parking lot surface.

The cement rubble mix and large concrete blocks with reinforced material that was used long ago when the parking area was created will be left in place to help prevent further erosion of the embankment.

Once rehabilitation work has been completed, the slope at the parking area will be smoothed over with compacted clay and soil after which it will be planted with appropriate indigenous vegetation, natural to the coastal area.

Although this is a temporary measure until such time as high sea conditions or migration of the estuary mouth to the west again causes erosion and/or further under-cutting of the bottom layers, this option is preferred as it is not a hard engineering option, is quick to implement and not dangerous to the public.

Charel Bruwer of the environmental planning and impact assessment consultants EnviroAfrica (Overberg) has been appointed as Environmental Control Officer to oversee the implementation of the environmental management plan. Concerns, queries and complaints regarding the rehabilitation project can be directed to him on 082 805 0190 between 07:30 and 18:00.

Note that this project has nothing to do with the parking area or the braai area at Grotto East. Should residents have any recommendations or ideas regarding the existing braai facilities and parking area, they should please approach the relevant ward committee.

SECURE YOUR LOAD!

In the interest of road safety, anyone who transports general household waste, garden waste or builder's rubble to a transfer station, drop-off site or landfill must ensure that the load is adequately secured.

In accordance with the municipal by-law on integrated waste management, a person transporting waste through a municipal area must ensure:

- that loose waste on an open vehicle is covered with a tarpaulin or suitable net; and
- that no waste becomes detached, leaks or falls from the vehicle transporting it.



Failure to do so will result in a minimum fine of R1 500.

WASTE DISPOSAL DURING LEVEL 1 LOCKDOWN

All transfers stations and drop-off facilities are open.

Only the Kleinmond transfer station and the drop-off facilities in Hawston, Stanford and Pearly Beach accept small loads of clean builder's rubble. Loads greater than 1 ton or containing contaminated waste greater than 250 mm in size must be disposed of at either the Gansbaai or Karwyderskraal landfill sites.

Operating hours of waste facilities:

HERMANUS transfer station in Mbeki Street (garden and general waste) – open weekdays 08:00-18:00, Saturdays 09:00-16:00, and public holidays 09:00-14:00

VOËLKLIP weekend drop-off in 7th Street (household waste, black bags only) – open weekdays 08:00-18:00, Saturdays 09:00-16:00, Sundays 10:00-17:00, and public holidays 09:00-14:00

VOËLKLIP PRAWN FLAT drop-off (garden refuse only) – open weekdays 08:00-18:00, Saturdays 09:00-16:00, and public holidays 09:00-14:00

HAWSTON drop-off in Church Street (builder's rubble, garden and general waste) – open weekdays 08:00-18:00, Saturdays 09:00-16:00, Sundays 10:00-17:00, and public holidays 09:00-14:00



KLEINMOND transfer station in Main Road (builder's rubble, garden waste and general household waste) – open weekdays 07:30-18:00 and Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays 07:30-16:00

BETTY'S BAY drop-off on the R43 between Betties bay and Pringle Bay (garden waste only) – open weekdays 08:00-16:00 and Saturdays 08:00-16:00.

STANFORD drop-off in industrial area of Rivier Street (builder's rubble, garden waste and general household waste) – open weekdays 08:00-17:00 and Saturdays and public holidays 09:00-14:00

PEARLY BEACH drop-off in Broadway Street (builder's rubble, garden waste and general household waste) – open weekdays 08:00-17:00 and Saturdays and public holidays 08:00-14:00

GANSBAAI landfill off Voortekker Street (builder's rubble, garden waste and general household waste) – open weekdays 08:00-18:00 and Saturdays and public holidays 08:00-15:00

KARWYDERSKRAAL landfill site (builder's rubble, chipped garden waste and general household waste only) – open weekdays 08:00-17:00; closed on weekends. Note that anyone who wishes to make use of the Overberg District Municipality's landfill site at Karwyderskraal must first register with the ODM as a site user. Unless your name appears on the database, you will not be allowed to dispose of any waste, even if you show up at the landfill site for the first time. Registration forms are available from Ingrid Marti at imarti@odm.org.za or at the Karwyderskraal weighbridge office.

KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEASH: IT'S THE LAW.

In accordance with the municipal by-law, dogs in public places must be kept on a leash and be under control of the person holding the leash at all times.

Allowing a dog in a public place without it being on a leash and under control of a person will result in a fine or impoundment.

People who walk their dogs must also keep a bag handy to pick up their dog's droppings and should observe all rules and regulations pertaining to Blue Flag beaches and sanctuaries as and when applicable.

Any contravention of the by-law can be reported to Law Enforcement at 028 313 8996 or call the 24-hour control room on 028 313 8980. Alternatively, make a note of the transgressor's address and email the details to enquiries@overstrand.gov.za.

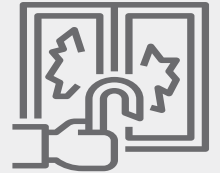
WELCOME TO THE HERMANUS CLIFF PATH

- Place all litter, including cigarette butts, in the bins
- All dogs must be leashed
- Dog walkers must pick up after their dogs
- Municipal by-laws will be enforced.



Enjoy the cliff path experience!

THEFT, VANDALISM CAUSE FOR CONCERN: WHY DESTROY SPORTS FACILITIES?



Overstrand Municipality is doing its utmost to ensure our communities have access to decent sporting facilities, yet it has to spend thousands every year on repairing and replacing vandalised property.

The recent vandalising of the tennis courts in Mount Pleasant serves as a case in point: The thieves not only made off with the fence and poles, they took it upon themselves to smash the roof, windows and doors and to steal everything from plugs to fittings.

On top of that, they also went full-out to vandalise all toilets, taps and basins.

Given that providing recreational facilities is an unfunded mandate, Overstrand Municipality calls upon all sports codes to help ensure that their facilities are protected.

Acts of criminality can be reported to 028 313 8980 (Overstrand Safety and Security) or the control room at 028 313 8000/8111.

CASTLE BEACH A LITTLE SAFER, THANKS TO PINK BUOY



Present at the installation of the pink buoy at Castle Beach were Pearly Beach Conservancy's chairperson, Susanne Fuchs, Overstrand Executive Mayor, Dudley Coetzee, Gansbaai's environmental officer, Benjamin Kondokter, Overstrand's Blue Flag coordinator, Lauren Rainbird, the Mayor's Mayoress, Shirley Coetzee, and members of the Pearly Beach Conservancy – Charleen Brunke, Elrina Versfeld, Anke Henrici and Gerald Henrici.

All too often, visitors along our coast find themselves in trouble because they did not take heed of warnings against riptides that make bathing extremely dangerous.

As a counter measure, and in an attempt to ensure the safety of those who brave the waters to rescue someone in peril, the NSRI are affixing so-called "pink buoys" along the coast.

These devices serve a dual purpose: They act as a flotation device that can be thrown to someone in distress and, given their bright pink colour, they serve as a marker that can easily be spotted in a rescue attempt.

Recently, such a pink rescue buoy was affixed to a pole at Pearly Beach near Gansbaai thanks to the Pearly Beach Conservancy and the kind assistance of Tom Brooks-Simon and the crew who mans the NSRI Hermanus Station.

Unfortunately, several incidences have been reported where these installations have either been vandalised or where the rescue buoys have been stolen.

This unfortunate state of affairs led Overstrand Mayor, Dudley Coetzee, to appeal to all beachgoers to please report any abuse of the rescue buoys and to help ensure that they remain where they belong – i.e. mounted to a pole along a boardwalk or near a bathing spot.

If you see a pink rescue buoy anywhere else than mounted on a pole, please be sure to alert the NSRI on 082 990 5967 (Hermanus) or 082 990 5952 (Cape Agulhas).

Remember, a stolen pink buoy equates a stolen life.

Each pink buoy displays its location number, the NSRI's national emergency number (112) and instructions on how it should be used.

Note that the NSRI strongly advises against untrained well-doers attempting to rescue bathers in distress. Rather call in the professionals (i.e. the NSRI) or call Overstrand Municipality's 24-hour emergency number 028 312 2400.

The Mayor emphasised that the pink buoy project needs the support of the community in which they are placed. "If the community takes ownership of the project, the pink buoys will only be removed from their holder in an emergency and will be replaced afterwards," he said.



A BREATHER FOR HEAVILY USED SPORTS FIELDS

In an attempt to improve the quality of sports fields' playing surfaces, a regular aeration programme has been instituted by Overstrand Municipality to ensure that soil compaction caused by frequent foot traffic is alleviated.

This decision followed on extensive compaction tests conducted at sport fields in Kleinmond, Hawston, Mt Pleasant, Zwelihle, Masakhane, Blompark, Pearly Beach and Stanford as well as at the Spaces for Sports fields in Gansbaai.

Aerating is considered the ultimate treatment for sports fields.

Regular trampling results in hardened and compacted soil that acts as a barrier to root penetration due to a lack of oxygen. If the soil is aerated regularly, though, moisture and nutrients can penetrate the soil much better, thereby enabling the establishment of deeper and healthier root systems that can endure heavily used playing surfaces.