

AUGUST 2019

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

# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

## OVERSTRAND SWITCHED BANKS

**Avoid undue hassles: Make sure you deposit your payment in the correct bank account.**

Legislation compels municipalities to renew tenders for banking every five years. Recently, Nedbank was awarded the tender for Overstrand since it met all tender requirements, including banking fees. Consequently, all municipal banking accounts have now been switched from ABSA to Nedbank.

Although the old ABSA account will still remain active for a while, Overstrand Municipality appeals to all ratepayers to make sure they switch their payment details from the old ABSA account to the new Nedbank account.

**HERE ARE OVERSTRAND'S NEW UNIVERSAL BANKING DETAILS**

**Nedbank**

**Type of account: Current**

**Branch Code: 198765**

**Branch: Inland Garden Route**

**SWIFT Code: NEDSZAJJ**



**AND HERE ARE THE NUMBERS OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO**

**Monthly municipal accounts: Nedbank Account Number 1190136899**

Clients who pay accounts via the internet are requested to update their beneficiary details in this regard. This account is solely for the payment of monthly municipal accounts, and the payment must reflect the 12-digit account number as reference.

**Traffic fines: Nedbank Account Number 1190137186**

This account is solely for the payment of traffic fines issued by Overstrand Municipality, and the payment must reflect the 10 to 16 alpha-numerical digit reference number indicated on the fine. Please note that the "I" must not be included in the reference number.

**Overstrand primary account: Nedbank Account Number 1190136678**

This account is for the payment of fees related to licence renewals, building plans, new water and electricity connections, boat launching, town planning, etc. Clients are requested to obtain a reference number from the municipality before depositing money in these instances.

**Onrus Caravan Park: Nedbank Account Number 1190137674:**

This account is solely for the payment of camping fees for the Onrus Caravan Park and the payment reference must include the booking number.

**WHAT IF YOU TRANSFERRED MONEY TO THE WRONG (OLD) BANK ACCOUNT?**

If you accidentally made a payment to the wrong recipient (old ABSA account), be sure to notify the municipality's Client Services at enquiries@overstrand.gov.za. Remember to provide all relevant information, including your account number and contact details.

## New rates and rules for disposal at Karwyderskraal now apply

The Overberg District Municipality (ODM), who owns and operates the Karwyderskraal landfill site, recently published new rates and rules pertaining to the use of this facility, effective 1 July 2019.

Overstrand residents who make use of this site to dispose of builders' rubble, garden refuse (chipped) and general household waste are urged to take note of the following.

### Registration compulsory

In order to make use of the Karwyderskraal landfill site, residents, contractors or anyone who transports building rubble, chipped garden refuse or any domestic waste to the site must first register with the Overberg District Municipality as a site user. Failure to do so would result in dumping being denied. In short, 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.

### Garden refuse

No unchipped garden refuse will be accepted. Refuse of this nature should be disposed of at the transfer stations in Kleinmond, Hermanus or the Stanford Drop off and Gansbaai Landfill site, all of which have been equipped with chipping facilities.

### Builders' rubble

As from 1 July 2019, builders' rubble will be classified as either "sorted/clean" or "unsorted/contaminated", and the rates to dispose thereof will be adjusted accordingly.

■ **UNSORTED/CONTAMINATED BUILDERS' RUBBLE** implies that the rubble has not been sorted - in other words contains planks, cement bags, general waste and the likes - and probably originated from a construction or demolition site.

■ **CLEAN BUILDERS' RUBBLE**, implies that the load to be disposed of is clean and contains no items larger than a standard brick.

■ **OVERSIZE CLEAN BUILDERS' RUBBLE**, on the other hand, implies that the load to be disposed of is clean and contains concrete or rubble larger than a standard brick size.



An example of clean builders' rubble...



and this is what oversized builders' rubble looks like.

### Disposal tariffs

From 1 July 2019 till 30 June 2020, the following tariffs (VAT excluded) will apply for disposals at the Karwyderskraal landfill site:

Description	Tariff per ton, or part thereof
Cover material and clean builders' rubble containing nothing larger than the size of a brick	No charge
Oversized clean builders' rubble (any of the load larger than brick size)	R100.00
Mixed, contaminated or unsorted builders' rubble (contains wood, paper, steel, etc.)	R220.00
Domestic waste	R217.45

### Operating hours

The Karwyderskraal regional landfill facility is open between 08:00 and 17:00 from Monday to Friday. It is closed on weekends, but will be accessible should a public holiday fall on a weekday.

### Enquiries

Should you have any queries regarding the above, please contact Craig Mitchell, Manager: Solid Waste Planning at 028 313 5045 or send an e-mail to cmitchell@overstrand.gov.za or enquiries@overstrand.gov.za

## PUT A SOCK IN IT!

**Latest invention to prevent debris from entering waterways now being tested in Overstrand**



In partnership with the Dyer Island Conservation Trust, Overstrand's Environmental Management Services Department recently fitted the first storm-water filter sock in Gansbaai.

Made of net, this sock is fitted over storm-water outlets in an attempt to catch any litter and debris (especially plastic) before it washes out to sea following on a heavy downpour.

If successful, the municipality intends to employ this measure as a means to prevent those items humans so thoughtlessly discard from spoiling our oceans, rivers and estuaries. With the assistance of representatives from the Dyer Island Conservation Trust, municipal workers recently fitted the first storm-water filter sock under supervision of Environmental Officer Benjamin Kondokter.

## HOW TO REPORT A FAULT OR EMERGENCY

In the interest of responding quickly and efficiently to faults and emergencies, Overstrand Municipality urges all residents to adhere to the following steps.

➤ **Step 1:** Call the switchboard/customer-care helpdesk during office hours, or the Emergency Control Room after hours.

➤ **Step 2:** Log the complaint/problem and remember to give all the necessary information.

➤ **Step 3:** Ask for and make a note of the reference number or, in the case of infrastructure issues, the works order number that will be issued.

➤ **Step 4:** Follow up if necessary by quoting the number referred to above.

Especially in the case of issues with municipal infrastructure (burst water pipes, stolen or vandalised electrical cables or water metres, broken streetlights, etc.), do not take it for granted that someone else already called. Please make sure that the issue has, in fact, been reported.

### HERE ARE THE NUMBERS TO CALL:

#### Overstrand Switchboard

❖ 028 313 8000 for general enquiries (municipal accounts, progress with the approval of building plans, etc.)

#### Customer-care Helpdesks

❖ Gansbaai Administration 028 384 8300 or 8328

❖ Hermanus Administration 028 313 8196 or 8090

❖ Kleinmond Administration 028 271 8400 or 8435

❖ Stanford Administration 028 341 8500 or 8516

#### Emergency Control Room

❖ 028 313 8111 (for emergencies relating to municipal infrastructure - burst water pipes, stolen or vandalised electrical cables, etc)

#### Fire & Rescue

❖ 028 312 2400 in case of a fire, flood or distress call

#### Law Enforcement

❖ 028 313 8980 or nearest police station for day-to-day complaints regarding law enforcement

## BURNT VEGETATION

To remove or not to remove? That is the question.



After the devastating fires we endured in the Overstrand during January 2019, the roar and whiff of a fire are bound to evoke different images for different people. Surprisingly, fire is one of the best tools for biodiversity conservation and fuel management, but as we as a community know but all too well, it is also one of nature's most destructive forces.

About 70% of the ecosystems that cover South Africa are fire-adapted. They need to burn in order to maintain their ecological integrity. But because of human activity, there is a need to manage fire in a manner that is appropriate for land use and land type, while maintaining natural processes and patterns as far as possible.

Nevertheless, when managed and controlled, fire benefits our natural areas and is actually vital for the survival of several living species. It removes low-growing underbrush and cleans the floor of debris which opens it up to sunlight that nourishes the soil. By reducing the need to compete for nutrients, established vegetation can grow stronger and healthier.

Many people have asked if they can remove the burnt standing trees and shrubs that remain after a fire because they look ugly and spoil the beauty of the new regenerating species. This question will be answered in the next issue.

Attached are two photos taken in Franskrail in June 2019 where members of the community cut down the burnt vegetation after the January 2019 fire. We would like to urge all residents throughout the Overstrand to please refrain from continuing with this activity. Your actions can be even more devastating to the rehabilitation of the veld than you realise.

Call Overstrand's Environmental Management Services Department on 028 316 3724 or 028 313 8000 for guidance so that we can tackle this issue in a responsible manner or send an email to the Senior Environmental Manager, Liezl de Villiers, at [ldvilliers@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:ldvilliers@overstrand.gov.za) or [enquiries@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:enquiries@overstrand.gov.za) for advice.

## Don't miss out on this recital!



Overstrand's music lovers will be pleased to learn that the CONCERT PIANIST JAN HUGO, currently residing in France, will be visiting his country of origin, South Africa, later this year. OVERSTRAND ARTS/ KUNSTE is especially pleased to announce that this virtuoso has agreed to a recital in the Hermanus Civic Auditorium on Sunday afternoon, 22 September, at 15:30. *Be sure to get your tickets from the Tourism Office in Mitchell Street, Hermanus (tel. 028 312 2629) right away. For more information, call René du Plooy on 082 940 4238.*

## Minor changes to water usage can make a major difference!



To save water, we need to think not just about the water we use directly for drinking and cleaning in our homes but also to become more aware of how water is used to make the food we eat, the products we use and to generate the power for our lights and stoves.

One of the best ways to prevent your household from using extra water is to re-use grey water.

### WHAT IS GREY WATER?

Grey water is defined as untreated household wastewater that has not come into contact with sewerage.

Grey water comes from baths, showers and bathroom hand basins. Laundry water from washing machines can also be re-used if environmentally friendly detergents have been used.

Grey water from the kitchen and dishwasher must not be re-used since this water may be damaging to plant life because of the heavy loads of organic material, fats, oils and caustic additives.

Depending on the source, grey water can contain the following: bacteria, pathogens, organic material, oil, grease, soap, detergents, pesticides, dirt, lint, sodium, nitrates, phosphates and bleach as well as hair and skin particles. It can also have high salt / pH levels.

Water from toilets is considered black water and must not be re-used.

### CAN GREY WATER BE USED FOR ALL TYPES OF PLANTS?

Grey water can be used for almost all types of plants. Everything from the lawn to vegetables will benefit from grey water, as it contains plant nutrients. However, grey water with a high phosphate level should be avoided in a fynbos garden, and always remember to wash your vegetables before using them.

### WON'T SOAP IN GREY WATER BE HARMFUL TO PLANTS?

Not all soaps are harmful. Good quality soaps are actually good for the garden. Only soaps and soap powders with a high phosphate level should be avoided. Plants need phosphate to grow, but too much can be harmful in the long run.

Most new soap powders and biodegradable soaps will not harm your plants, but try to avoid introducing bleach and harmful detergents into your grey-water tank.

### GREY WATER RE-USE SYSTEMS

Grey water differs from fresh water and requires a whole new set of guidelines if it is to be re-used safely. Here are some guidelines you need to keep in mind:

1. Don't store grey water for longer than 24 hours:
  - If you store grey water, the nutrients it contains will start to break down, resulting in bad odours.
2. Don't allow grey water to pool or run-off:
  - To begin with, human or animal contact with grey water should be avoided. Secondly, if grey water is allowed to pool, it will create breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
  - For this reason, grey-water systems should be designed in such a way that the water is allowed to sink into/infiltrate the soil without forming pools or causing a run-off.
3. Don't re-use water in which nappies have been washed.
4. If a member of your household is ill, don't use grey water.
5. Keep your grey-water system as simple as possible:
  - Simple systems last longer, require less maintenance, require less energy and cost less money.
6. Install a valve for easy switching between the grey-water system and the sewer/septic system.

*Note, too, that consumers use grey water entirely at their own risk. Overstrand Municipality cannot be held liable for any consequential damage or loss arising directly or indirectly from the use thereof.*