

Bulletin

#overstrand4all

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

#C4ourself

COUNTERING DAMAGES CAUSED BY HEAVY RAINS

From mid-May, the South African Weather Services has been predicting that the south-western Cape is bound to experience heavy rains as a result of recurring weather events and that every precaution should be taken to protect lives and livelihoods against flooding.

On the evening of Tuesday, 30 May 2023, that prediction became true.

In response to the countless calls for assistance, a Joint Operations Centre was set up to coordinate the reaction of the responsible services and disaster management teams: Roads were washed away, homes were flooded and numerous residents were left stranded.

The inclement weather wreaked havoc especially in Betty's Bay and Pringle Bay where the large volumes of water flowing down the mountain caused channels to overflow or to become clogged.

Subsequently, the damage to infrastructure and roads has been assessed with the assistance of a provincial disaster management team and negotiations are underway with the Western Cape Government's Department of Local Government to secure funds from its disaster management fund to repair damaged roads and other infrastructure as soon as possible.

Securing funds may take some time, though. In the interim, Overstrand Municipality will do its utmost to repair damages caused to roads and infrastructure to the best of its ability.

"Given that all predictions are that our part of the coast is bound to be pounded by similar severe weather systems within the months ahead, we ask residents to please remain patient while we affect repairs to roads and infrastructure to the best of our ability under the circumstances.

"Meanwhile, we appeal to everyone to please heed our call not to dump backyard junk randomly and to please take the trouble to dispose of their household waste responsibly.

"Every bit of plastic or cardboard carelessly disposed of will end up in a sewer.

"That sewer will get clogged and, in the long run, flood your house.

"That is the long and the short of the matter."



Lakeside Road, Betty's Bay
– Section of road washed away



Gansbaai

POWER OUTAGES

Persistent high winds, as experienced during the past couple of weeks, are bound to cause damage to electrical infrastructure: Pylons are blown over and cables snap.

Where possible, Overstrand Municipality will affect repairs as soon as viably possible, but there are instances where damages must be repaired by Eskom since they operate some of the affected infrastructure.

Irrespective of who is responsible for the necessary repairs, please bear in mind that both the municipality and Eskom must deal with felled trees, washed-away roads and muddy terrains to get to the problem.

As much as we wish to apologise for any inconvenience caused, under these circumstances, please exercise a bit of patience: **We will do our best.**

MARIKANA ELECTRIFICATION UPDATE

In 2022, it became apparent that a number of transformers in the Zwelihle area known as Marikana will have to be replaced due to overloading as a result of the myriad of illegal electricity connections.

This situation came to a head when a toddler tragically died as a result of an illegal connection, at which point Overstrand Executive Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie, came to an agreement with the community that both the municipality and the community will do their utmost to safeguard the infrastructure, while the municipality pledged to actively pursue the financial means that could address the electricity backlog in Marikana.

Following on the adjustment budget tabled in January 2023, funds became available for the electrification of the first of twelve blocks in Marikana (200 connections in total).

Electrification commenced in May and is progressing well.

According to the Mayor, all indications are that additional funding will indeed be available in the new financial year and that grant funding as well as funds received from additional sources could also go a long way towards finalising this project.

RESIDENTS OF OVERHILLS TAKE MAYOR & CO TO TASK

Early in June, Overstrand Executive Mayor, Dr Annelie Rabie, members of the relevant mayoral committees and the councillors representing wards 9 and 10 were summoned to a meeting convened by parties with an interest in Overhills to discuss some pressing issues.

These issues mostly related to land invasion, the erection of illegal structures and the lack of control regarding related building activities as well as the resultant pressing need for basic services in Kleinmond.

The Mayor agreed that even though the meeting was conducted in an amicable manner, all parties are of the opinion that it might be necessary to appoint a mediator to facilitate future dialogue between the parties in the interest of transparency and fairness.

Nevertheless, agreement was reached that a representative committee will be established to represent all interests and that a community meeting will be convened as soon as possible.

The municipality also undertook to conduct a survey of all structures erected in the area and to investigate complaints pertaining to the lodging and processing of complaints with regards to land invasion and illegal building activities.

WHO WANTS TO LIVE IN SQUALOR?

The short answer to that question is no-one.

All too often, the first sign of decay in a neighbourhood is that residents seemingly stopped caring about the manner in which they dispose of their household waste: Rubbish of all sorts is simply dumped on sidewalks and unoccupied erven and left there to rot and be scavenged by all and sundry. Sadly, where such decay is allowed, the value of the properties in the neighbourhood will drop exponentially: No-one wants to live in squalor.

There is a simple solution to this problem: Simply adhere to the arrangements around Overstrand's waste-collection schedule and, when need be, make use of its extensive waste-disposal facilities.

THE ARRANGEMENTS AROUND WASTE-COLLECTION ARE STRAIGHTFORWARD:

- WE will collect household waste (general and recyclable) on the day of the week scheduled for collection in your area.
- YOU are to place out your household waste (general and recyclable) for collection on that day and that day only.

A quick reminder:

- General waste (i.e. wet waste) must be placed in black bags.
- Recyclable waste (i.e. clean, dry, recyclable items) must be placed in clear plastic bags.

UNITE TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Should someone in your street not adhere to the arrangements above, please remind them that it would be in their best interest to do so.
- If you let a property, please ensure that your tenants are aware of and adhere to the above arrangements at all times.
- Make use of a transfer station or public drop-off facility in your area to get rid of excess waste.

Overstrand Waste Management Facilities

This is where and when the public can dispose of household waste:

Gansbaai-Stanford Administration

Gansbaai Landfill Site	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 18:00 08:00 – 15:00 Closed 08:00 – 15:00
Stanford Drop-off	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 18:00 09:00 – 14:00 Closed 09:00 – 14:00
Pearly Beach Drop-off	Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Friday Wednesdays Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays	08:00 – 17:00 Closed 10:00 – 15:00

Greater Hermanus Administration

Hermanus Transfer Station (Garden Waste Only)	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 18:00 09:00 – 16:00 Closed 09:00 – 14:00
Hermanus Drop-off	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays (as mini drop-off only) Public Holidays	08:00 – 18:00 09:00 – 16:00 10:00 – 17:00 09:00 – 14:00
Voëlklip Prawn Flats Drop-off	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 17:30 09:00 – 15:30 Closed 09:00 – 13:30
Voëlklip Mini Drop-off	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 17:30 09:00 – 15:30 10:00 – 16:30 09:00 – 13:30
Hawston Drop-off	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 18:00 09:00 – 16:00 10:00 – 17:00 09:00 – 14:00

Hanglip-Kleinmond Administration

Kleinmond Transfer Station	Mondays – Fridays Saturdays & Sundays Public Holidays	07:30 – 18:00 08:00 – 16:00 08:00 – 16:00
Betty's Bay Garden Waste Drop-off	Mondays – Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 16:00 08:00 – 16:00
Betty's Bay Mini Drop-off at Library	Mondays – Sundays Public Holidays	08:00 – 16:00 08:00 – 16:00
Pringle Bay Mini Drop-off	Mondays – Sundays	08:00 – 16:00

BLOCKED DRAINS: AN UNSANITARY NUISANCE TO BE AVOIDED



Flushing the "wrong stuff" (e.g. sanitary products, nappies, wet wipes, cigarette butts) down the toilet or pouring cooking oil down the sink is bound to cause an overflowing drain sometime soon.

By adhering to these simple rules, you can prevent this unsanitary nuisance:

- Wipe and scrap plates, pans and utensils before washing.
- Collect cooking oil in a suitable container.
- Use strainers in sink plug holes.
- Dispose of sanitary products and nappies in the bin normally used for household waste.
- Maintain the gutter, sewer and water pipes inside your erf.

Also, be sure not to dump stuff where they do not belong.

Act responsibly by making use of Overstrand's transfer stations and waste drop-off facilities to avoid illegal dumping, bearing in mind that waste dumped illegally will eventually become your problem in one way or another: Not only is it unsightly, but waste dumped in this manner can block manholes and sewers with the result that sewerage can overflow into your street.

As soon as you suspect that a sewer might be blocked, call the municipal control room on 028 313 8111 (after hours) or 028 271 8400 (Hanglip-Kleinmond), 028 313 8090/8997/8137 (Greater Hermanus), 028 384 8300 (Greater Gansbaai) or 028 341 8500 (Stanford) to request tanker services during office hours.



Photo credit: Ann Wright (Hermanus resident)

On 7 May, an observant Hermanus resident, Ann Wright, was the first to catch the return of the Southern Right Whales to Overstrand's shores on camera.

"The early onset of winter might have its advantages," Overstrand Executive Mayor Dr Annelie Rabie remarked.

"It is wonderful to welcome these gentle giants back, and we do hope that everyone – be they residents or visitors – will enjoy some fantastic sightings in the season ahead," the Mayor said.