

Bulletin

#overstrand4all

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

#C4ourself

AUGMENTATION OF GROUNDWATER SUPPLY TO HERMANUS

ADDITIONAL DRILLING YIELDS PROMISING RESULTS

Under its approved water use licence to explore groundwater in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley, Overstrand Municipality was granted environmental authorisation to conduct additional drilling in the Camphill and Volmoed wellfields.

The intention here is to reduce dependency on the De Bos Dam as the main source that supplies bulk water to Greater Hermanus by making the most of the approved water use licences already granted.

Since granting of authorisation in November 2023, two boreholes have been drilled: one to a depth of 200 m in the Camphill wellfield and another to a depth of 179 m in the Volmoed wellfield. Initial indications are that very good yields should be possible from both boreholes.

The sustainable yields can however only be determined once detailed test pumping at different flow rates, followed by constant rate discharge tests, have been completed.

If the test results prove that abstraction from any of the two boreholes would be viable and sustainable, the design process will commence.

The process to supply electricity to and to procure the likes of connector pipelines, pumps and auxiliary equipment to operate the boreholes can only commence once the design has been finalized.

The new boreholes will also have to be registered with the Department of Water and Sanitation. As and when available, all updates in this regard will be published via the municipality's usual communication platforms.

As a matter of interest, Overstrand Municipality's groundwater abstraction is monitored continuously and a condition of its licence to abstract groundwater is that reports be submitted on a six-monthly basis to all regulatory authorities, with the inclusion of the Hermanus Monitoring Committee.



FIND A BOTTLE OF GOOD WINE DELIGHTFUL?

PLEASE DON'T LET THE EMPTIES GO TO WASTE!



The popularity of South African wines is undoubtedly on the up and up, and how fortunate we are to reside in such close proximity to many a world-renowned cellar.

In attempts to lower its carbon and waste footprint, the growing wine industry is going all out to ensure that used glass wine bottles are kept in circulation rather than ending up on waste dumps.

This initiative is fully supported by Overstrand Municipality since we, too, have an interest in keeping the waste stream going to the Karvyderskraal and Gansbaai landfill sites to a minimum.

Overstrand Municipality operates two waste material recovery facilities: one in Hermanus and another in Gansbaai.

Both facilities reported that glass, newspapers, plastic water bottles, milk cartons, cans, cereal boxes and cardboard accounted for most of the items that end up there for sorting and baling.

They also indicated that attempts to separate glass wine bottles from bags containing recyclables have been very successful and that currently, just over twenty thousand bottles are being recovered on average per month.

The recovered wine bottles are rerouted to a bottle-washing facility where a dedicated team remove the labels and check the bottles for defects. If found fit, the clean wine bottles are returned to wineries for direct re-use or, in the case of damaged bottles, sent off for recycling.

Given that both facilities indicated that they have the capacity to recycle far larger volumes of empty wine bottles, those who operate restaurants/eateries are encouraged to drop large volumes of empty wine bottles off at their nearest waste recovery facility.

These facilities are open for acceptance of recyclable waste from the general public on weekdays from 08:00 till 17:00 and till 14:00 on public holidays that fall on a weekday. Recyclables can also be dropped off at the facilities on Saturdays from 09:00 till 16:00.

Residents can dispose of their empty wine bottles by simply adding those to the clear refuse bag used for recyclable household items. For every clear plastic bag placed out by a household on collection day, a new one will be supplied as replacement free of charge.

We appeal to all wine lovers to support the industry's efforts to prevent glass bottles from ending up at landfills by helping to keep them in circulation for as long as possible.

OVERSTRAND MUNICIPALITY: ONE OF THE FIVE TOP PERFORMING MUNICIPALITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The latest Good Governance Africa (GGA), performance index of South Africa 2024, indicates that Overstrand Municipality is ranked the 3rd best municipality in the WC province for medium sized, or B2 municipalities.

It is further ranked 5th best of all municipalities in the Western Cape and the country. In the B2 category, Saldanha Bay Municipality is 1st, followed by Breede Valley and then Overstrand. Overstrand Municipality (OM) achieved the same ranking in 2023.

The GGA evaluated all municipalities and metros according to four categories.

1. Administration and Governance
2. Leadership and Management
3. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Service Delivery

OM will study the report and the 40 indicators informing the research carefully in order to improve on future research.

Overstrand Executive Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie, expressed her delight on the good performance and welcomed the research as it assists in enhancing council oversight and speaks to good governance and service delivery which is critical to provide stability in local government as the sphere of government closest to the people.

Overstrand Libraries will be celebrating SA Library Week during the month of March by hosting various activities and book exhibitions.



EMERGENCY GENERATORS

ALL 11 NOW UP AND RUNNING



Generator at the Baardskeedersbos water treatment works now up and running



The generator installed at the Stanford production borehole

The last of the eleven back-up generators procured to safeguard Overstrand Municipality's most critical water and wastewater facilities against prolonged load shedding has now been installed and is running smoothly.

The total costs incurred to procure, install and commission all eleven emergency generators amounted to close on R12 m, of which roughly 60% was funded by the Western Cape Government's reserve fund for unforeseen and unavoidable events.

The balance was settled by Overstrand Municipality from own funds. To prevent interruptions to the delivery of basic services as a result of power outages, the generators were installed in **Greater Gansbaai** at the Baardskeedersbos wastewater treatment works, De Kelders water treatment works, De Kelders Klipgat Spring pump station, Gansbaai wastewater treatment works, Kraaibosch Dam bulk raw water pump station, Pearly Beach water treatment works and Stanford production borehole; in **Greater Hermanus** at the Mossel River sewerage pump station; and in **Kleinmond** at the Tennis Courts sewerage pump station, water treatment works and the Palmiet River raw water booster pump station.

TENDER TO DEVELOP DE MOND RESORT AWARDED

Previously operated as a caravan park, the tender for the development of the De Mond Resort in Voëlklip has been awarded to Point Caravan Resort (Pty) Ltd early in March 2024.

The next step is to negotiate the lease and service level agreements and to ensure that these are duly agreed to by all parties concerned.

Due to the complexity of the lease agreement, it is not possible to indicate at this stage exactly when this step will be finalised.

Once the lease agreement has been signed, the successful bidder will be able to start the process of developing the property in terms of the development plan as submitted.

The bidder will be afforded a period of two years to obtain all necessary approvals and to start developing.

As and when available, all updates in this regard will be published via the municipality's usual communication platforms.

De Mond Resort, being portion 5237 of Erf 4831, Hermanus, Voëlklip



STONY POINT BOARDWALK RE-OPENED



Following on extensive repairs, the boardwalk that meanders through the penguin colony at Stony Point in Betty's Bay is yet again accessible to the public from 08:00 to 16:30 daily.

The Stony Point Nature Reserve is home to a unique colony of African penguins, and the boardwalk provides an opportunity to unobtrusively observe these (now) endangered birds as they go about their daily activities in their natural habitat.

Managed and operated by CapeNature, the reserve lies on the site of the old Waaygat Whaling Station that was used to process harvested whale meat in the early to mid-1900s. Remnants of the machinery and infrastructure common to this long-defunct industry are still clearly distinguishable on the site.

Apart from the penguins, three species of cormorant – the crowned cormorant, Cape cormorant and bank cormorant (also known as the Wahlberg's cormorant) – breed on the reserve's outer rocks.

An admission fee of R30 per adult and R20 per child over the age of three is payable at the entrance gate.

MUNICIPALITY'S POSITION REGARDING LINKAGE OF CLIFF PATH AT POOLE'S BAY

Ever since it became public knowledge that both the Cliff Path Action Group and the Poole's Bay Residents' Association have lodged court applications regarding the construction of the Poole's Bay section of the Hermanus cliff path, the Mayor and a number of councillors have been inundated with requests to comment on these matters.

Overstrand Municipality has been cited as a respondent in both cases which are now before the court.

Executive Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie, gave the assurance that the administration will continue to serve the community's interests in its handling of this matter.

"It is important that the administration maintains its impartial position and allow the law to run its course," she said. "For obvious reasons, we cannot at this point in time engage with anyone on this topic and would appreciate it if the public would refrain from trying to solicit comments from us until such time as the court cases have been finalised."