

SENTRAAL / CENTRAL KAROO

DISTRIKSMUNISIPALITEIT / DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

**AFDELING / SECTION:
MUNISIPALE GESONDHEID / MUNICIPAL HEALTH**

N U S B R I E F

JAN. 2016

N E W S L E T T E R



IN HIERDIE UITGAWE / IN THIS ISSUE

Doel van ons Nuusbrief..... 2
Why should we care for the environment...2

MHS Functional analysis.....3
MHS in the Central Karoo District.....3

Ons Doelstellings.....3

Housing.....4
Water Quality Monitoring.....7
Waste Management & Monitoring.....9
Food Control..... 12
Health Surveillance of Premises.....14
Environmental Pollution Control..... 16
Communicable Diseases Control.....19
Chemical Safety.....20
Vector Control.....21
Management of Human Remains..... 22
Training & Education.....22

General info..... 24

DOEL VAN ONS NUUSBRIEF

Hierdie nuusbrieff aan Kategorie B-Munisipaliteite in die Sentraal Karoo Streek stel dit ten doel om:

- 'n Groter bewustheid te skep aangaande die aktiwiteite van die Afdeling: Munisipale Gesondheid;
- Die doelwitte van die Afdeling in die daarstelling van gesondheidsveilige omgewing te bevorder;
- Kommunikasie en samewerking in sake van gemeenskaplike belang tussen die Afdeling en Kategorie B-Munisipaliteite in die Streek te bevorder; en,
- Inligting te deel aangaande sekere gemeenskaplike aangeleenthede in die Streek.

We MAKE the
world we live in
and SHAPE our own
environment.

-ORISON SWETT MARDEN-



WHY SHOULD WE CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT?

Because caring for the environment will ensure:

- A healthier future for our children;
- The earth's resources that support plant and animal life will be sustained;
- A healthy and clean environment to live, work and play in.

Die indruk van mense se welstand word sterk beïnvloed deur die gehalte en toestand van hul omgewing en is die verhouding tussen die mens en sy omgewing een van die belangrikste faktore in die bepaling van sy gesondheidstaat.

FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS: MUNICIPAL HEALTH SERVICES

“Environmental Health” means a condition of optimal wholesomeness of the environment in which man exists and interacts with through the lowest possible presence therein or total absence of any stimuli detrimental to human health.

The Section Municipal Health of the Central Karoo District Municipality is responsible for the identification, evaluation, control and prevention of those factors that can be detrimental to people’s health and well-being.

The National Health Act, 2003 (Act 61 of 2003) defines Municipal Health Services as Environmental Health. In terms of Section 1 of the Act Municipal Health Services are defined as Water Quality Monitoring, Food Control, Solid Waste Management and Monitoring, Health Surveillance of Premises, Supervision and Prevention of Communicable Diseases, excluding immunisations, Vector Control, Environmental Pollution Control, Disposal of Human Remains and the Safe handling of Chemical Substances.

MUNICIPAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT

Currently the Municipality is implementing the full service as defined by the Health Act, 2003 (Act 61 of 2003) throughout the Central Karoo District.

Municipal Health Services are rendered in ten (10) communities in the Central Karoo Region, namely Murraysburg, Beaufort West, Nelspoort, Merweville, Prince Albert, Leeu-Gamka, Klaarstroom, Prince Albert Road, Laingsburg and Matjiesfontein, as well as in

the rural areas of the Murraysburg, Beaufort West, Prince Albert and Laingsburg Districts.

The staff component consists of four (3) Environmental Health Practitioners (EHP’s) of which two (2) EHP’s are employed at our Head Office in Beaufort West as well as one (1) EHP in Laingsburg.



ONS DOELSTELLINGS

- Om ‘n ontwikkelingsgerigte, prestasiegedrewe diens op ‘n volhoubare, billike, bekostigbare en verantwoordbare wyse aan ons Streek se inwoners te lewer;
- Dat alle inwoners in ons Streek toegang het tot inligting en kennis met betrekking tot munisipale gesondheidsdienslewering;
- Om ‘n positiewe bydrae te lewer tot volhoubare fisiese en sosio- ekonomiese ontwikkeling en gemeenskapsontwikkeling binne die raamwerk van munisipale gesondheid te bevorder;
- Dat gemeenskapsgebaseerde projekte onderneem word ter bevordering van munisipale gesondheid; en,
- Dat toepaslike beleidsvoorskrifte effektief uitgevoer word.

Die Grondwet van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika bepaal dat elke landsburger die reg het op 'n omgewing wat nie skadelik vir sy gesondheid of algemene welsyn is nie.

HOUSING

THE ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE DELIVERY OF HOUSING

Section 26 of the Constitution of South Africa says that *"everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing"*. In this regard the *"State must take reasonable legislative and other measures within its available resources to achieve the progressive realization of this right."* Thus the Constitution creates obligations for government to take all reasonable actions to ensure that all its people have the opportunity to acquire a home.

Since 1994, the government has taken several steps to address its responsibilities towards housing. These measures include the Housing Act of 1997, which sets out Government's visions and key principles underlying the provision of housing; the Local Government Municipal Systems Act of 2000, which puts in place mechanisms and principles to ensure all of government to move towards social and economic upliftment and to ensure access to essential services; and further plans such as the National and Provincial Spatial Development Frameworks and the National Development Plan.

Schedule 4 of our Constitution stipulates what functions each sphere of government is responsible for. It states that housing is a function of our National and Provincial Governments. But in reality, although the

finance for housing development is provided by National Government, through Provincial Government, the management of the implementation of housing projects has become the responsibility of Municipalities. Because of the resources required to take on this responsibility, this is often referred to as an under-funded or unfunded mandate, which are mandates or responsibilities where a sphere of government performs certain functions or activities for which they do not have any clear source of funds. In particular, Municipalities are expected to carry out functions that are not specified or not allocated in the Constitution, such as housing, libraries and museums.

Municipalities have thus become the implementing agency for the roll-out of housing projects, and the housing program is an under-funded mandate which creates additional burdens and challenges on the strained resources of a Municipality.

66...

The number of informal houses in the Central Karoo District (excluding backyard dwellings)



Decent housing with the relevant basic services is essential for human security, dignity and wellbeing.

The question then arises as to what should Municipalities be doing in respect of housing?

Firstly, Municipalities are responsible for setting housing delivery goals. To set feasible and reasonable targets, municipalities need to have a good overview of the housing demand. This does not only include the number of houses that are needed, but also the types of houses, their locations etc. To get a good overview, the municipality needs to collect information that can assist them in providing the kind of housing that the people need.

Secondly, municipalities must coordinate the delivery of housing to ensure that the housing projects are delivered at the right time, the agreed price and to the specified quality.

Besides the external co-operation between the spheres of government, the Municipality must have a well-structured and effective internal organization in order to have an effective municipal housing service delivery. After all, the delivery of human settlements includes much more than just houses. It is the municipality's task to provide the necessary services. Without water, electricity and roads, a house is not finished. The implementation of these tasks cannot be done by one department or section alone, but needs the cooperation of all departments that are involved in the delivery of human settlements.

Thirdly, Municipalities are responsible for the planning and structuring of their towns. In particular local government should be focusing on how to restructure urban areas to undo the legacy of town planning under the apartheid regime and to create a socially, racially and economically integrated society. In Knysna the biggest obstacle to this is the lack of sufficient well-located land. Although Knysna is surrounded by undeveloped land,

much of this land is undevelopable or unserviceable by virtue of it being in a flood plain; on very steep land; or in sensitive environmental areas. Also, in order to ensure the protection of the visual quality of the area as a whole and in order to avoid inefficiencies in service delivery and high costs of transport for future residents, it is important not to allow the towns to sprawl outwards into the rural areas.

Municipalities are responsible for ensuring sound public participation for all forms of housing development. Such public involvement begins with the development of a Housing Sector Plan which can meet the needs of all parties. In order to reach all involved interest groups, it is often necessary to use a variety of methods for communication and consultation. An example of such a plan is part of the Integrated Strategic Development Framework.

It must be borne in mind though, that *whilst the municipality must take into account the interest of the community, it must not forget the overall aims and needs of the broader municipality*. It is crucial that the municipality balances the need of the affected community, or housing clients, with the broader development responsibilities of the municipality.

Source: EMBARGO: Immediate: March 2015

Proper housing can be regarded as one of the most important “health priorities”. Poor housing conditions can lead to the death of occupants and can cause illnesses.



HOUSING & HEALTH

There is a clear need and opportunity for governments and others to promote health in the course of making investments in housing.

Examples of key housing-related health risks include respiratory and cardiovascular diseases from indoor air pollution; illness and deaths from temperature extremes; communicable diseases spread because of poor living conditions, and risks of home injuries. WHO estimates that nearly 2 million people in developing countries die from indoor air pollution caused by the burning of biomass and coal in leaky and inefficient household stoves.

Inadequate ventilation is also associated with a higher risk of airborne infectious disease transmission, including tuberculosis, as well as the accumulation of indoor pollutants and dampness, which are factors in the development of allergies and asthma.

Poor housing quality and design also can exacerbate the health impacts from exposure to temperature extremes, which are occurring more frequently due to climate change.



5...

The number of Informal Settlement Evaluation Reports that were sent to Category B-Municipalities during December 2015

The evaluation reports aim to:

- **Serve as a source of information to the relevant Municipality and Provincial Departments;**
- **Eliminate any conditions harmful or injurious to human health;**
- **Promote a healthy and safe environment for all residents in the region.**

8...

The number of inspections that were conducted at informal settlements in the Region for the time-period July – December 2015 in order to monitor compliance with regards to water, sanitation-facilities, waste management and –removal.

ACCESS TO HOUSING

A total of 86 per cent of households within the District had access to a house or brick structure on a separate stand or yard. This is the highest access rate in this category amongst all other districts in the Western Cape.

An additional 7.9 per cent of households occupied a town/cluster/semi-detached house. Also, 0.8 per cent of households occupied a flat in a block of flats whilst 2.4 per cent of households either stayed in a house, flat or room in a backyard/shared property.

A total of 97.1 per cent of households therefore had access to adequate housing within the Central Karoo.

There is however a concern that 1.8 per cent of households occupied an informal dwelling or shack in an informal/squatter settlement or backyard.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

...To ensure the effective management of all water resources and supply of potable drinking water

ACCESS TO WATER

77 per cent of households within the Central Karoo had access to piped water inside their dwelling with an additional 20 per cent of households having access to piped water within the parameters of their yard.

In turn, a total of 1.1 per cent of households had access to piped water less than 200 meters from their dwelling. A total of 98.1 per cent of the 20434 households in the Central Karoo therefore had access to potable water above the minimum service level.

This figure is higher than the Provincial total of 96.6 per cent. The Central Karoo is therefore on track to achieve the minimum service level target as envisaged by the NDP.



According to the National Development Plan (NDP) all households must by 2030 have access to potable water above the minimum service level. This minimum service level is defined as any household with access to piped water less than 200 meters from their dwelling.

74...

The number of municipal water samples, for bacteriological analysis, that were taken for the time-period July – December 2015.

Results received from the National Health Laboratory indicated that 65 samples did comply with the SANS 241 Standards for Water Quality.

All sample results were sent to the responsible Water Service Authorities in the Region and imported into the Section's Database of Results.

3...

The number of Water Quality Evaluation Reports that were sent to Category B-Municipalities during December 2015

These evaluation reports aim to:

- **Serve as a source of information to the relevant Water Service Authority;**
- **Promote safe access to safe potable water;**
- **Promote continuous effective water quality management.**

RESPONSIBILITY OF WATER SERVICE AUTHORITIES (WSA'S)

The primary responsibility for ensuring the provision of safe drinking water rests with WSA's.



WSA's have a legal responsibility to:

- Monitor the quality of drinking water provided to consumers;
- Compare the results to national drinking water standards, and,
- Communicate any health risks to consumers and appropriate authorities, as described in the regulations to the Water Services Act (No. 108 of 1997) - *Compulsory National Standards for the Quality of Potable Water*

WSA's also have a responsibility to regulate the quality of water supplied by Water Services Providers (WSP's).



8...

The number of water samples of private boreholes that were taken by the Section: Municipal Health for the time-period July – December 2015.

A total of four (4) samples did comply with the SANS 241 Standards for Water Quality.

Effective monitoring requires careful design and planning. Monitoring calls for determining the required information that is useful at a minimum cost. This can be achieved with a monitoring programme that focuses on obtaining only the necessary information/data in a cost-effective manner.

WASTE MANAGEMENT & MONITORING

...To effectively monitor waste management systems, refuse, health care waste and sewage in order to promote a clean, healthy and safer environment to all residents and to ensure a change in negative behavioral patterns towards health and the environment amongst the Central Karoo residents

Municipalities in the Central Karoo Region face a number of challenges with regards to the delivering of an effective and sustainable waste management service (insufficient budgets, skilled capacity and a lack of appropriate equipment)

Though municipalities recognise the importance of managing disposal sites and ensuring that all facets of work is properly undertaken and competently directed, guided and executed.

Where waste management is not carried out to sufficiently high standards, it has the potential to have an adverse impact on the environment, such as flies, odors, unsightliness and windblown litter on the short term and possible pollution of the water regime on the long term

It is important that all landfill sites in the Central Karoo get permitted to provide a means of effective control and a set of conditions which will ensure that Permit Holders will operate, close and monitor waste disposal according to the minimum requirements

REFUSE REMOVAL

From a refuse removal perspective, the minimum service level is considered to be the removal of refuse at least once a week.

78.9 per cent of the households within the Central Karoo had their refuse removed at least once a week. This is the second lowest refuse removal access rate in the Western Cape

STORTING VAN VULLIS

Vaste afval is moontlik die mees opsigtelike vorm van besoedeling in die Streek en is die storting van afval in die sogenaamde “soomgebiede” van ons gemeenskappe kommerwekkend.



Hoewel vermelde toestande nie noodwendig 'n onmiddellike gesondheidsgevaar mag inhou nie, kan hierdie toestande lei tot onder andere vlieëbroeiery, knaagdiere lok, reukoorlaste en die indruk skep dat die storting van vullis op enige terrein anders as 'n formele stortings-terrein “wettig” of aanvaarbaar is.

Munisipaliteite in die Streek word versoek om alle noodsaaklike en redelik uitvoerbare maatreëls tref om onbeheerde stortings die hoof te bied.

The illegal dumping of Health Care Risk Waste must be reported within 24 hours of identification to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Section Municipal Health of the Central Karoo District Municipality

59...

The number of inspections that were conducted at solid waste sites in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF ANY PREMISES MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING NORMS AND STANDARDS...

- Every waste handler and all activities used in connection with the management of any waste comply with the provisions of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No 59 of 2008);
- All buildings used in connection with the handling, storage or treatment of waste complies with the provisions of the National Building Regulations and National Building Standards Act, 1977 (Act No. 103 of 1977) as amended.

**YOU CAN
WISH FOR IT,
OR YOU CAN
WORK FOR
IT. YOUR
CHOICE.**

8...

The number of Solid Waste Site Evaluation Reports that were sent to Category B-Municipalities during December 2015

These evaluation reports aim to:

- **Serve as a source of information to the relevant Municipality;**
- **Eliminate any conditions harmful or injurious to human health;**
- **Promote effective solid waste management.**



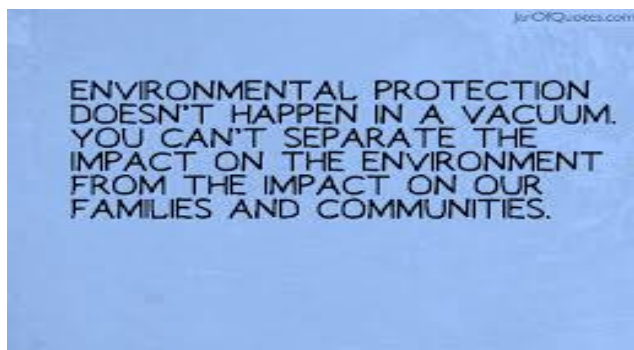
"Yes, we have it all now. A landfill full of garbage and everything a fly could ask for. But, let us never forget where we came from."

WHY FOCUS ON SANITATION?

Wherever humans gather, their waste also accumulates. Progress in sanitation and improved hygiene has greatly improved health, but many people still have no adequate means of disposing of their waste.

This is a growing nuisance for heavily populated areas, carrying the risk of infectious disease, particularly to vulnerable

groups such as the very young, the elderly and people suffering from diseases that lower their resistance.



Poorly controlled waste also means daily exposure to an unpleasant environment. The build up of faecal contamination in rivers and other waters is not just a human risk: other species are affected, threatening the ecological balance of the environment.

The discharge of untreated wastewater and excreta into the environment affects human health by several routes:

- By polluting drinking water;
- Entry into the food chain, for example via fruits, vegetables or fish and shellfish;
- Bathing, recreational and other contact with contaminated waters;
- By providing breeding sites for flies and insects that spread disease

25...

The number of sewerage samples, for bacteriological analysis, taken at sewerage works in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015.

Twenty (20) samples were compliant to the set standards

Access to sanitation is one of the most essential basic services as it concerns the health and dignity of human beings.

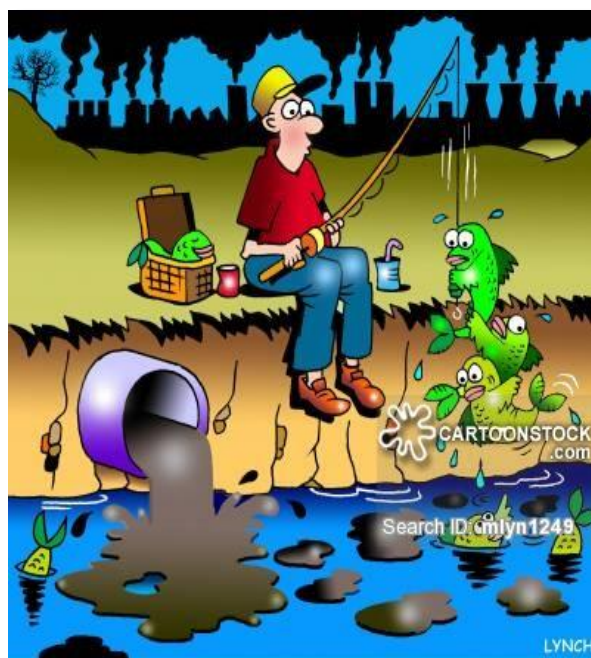
ACCESS TO SANITATION FACILITIES

In 2014, 89.2 per cent of households in the Central Karoo had access to flush toilets (connected to sewerage/septic tank) which is considered to be the minimum service Level

A total of 6.2 per cent of households in the Central Karoo is however still making use of the bucket/pit latrine system. This is the second highest usage rate off all other districts in the Western Cape.

54...

The number of inspections that were conducted at liquid waste sites in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015



FOOD CONTROL

...To provide consumer protection and ensure that all foods during production, handling, storage, processing and distribution are safe, wholesome and fit for human consumption; as prescribed by law

1 072...

The number of inspections that were conducted at formal and informal food premises in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015.

FOOD CATERERS

Municipalities must ensure that caterers supplying food at their meetings, functions, etc. are in possession of a Certificate of Acceptability (COA) ito. the Regulations for the Hygienic Requirements for Food Premises and the Transport of Food, R962 of 2012.



Gesonde voedsel vorm een van die boustowwe van 'n gesonde lewe...

Veiligheid tydens die vervaardiging, verwerking en verkoop van voedsel-produkte vir menslike gebruik is uiters belangrik ten einde te verseker 'n gesondheidsveilige produk aan die publiek te koop aangebied word.

25...

The number of food samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis taken at food premises in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

Nineteen (19) samples were compliant to the set standards

Motivation is everything. You can do the work of two people, but you can't be two people. Instead, you have to inspire the next guy down the line and get him to inspire his people.

Lee Iacocca

QuotePixel.com



KEEP WORK-SPONSORED GATHERINGS SAFE

Municipal barbeques and parties can be dangerous sources of foodborne illness. Improperly handled food, warm sun on potato salad, undercooked burgers and a buffet table all increase your risk.

Take steps to keep your parties and employees safe. Harmful bacteria multiply more rapidly between 4 and 60 °C, so be sure to keep cold food cold and hot food hot. Remember that food shouldn't stay at room temperature for longer than two hours.

Where more than 2 food safety complaints have been received in a month or a clinically confirmed outbreak has occurred at a facility within the last year under the same management, then the likelihood of a outbreak re-curing and or other complaints being registered is high.

**Dream big,
work hard,
stay focused &
surround
yourself with
good people.**

44...

The number of food products evaluated i.t.o. labeling requirements in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015



0...

The number of food poisoning outbreaks reported and investigated in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

**A successful man
continues to look
for work after he
has found a job.**

POSITIVEMOTIVATION.NET

HEALTH SURVEILLANCE OF PREMISES

...To identify, monitor and evaluate health risks, nuisances and hazards and instituting appropriate remedial and preventative measures

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTION OF GOVERNMENT PREMISES & INSTITUTIONS

Section 54 of the old Health Act 1977 (Act 63 of 1977) excluded government premises and institutions from environmental health inspections by Local Authorities and made the National Director General responsible for such inspection. These inspections were done by the Environmental Health component of the Western Cape Government, Department of Health on behalf of the National Department.



When the new Health Act 2003 (Act 63 of 2003) was promulgated, Section 54 and others remained in force, thereby leaving the Environmental Health inspection of government premises and institutions with the Environmental Health component of the Department of Health.

The old Health Act 1977 (Act 63 of 1977) has been repealed in its entirety by Proclamation 11 of 27 February 2012.

This means that the responsibility for the environmental health inspection of government premises and institutions has

now shifted effectively from the Department of Health to the Municipal Health Services of the Local Authorities (Metro's and District Municipalities)

108...

The number of inspections that were conducted at public premises in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015.

NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR VACANT LAND

Vacant land must be in compliance with environmental health and hygiene requirements and promote a clean and healthy environment.

Vacant land refer to unoccupied or empty stands or any land without a structure build onto it, a pavement, or open field. This will include an un-occupied building

Vacant land must comply with the following requirements:

Vacant land and unoccupied buildings must be maintained clean at all times, free from the following conditions:

- Accumulation of refuse, debris, including glass, paper, rags, tins, trash, ash and coal, including dead animals;
- Overgrown weeds, trees, long grass, and existence of undergrowth, shrubs or any poisonous plants;
- Accumulation of wrecked motor vehicles, chassis, engine or other part of a motor

vehicle which is unsightly and may pose a health nuisance;

- Offensive smells, stagnant waters, and
- Any conditions resulting in the breeding of flies or mosquitoes, habourage of rodents and other vermin

STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES

General requirements

- Waste material and debris must be removed to a disposal area and reusable material must be sorted and moved to a storage area at least once daily to prevent a hazardous condition arising.
- Rubbish, debris and other waste material from the demolition or construction of projects must be temporarily disposed off in a designated area on site where people do not have access.
- If the dissemination of dust is a hazard to the neighboring community, the dust must be adequately controlled to prevent a nuisance or hazard from continuing.
- Noise levels from construction activities on the premises must conform to the Environmental Conservation Act, Noise Control Regulations of 20 November 1998.
- Dust control measures must be put in place to control dust from the construction activities and all emissions must be in compliance with the National Environmental Management; Air Quality Act of 2004.
- Fire control equipment must be available on the premises, in compliance to the municipality's fire control requirements

TOBACCO CONTROL

All premises, including municipalities, must comply with the requirements of the Regulations Relating to Smoking in Public Places and Certain Outdoor Public Places R 264 of 30 March 2012, published in terms of Tobacco Products Control Act, 1993 (Act No. 83 of 1993) as amended.

MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOLS

Did you know:

- Swimming pools must be frequently monitored for turbidity, residual disinfectant and pH values;
- The pH should be maintained between 7.2 and 7.8 for chlorine disinfectants and between 7.2 and 8.0 for bromine-based and other non-chlorine processes;
- Where chlorine based disinfectant are used, a minimum free available chlorine residual of 0.5 mg/l, with a maximum free available chlorine residual of 3 mg/l must be maintained;
- The total viable bacteriological count of any sample submitted for analysis should not exceed 100 organisms per ml of water;
- Escherichia coli type 1 bacteria should not be present in any 100 ml of spa bath or swimming pool water; and,
- Bacteriological and chemical quality of the water should be monitored regularly by management for heterotrophic plate count, E Coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and legionella spp.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION CONTROL

...Via the identification, evaluation, monitoring and prevention of the pollution of soil, water and air, in as far as it relates to health; to institute remedial action and to educate and train communities regarding environmental pollution

GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZE AIR POLLUTION'S THREAT TO HUMAN HEALTH

World Health Assembly's Air Pollution Resolution is a Small First Step

The world's governments took an important step forward in recognizing air pollution as a major threat to human health, by issuing a resolution at the World Health Assembly in Geneva. The resolution mandates greater engagement by the World Health Organization to address a problem responsible for one out of eight deaths worldwide.

The passage of this resolution marks a significant milestone in the global consensus among health leaders that air pollution has serious and costly health consequences, and therefore requires urgent action on the part of the health sector worldwide. It follows the WHO's finding that air pollution exposure caused 7 million premature deaths in 2012, more than twice the death toll from HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined.

*Source : Environmental Health Research Network:
May 2015*

SOURCES OF POLLUTION IN THE CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT

Industrial Pollution

Pollution from industrial activities in the urban and rural areas of the Central Karoo District is almost non-existent; except for a few brickworks, waste reduction "incinerators" and vehicle emissions

Residential pollution

Poor indoor and ambient air quality occurs in low income and informal settlements throughout the Central Karoo Region as a result of domestic fires and fuel burning by the poorest of the poor, refuse burning, dust from unpaved roads and wind blown dust from denuded areas.

The burning of wood and paraffin is a common practice and produces SO₂ and PM₁₀ as well as VOC's. The relatively high population densities, together with the low release height of the pollutants, imply that there is also a health risk in these areas.

Transport Emissions

Motor vehicles are sources of CO, NO₂, PM₁₀ and VOC emissions, particularly during periods of idling and acceleration.

Emissions from motor vehicles have been identified as the major air quality problem in Beaufort West, especially during the peak season.



Virtually all of the road traffic, especially heavy diesel-powered vehicles, between the Western Cape and Gauteng pass through the

towns of Laingsburg and Beaufort West and the average speeds of the traffic is very low, especially in the town centre.

The control and reduction of vehicle emissions is a challenge that needs to be addressed.

GAPS WRT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Some of the gaps / needs within the Central Karoo District are as follow:

- The current capability of the CKDM is limited by the shortage of personnel, skills and tools required for effective and coordinated air quality management.

Air quality management is a relatively new function within the District as a whole, with few Local Municipalities able to undertake basic air quality functions. Air quality responsibilities are mainly limited to the investigation of public complaints.

- Air quality management is a complex issue as it involves various scientific disciplines and very few, if any, tertiary education courses adequately prepares a person for the practical work involved.

As a result most, if not all of the expertise required needs to be obtained through in-service training and exposure to the various issues involved.

- Air quality management tools are required in the District Municipality to effectively fulfill their air quality functions. Such tools include emissions inventory software, dispersion modeling software and air quality monitoring hardware.

Air quality monitoring options include continuous ambient air quality monitoring

stations or passive sampling methods. A mobile monitoring station is the recommended option for the District as this will allow for 'hotspot' monitoring in identified areas of concern;

- Air Quality management requires cooperation from various disciplines within local government which includes amongst others, traffic, town planning, environmental services, cleansing services, housing, building control, Municipal Health Services, Law enforcement, social and developmental services and political buy in.

The successful implementation of our air quality management plan is thus strongly dependent upon cooperation and communication amongst all the local governments within the district. This has always been an area of concern within the district and is expected to be a major challenge in the implementation of this function throughout the district.

- Inadequate financial provision specifically earmarked for AQM by all local authorities within the district;
- The designation of trained EMI's within the district still remains an issue as these individuals cannot do compliance and enforcement until designation has taken place;
- The personnel complement must, therefore, be assessed and the necessary operational structure developed so that municipalities can fulfil its air quality management duties as defined by the NEM: AQA; and,
- Meeting the objectives described above is not a one-man task. While the Air Quality

Act states that the municipalities must appoint an air quality officer, it is clear that these officers will require a substantial support base if they have to carry out the responsibilities of this position effectively.

AIR QUALITY: DUST CONTROL MEASURES

- Dust control measures must be put in place to control dust from the construction activities and all emissions must be in compliance with the National Environmental Management; Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004).
- Dust must be adequately controlled to prevent a nuisance or hazard from continuing.
- Industry that generates emissions to the atmosphere at any stage of the project life-cycle, must be in compliance with the standards as specified by the National Environmental Management, Air Quality Act, 2004 (Act No. 39 of 2004)



0...

The number of air quality related complaints received in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

CLIMATE CHANGE

According to the Climate Change Strategy for the Western Cape, it is envisaged that the Western Cape will become significantly hotter and dryer.

This has considerable implications for the Central Karoo District as it is already characterized by very high temperatures and a dry climate.

It is estimated that within 50 to 100 years, areas that support succulent Karoo vegetation may become arid that only the hardiest plants of that biome will be able to survive.



An increased dry hot climate brings about a bigger possibility of fire, which can be devastating to whatever vegetation that is left within this district.

Like some parts of the world, on short term and long-term basis, every municipality needs to look at developing adaptation strategies to climate change and global warming for the sectors that are vulnerable.

The CKDM's Municipal Health Management Plan for Climate Change will form the basis of a series of strategies and programs to curtail global warming and eventual climate change. This will also enable the meeting of current needs as well as the maintenance of our resources for the benefit of future generations

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES CONTROL

...The identification, investigation and monitoring of outbreaks of listed notifiable medical conditions in order to immediately institute the required corrective and preventative measures and/or the deployment of the required response teams in respect of municipal health

WHAT IS A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE ?

A communicable disease is an illness transmitted through contact with microorganisms. People, animals, food, surfaces, and air can all be carriers of the microorganisms that pass infectious illnesses from one host to the next.

The exchange of fluids or contact with a contaminated substance or individual may be enough to allow a communicable disease to spread.



www.shutterstock.com - 221776363

The environment may be rendered less suitable for the occurrence of disease in a variety of ways.

For example, food can be kept hot or cold (rather than warm) to prevent multiplication of organisms that may be present. Breeding

places can be drained or insecticides used to eliminate vectors of disease.

Condoms can be used to prevent sexually transmitted diseases by providing a mechanical barrier to transmission.

Reduction of crowding and appropriate ventilation can reduce the likelihood of droplet or airborne transmission.


Respiratory protective devices can be used to prevent passage of microorganisms into the respiratory tract.

2...

The number of notifiable medical conditions reported and investigated in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

Improvements in sanitation have dramatically reduced the burden of water-and food-borne diseases.

Improvements in housing have also played an important role in reducing transmission of tuberculosis, and improvements in nutrition have made persons with infectious diseases less likely to die from their infections.

 **Teamwork
divides the task
and multiplies
the success.
- Unknown**

CHEMICAL SAFETY

...To monitor, identify, evaluate and prevent risks relating to chemicals hazardous to humans (e.g. storing and using agricultural substances); and to investigate, per notification, all incidences of pesticide poisonings



ISSUANCE OF LICENSE / PERMIT

In terms of the Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act No. 15 of 1973), all importers, manufacturers, whole distributors, registered pharmacists, general dealers, farmers, industries and factories, retailers (formal and informal), pest control operators, business premises, schools, laboratories, public and private premises and workplaces must be licensed/permitted on hazardous substances and chemical safety issues where applicable.

All pesticide/chemical poisoning incidents must be reported in terms of pesticide / chemical incident report form as adapted from the Rotterdam Convention and investigated by an EHP.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- All employees or workers must be provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) (gloves, boots, aprons and mask) at all times.
- PPEs must be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times.
- All employees or workers must be trained on hazardous substances and chemical safety issues.
- Procedures and plans must be in place for accidental spillages and leakages.



0...

The number of pesticide poisonings reported and investigated in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

“To fear change is to fear being challenged.
To fear being challenged
is to fear growth
and new possibilities.”

– Ty Howard

(C) 2014 Ty Howard

www.TyQuotes.com

VECTOR CONTROL

...To monitor, identify, evaluate and prevent vectors by the elimination or correction of conditions promoting the habits and breeding habits of vectors, and developing awareness in communities of zoonotic diseases by means of vectors and the control thereof through education and training

The degree of pest infestation on any premises may be indicative of the standard of hygiene and the lack of success of control measures to prevent or eradicate infestation. Apart from a nuisance in general, these infestations could pose a serious health risks.

Transmission of disease from infestations occurs in both the internal and external environment of the premises through contamination of equipments, surfaces, food or water. Implementing control measures on a regular basis is necessary to prevent or eradicate infestation and should be effected by means of a continuous pest control program.



The owners and person in charge of the premises must ensure:

- Construction and availability of rodent-proofing on premises to prevent penetration of the premises by rodents and other vermin. Particularly in food handling premises, funeral undertaker's premises, etc.
- Rodent proofing is maintained in good order or repair so as to be impervious to rodents.
- To prevent the wide-spreading of rodents or pests, rodents must be eliminated before demolition of any building or structure likely to be infested with rodents

2...

The number of vector infestations reported and investigated in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

Every Municipality should have a vector control management plan guiding the interventions and control measures within a that municipality.



MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS

...To monitor compliance of funeral undertakers, mortuaries, embalmers, crematoria, graves and cemeteries; and to manage, control and monitor exhumations and reburial or disposal of human remains

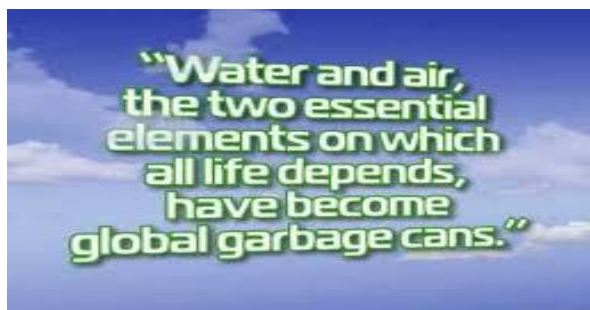
8...

The number of inspections conducted at crematoria & funeral parlours in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015

Mortuaries, funeral undertaker's premises and crematorium premises must comply with the requirements of the Regulations relating to the Management of Human Remains, R363 of 22 May 2013 published in terms of the National Health Act.

0...

The number of exhumations performed in the Central Karoo Region for the time-period July – December 2015



TRAINING & EDUCATION

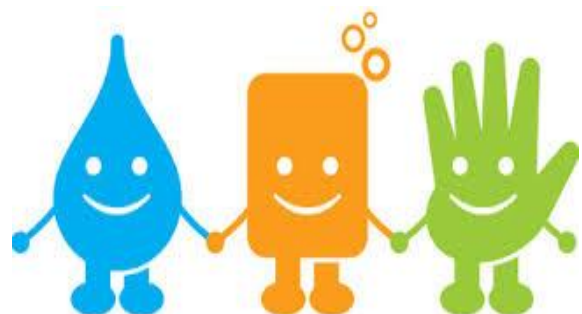
....To raise public awareness through awareness campaigns, road shows and the local media



3...

The number of articles that were published in the local newspaper, The Courier, for the time-period July – December 2015

EHP's conduct awareness raising, education and promotion programmes in communities on various aspects of environmental health as part of compliance monitoring and enforcement.



OPPORTUNITY FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO ADD THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO ECO-FRIENDLY WORKPLACES

Why?

- Because we spend most of our life at work, and we can make that significant amount of our lifetime healthier and better.
- Because everyone can make a difference to the predicament we find ourselves in regarding climate change.
- Because our kids don't deserve to inherit our carelessness and indifference – and if we get into a green mindset at the office it's highly likely that mindset will travel home.

Tip: looking for ways to recycle more

The point is to get our office to re-use and or recycle where possible. Why? Because all of us need to save on waste!

- Tip 1: Provide trays to collect and reuse print and copy error sheets.
- Tip 2: Cut scrap paper and bull-clip it to use as a notepad; or cut in quarters and use as post-it like notes.
- Tip 3: Use the back of printed A3 sheets as flipchart paper at office meetings.
- Tip 4: Reuse envelopes for inter-office correspondence.
- Tip 5: Reuse shipment boxes.
- Tip 6: Reuse files.
- Tip 7: Donate out-of-date stationery to local charitable or environmental groups.

- Tip 8: Donate items no longer useful to your company eg: furniture.
- Tip 9: Provide bins/recycling containers, and zone them appropriately, for collection of old technology (e-waste), newspapers, magazines, plastic bottles.
- Tip 10: Buy recycled paper whenever possible.
- Tip 11: Look for the recycled option in all the products you buy.
- Tip 12: When planning events think of items that you can reuse or recycle at other events.

It is never too early to start the planning process for preventing and recycling waste for your event.

Start by reviewing what materials can be collected for recycling in your community, consider barriers to recycling, and evaluate opportunities to prevent waste.



GENERAL INFO

RETIREMENT OF MR. PHUMEZO NAKANI

Mr. Phumezo Nakani, senior environmental health practitioner in the service of the Central Karoo District Municipality announced his retirement.

Phumezo is one of those people who instantly became a friend instead of "just" a co-worker. There are no words to truly reflect how much our office will miss working with him.



While his presence will be missed in the office, the great work he did here ensures that he will not be forgotten anytime soon.

What he achieved as an EHP made quite an impact. We thank him for being a tireless professional, a helpful co-worker, and a good friend.

We hope that he will have a wonderful retirement!

**ONE PERSON
CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE,
AND
EVERYONE
SHOULD TRY.**
- JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

DID YOU KNOW...

- Monday is the most common sick day. Except in Australia, apparently, where the most common sick day is Tuesday.
- Fridays are the least likely day to be sick. People are much happier and likely to go to work on Fridays. Fridays also tend to be the day where it is more social and positive in the office/workplace.
- You will spend at least 60% of your life working. That includes the time you spend at work, as well as all the time you spend preparing for it, looking for it, commuting to it and recovering from it on the weekend.
- Excellent job performance does more than just earn a pay raise - it gets you noticed. That means that you can be considered for promotions and special assignments that will allow you to increase your skills and experience. It also increases the likelihood that if you are being underpaid, someone else will come along, notice you are undervalued, and steal you away with a better job, paycheck and benefits;
- A good way to increase your paycheck is to have the skills and knowledge to do jobs that others cannot do or which needs to be done right.

**DIE AFDELING MUNISIPALE
GESONDHEID WENS U 'N GESEËNDE
EN VOORSPOEDIGE 2016 TOE.**