

WRRRA NEWS

AUGUST 2017

Of special interest for those who live in and love Wilderness

This unusual sky was captured by Johann Hahn. If you have a photo that you'd like to see on our cover, please e-mail it to izulu@mweb.co.za

WRRRA 'MID-YEAR' SPECIAL!

Join the WRRRA this month and pay only R80.00 (half the annual fee!)

Visit the WRRRA website www.wrra.co.za for your membership application form or email wrra@tiscali.co.za

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Wilderness Ratepayers and Residents Association,
PO Box 10, Wilderness, Western Cape, South Africa, 6560
wrra@tiscali.co.za 082 895 6317 www.wrra.co.za

WRRRA Community Care



Thank you, Wilderness! ❤️

WRRRA Committee members were kept busy emptying the WINTER WARMTH appeal trolley outside the KWIK SPAR and distributing 15 black bags of donations of warm clothes and blankets to those in need of care this winter.

A big thanks to the management and staff of the KWIK SPAR for their participation.

Good (and bad) news about animals on our doorsteps.

Estelle and Mattie are still fighting the good fight for animals in our disadvantaged areas and their persistence is enjoying spectacular success. It is not easy persuading animal owners to have their dogs and cats sterilized (and to pay towards it!), but thanks to the SPCA' support, in July the PAWS ladies managed to have the last 'intact' male dog in the Kleinkrantz informal settlement neutered! Boyjie's op brought the total sterilizations in Kleinkrantz to 36! Add another 51 sterilizations in Wilderness Heights and now 28 in Touwsrante and its easy to see how PAWS has helped reduce the number of unwanted puppies and kittens in these areas and thereby reduce the number being neglected or abandoned.



But there are still heart-breaking emergency dashes to the SPCA and PDSA... puppies dying from distemper or having to be humanely euthanized after being painted with Jeyes Fluid (the owner thought it would get rid of fleas!). Recently a dog that had been attacked by others was thrown away in a black bag—still alive!

But the good news is that these cases and many more are being reported to Mattie and Estelle by a growing network of community members who feel for these animals and are thankful that help is at hand!

If you can help with the costs of vaccines, deworming tablets and dip (R2500 per 5l container!), please EFT your donation to WRRRA, stating **"PAWS" and your name** as reference so the funds will go to this animal care initiative. WRRRA, **Nedbank, Branch code: 153 614, Account number 1110522444.**

HOPE CHURCH NEEDS OUR HELP TO HELP YOUTH!

The challenge is to involve Wilderness Heights boys in activities that they will take up keenly (and therefore be less tempted to spend time getting into trouble!)

If you have some suggestions—or even better if you have an unwanted table-tennis table, basketball hoop, darts board or such—or better still if you can volunteer time to teach or coach activities, please contact Annelie of the Hope Church 076 176 5807.

Let's join forces to create a better future for these youngsters!



HOW FIRE-WISE ARE YOU?

Here's a quick quiz to test your fire preparedness... will you score 5 GREEN answers?

1. Do you belong to your neighbourhood WhatsApp security group so you get fire warnings—and do you have an emergency evacuation plan? YES NO
2. Do you have a fire-fighting plan and the equipment needed to safely implement it, e.g. water reserves such as a pool or tanks, a petrol-powered water pump, hoses, safety goggles, etc.? YES NO
3. Does your property have a high-risk fuel load, e.g. dead vegetation, fire-loving plants such as Rooikranz, wattle, pines, gum trees, etc., exposed fire-wood piles, etc.? YES NO
4. Do you have neighbours with fire-loving trees, piles of garden waste etc. that could put you at risk? YES NO
5. If your property has an interface with veld, forest or park lands, do you have a suitable fire-break and 'defensible zone' around your house? YES NO



The FIRE FACTS talk by Rob Erasmus on 12 July was the best attended WRRRA talk ever!

If you missed it or want to do a recap, go to the excellent Enviro Wildfire Services web site. It is well worth looking at!

Impressed by the advice given the small '100 liter per minute' petrol-powered water pump that Rob held up during his fascinating talk, Donald Goldfain has fitted a 5000 litre rainwater tank and hoses linked to that same water pump at his home. The system was installed by Amor Venter of Chamo Marketing Enterprises, 044 871 2824 082 576 5037. He can assess your property and quote to set up a system to cater for your specific needs.

Alternatively, if you are a DIY type, petrol and electric water pumps and fittings are available from Amor Venter.

According to the experts,
 periods of drought are going to be the new norm!
 Property owners—have you joined the
 Southern Cape Fire Protection Association yet?
 Contact Barry Smales: barrysmales@gmail.com or call Dirk Smit 072 785 2742



NEW MORE EXTREME WATER RESTRICTIONS!

With the dam level below 47% the municipality has been forced to put SECTION 2C restrictions in place. Households **using more than 15 kilolitres a month will be charged extra for exceeding the monthly quota and have flow limiters installed!**

Gardens and vehicles may only be watered using water cans or buckets.... No hose pipes!

Cleaning of any outside surfaces area using a water hose with municipal water is prohibited.

Filling up of swimming pools with municipal water is prohibited.

Where own water from a borehole or reservoir is used 'OWN WATER' signage must be displayed, and officials may ask for proof of such.

WATER USE PER MONTH	HOUSEHOLDS PAY NOW	WHILE SECTION 2C IS IN PLACE
0-6 kilolitres	Free	Free
6-12 kilolitres	R13,74 per kilolitre	R13,74 per kilolitre
12-20 kilolitres	R15,82 per kilolitre	R17,86 per kilolitre
20-30 kilolitres	R18,96 per kilolitre	R27,69 per kilolitre
30-50 kilolitres	R22,71 per kilolitre	R48,44 per kilolitre
50 kilolitres or more	R25,96 per kilolitre	R96,88 per kilolitre

See how to reduce your water use— page 12

REFUSE REMOVAL WILL NOT TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 9th AUGUST

Due to 9th August being a public holiday **(National Women's Day)**, refuse normally removed on that Wednesday will be collected on Thursday 10th August 2017.



The WRRRA asks everyone to put out their refuse and recycling bags before 8am on collection days and not before hand as it makes our village look so un-attractive especially when dogs and wild pigs tuck in!

Your WRRRA Committee for 2017

Chairman	Donald Goldfain	083 251 8401
Gardens/signage	Cornell Barnardt	084 666 6300
Treasurer/Vice chair	Neville Ewing	084 300 2610
Membership	Deirdre Marcus	082 602 3045
Environmental		
Development Diligence	John Miller	084 959 4243
Services liaison	Jeremy Eccles	082 456 1334
Tourism/businesses		
SAPS liaison	Ian van Rooyen	082 589 2661
Roads	Doug Wilcox	083 607 3502
Communications	Chris Burlock	082 464 7761
Secretary	Jackie Berry	079 969 2443

TO CONTACT US

Simply email Jackie at wrra@tiscali.co.za and she will forward your query to the relevant portfolio holder. If you have to phone, please avoid weekends or **'after hour' calls.**

We still need contact details for;
De Kleijn, Arie: Whites Road
Hendry: Freesia Ave.
Lennox: 160 (no street name)
Scheepers: Waterside Road
Sunbird: Adonis St.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

In case you missed the POLICE FORUM meeting on the 31st July, Warrant Officer Boshoff was back from a well deserved break. He opened by saying he had just been speaking to a new Wilderness resident who has recently relocated from up country and who is just so relieved not to have to sleep in a fortress with a firearm under his pillow and a constant fear of hi-jacking!

Yes we are fortunate to have such a low **crime rate... but we all need to play our** part to **KEEP** it as low as possible.

Amongst the crime statistics for July were:

Burglaries: Backpackers, Die Duin (early morning door forced and 2TVs stolen), Waterside area and Kleinkrantz (while residents sleeping). Perpetrators possibly from Knysna. Tools stolen from Langvlei Dunes. Taps were stolen from an empty house! A man tried entering several homes in Constantia Kloof but was chased away.

Theft out of motor vehicles: July was quiet for 25 days then several incidents, two in the village centre and one in 10th Avenue where the car was not locked! Boshoff asked B&Bs to warn clients of the need to not leave items visible in cars.

Theft is often a result of negligence— e.g. leaving a door unlocked or your bag or cellphone unattended while in a restaurant.

When the floor was opened to discussion, one gentleman asked what are our rights if faced with **burglars in one's house**—can one use a firearm? **Colonel Chakana's advice was that firearm owners** must study the Firearms Control Act No. 60 of 2000. One can only use force deemed necessary to protect **your life... but if you find yourself in Court, the onus** is on YOU to PROVE you were in imminent danger and had no other way to escape.

Rather lock yourself and your family in a secure room, press your panic button and call the police. Test your alarm system regularly.

Some juveniles as young as 10 caused trouble while drinking and a 12 year old broke into the Bundu Café, Wilderness Heights. Three adults and some youths are in custody. Several arrests were made in July with more expected soon thanks to some excellent high-quality CCTV footage supplied by a house owner.

If you do not have CCTV, try and secretly take a cell phone picture of suspects. To recover stolen property you must have security dotted them, have a record of the serial numbers, or have engraved your name on them.

PLEASE JOIN
YOUR LOCAL
SECURITY
WHATSAPP
GROUP!



AREA	WHATSAPP	ADMINISTRATOR
CONSTANTIA KLOOF	ConsKloofSecurity	Donald 083 251 8401
DIEPRIVIER	Dieprivier Group	Hein 072 350 2577
HOEKWIL	Hoekwil's Watching	Wayne 084 557 8880
HOEKWIL	Hoekwil Security	Johann 082 857 9953
KINGFISHER CLOSE	KingfisherWatch	Peter 060 985 9113
KLEINKRANTZ	Kleinkrantz Neighbourhood Watch	Liz 072 118 4328
SANDS ROAD	Sands Road Security	Lucy 076 903 0257
SOUTHSIDE/10TH	Lagoon Watch	Sigi 083 626 3475
WHITES ROAD	Whites Road	Isobel 082 553 3288
WILDERNESS EAST	'WECAN' Security	Estelle 083 292 1190
WILDERNESS HEIGHTS	Heights Watch	Roy 082 060 7474

A unifying VISION for Wilderness

Well, here it is—by unanimous vote! Every single response we received was for version 'C' of the three Vision statements put forward in the last newsletter.



Wilderness is a secure and caring community,
passionate about the exceptional natural beauty
that surrounds us
and the gentle village lifestyle we embrace.

So what now?

A Vision sums up our ideal... **it reflects the life we want to enjoy... secure, caring and passionate about this beautiful place we call home.**

But words alone cannot ensure an ideal life-style—we need to ensure we live up to our aspirations!

To be a secure community, we need to ensure our security systems are all they should be, apply all the **great advice given at the Police Forum meetings and keep an eye on our streets and neighbours...**

To be a caring community, we need to enjoy helping others, volunteering, supporting good causes and **giving a helping hand to those in need. Let's drive more considerately, put our garbage out only when we should—and be kind to one and all!**

To show our passion for the environment, **let's clean up our beach and street verges, pull out weeds** when on our walks, respect our wildlife, get rid of all invasive alien plants collect rainwater, recycle our waste, and definitely NOT toss garden waste onto empty land!

To make the most of our unhurried village lifestyle, we need to support responsible development, support local businesses that add to our village ambiance and welcome appreciative visitors (without whom our businesses would not be able to provide much needed employment to community members.)

So it's up to each one of us to embrace this vision and enjoy living it!

(Hope to see you all at the SPRING BEACH CLEAN-UP Sat 2nd September—see page 7).

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

IT'S OFFICIAL! We fall within the brand new

GARDEN ROUTE BIOSPHERE RESERVE
Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molewa, welcomed the approval of the Garden Route as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) biosphere reserve. UNESCO members voted in favour of the inclusion of the Garden Route as a biosphere reserve at a meeting in Paris on 14 June 2017.

'The positive response to the application to declare the Garden Route a biosphere reserve is most encouraging, not just for us, as a country, but also for the people of the region,' said Molewa. 'The Garden Route, one of South Africa's prime tourism regions, is an area rich in terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems where conservation of the rich biodiverse region is ably reconciled with sustainable use practices,' the minister said.

The official launch of the Garden Route Biosphere Reserve will take place later this year.

**FREE!
AND THE
TIME TO
RELEASE IT
IS NOW!**



Dasineura rubiformis is a minute midge native to Australia, and introduced into South Africa as a biological control agent of black wattle a number of years ago. The adult midges are only 2mm long, do not feed and only live for about five days during late spring. Females lay their eggs within the open flower clusters of black wattle where the newly-hatched larvae feed on the florets causing galls which enclose the larvae and prevents seed pod development. **The release time for *Dasineura rubiformis* is NOW !!!**

We need to get the midge firmly established in the Southern Cape so please come and pick up some galls from the Garden Route Botanical Garden nursery, (49 Caledon Street). They will be delivered to the Nursery every Monday.

They are easy to release and are FREE !!!!

Living the Vision!

Please join WRRRA's SPRING



9.am SATURDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER
or Sunday 3rd if its raining!

Meet at the NSRI beach entrance to grab a black bag and clean up your favourite piece of beach.

Come live our Vision.

RELEASE IS THIS EASY

1. Empty the bag of galls in the shade underneath a mature wattle tree
2. Ensure that there is not too much dust from passing traffic
3. Ensure that the tree will remain in place for 2 – 3 years from date of release
4. Take GPS co-ordinates of the release site and send to Fiona Impson at ImpsonF@arc.agric.za
5. If possible take photographs of the release site and note the surrounding vegetation, aspect and soil.

GARDEN ROUTE BOTANICAL GARDEN TRUST

Tel: 044 874 1558

Fax: 086 627 9445

Email: info@botanicalgarden.org.za

Website: www.botanicalgarden.org.za



Do you live in the Touw River catchment area or surrounds?

Then the Touw River Conservancy would love you to join (R150) and help support their conservation-promoting projects and working groups.

This enthusiastic young conservancy is looking to organise fun hack groups, get scholars and NMU students involved in conservation projects and, along with the Constantia Kloof Conservancy, will be hosting the CapeNature Garden Route conservation get-together together in Wilderness on the 7th October.

For details, contact Matthew Koehorst, email: matthew@sixkingdoms.org



ARE YOU A NAMELESS PAYER?

Most of us use electronic banking systems. They are quick, easy to use and cut down on unnecessary bank charges. **However, it's vital that** when we pay something, we ensure that how **it reflects in the recipient's** bank account makes sense. During the year we have received several payments of R160, which are clearly the annual subscription, but the **reference is "Security Fund"**. Oops! Obviously the payer has not updated the reference since making a payment to WRRRA for the security fund appeal over the season last year and that makes it impossible to allocate these payments to the correct member!

Please check your electronic banking system to make sure that for WRRRA payments your reference is your erf number followed by your surname. e.g. 567 Smith. If you think you might be a nameless payer, please email wrra@tiscali.co.za with the date you paid your fees.

ROADS

Doug Wilcox

As you might know, work on the Seven Passes road has come to a halt for various reasons—one of which being the cold conditions not allowing for spray-on road surfacing. As soon as a progress up date is available, members will be notified.

The long awaited hard-surfacing of the gravel road (PR169) from the Rondervlei T junction to the N2 towards Sedgefield has now been delayed until 2022! (Seemingly a single appeal against the road delayed **the road's start date long enough to lose the funding that had been allocated!**)

HOEKWIL gets new street name signs *Terry Lamont Smith*

After finally getting street numbers in 2013, it became apparent that without clearer signs giving street names on the corners in Hoekwil, this would not amount to much.

HRRRA made an appeal to the Municipality to replace old worn out or illegible street name signs and in some cases put a sign up for the first time. There were three roads not previously identified, being Ratel, Rooikat and Imbambali. The first two now have clear street name signs up. Imbambali only accesses one property, so the need for the sign was dispensed with.

HRRRA would like to thank the municipal workers who attended to this need, as well as our Ward Councilor, Marlene Barnardt without whose help in keeping tabs on the project we probably would still be waiting.

As I look at many Town Planning proposals and developments around Wilderness, I see small but visible signs of urban growth in our low-density village and our rural area of mountains and forests, ocean and rivers. In many ways, the area is a microcosm of development and change worldwide:

- *A home is converted to a guest house (elsewhere, in Johannesburg, a home on Jan Smuts Avenue is converted to an office block).*
- *An erf is split into two to accommodate a new home for a family (elsewhere, in the Karoo, a family farm is broken up to make smaller farms for family members).*
- *A new home is built (elsewhere, in Noordhoek, many new homes are built monthly).*

- *Townhouses are proposed (elsewhere, in Mossel Bay, townhouses are seemingly springing up all over).*
- *A home is demolished to be replaced by two residential units (elsewhere, in George, two residential units are frequently built where there had been only one).*
- *A new boutique commercial centre appears somewhere.*
- *One business closes and two open (elsewhere in and around the V&A Waterfront, more of the same).*

Each such change in Wilderness is small in its own right, but taken together, over time, incrementally, the character of the village will

Municipal Valuations taking place now!

The Municipality has commissioned Cape Data Valuations to begin valuing Wilderness properties for the 4 yearly rates review.

This means you might see CDV vehicles and personnel in your neighbourhood and the valuers might ask to access your property in order to take photographs.

These employees all carry identification cards.

Should you want further verification you are welcome to call

Johan Bosman 083 741 8895.

SERVICES

Jeremy Eccles



POWER-LINES: For those of you who are concerned about the trimming and cutting-back of trees under overhead power-lines (and this is a major concern for residents in Wilderness Heights), here is an up-date. In the last newsletter, we referred to a letter which our Chairman (Donald Goldfain) wrote to the George Mayor and Municipal Manager stressing the importance of being able to keep trees and vegetation clear of power-lines through Preventive Maintenance, i.e. the appointment of a separate team managed by a "Supervisor – Vegetation Control". We understand that as a result of this letter, the Mayor will consider the reinstatement of a budget for this position, and will monitor this development when the new Director of George Electrical Department takes office on 1st September.

Wilderness Improvement Programme

31 July was a sad day as we bade farewell to our loyal monitors who have served Wilderness so well over the past 18 months. Unfortunately, without more funding from local businesses, we need to rely on a significant financial contribution from the George Municipality to keep the program viable. However, for Gavin, Garth and Julian, they will not disappear altogether but will stay on in the village as WRRRA endorsed car guards, sporting their WRRRA jackets etc. They will no longer be paid by the WRRRA so will be relying on our generous community for tips etc.

Welcome to the NEW Monitor team!



At the same time we welcome our new monitors, Renier, Reggie, Ricardo, Bennett and Nigel.

They are excited to have been chosen and are eager to build on the foundations of their predecessors.

Bennett Baardman from the previous group displayed good leadership qualities and has been retained to provide some continuity in terms of training and guidance and has also has a good **knowledge of where the "trouble spots"** in the village are. SAPS has already provided some training re vagrants and other crime risks.

As with all programs of this nature, the team will need some time to settle into their new environment. Please support them as you have done so in the past as they are an important factor in bringing a cleaner and safer Wilderness for us to enjoy.



WRRRA @ WORK!

Cornell Barnardt

Not only has WRRRA given the Wilderness Station area a good weeding and fresh-paint face-lift, but the path leading up to the tunnel under the N2 from the SANParks parking area has also been transformed by WRRRA @ WORK. This up-grade was made possible thanks due to donations received from the Lagoon Beach Body Corporate, The Palms Garden Square and two donors who wish to remain anonymous.



This is an outstanding example of how co-operation between the WRRRA, business, the municipality and community donors can make things happen.

Left, Cornell Barnardt with Derick Coetzee (Lagoon Beach Body Corporate)

COSTLY DESTRUCTIVE INVASION!



Cornell Barnardt, WRRRA Committee Member, is asking residents to keep control of the grass they have growing on their pavements. Although the pavement is considered to be the responsibility of the municipality, many residents plant lawn up to the edge where road and verge meet. Residents are encouraged to trim the grass regularly to prevent it from **'growing' into the road**. If the grass roots are not kept in check, they burrow under the tar and break up the road surface. (The road in the picture was resurfaced just 18 months ago!)

If the grass goes unchecked, the road can be damaged to such an extent that **'zig-zag' road verges occur and this can lead to potholes and even damage tyres**. **Wilderness roads are narrow and 'zig-zag' verges** often make it necessary for vehicles to pull off the road onto the verge to avoid a collision. We must avoid spending rates on *avoidable* damage! By maintaining our own verges and keeping the grass at bay, residents can help the municipality to keep maintenance costs down and help reduce damage to roads and vehicles.

Dates to Diarise:

MONDAY 28 AUG

POLICE FORUM MEETING, 17.30 Wilderness Hotel & Spa

All residents are advised to attend

SATURDAY 2 SEPT

9.00 am



Get your black bag from the entrance to the NSRI beach but clean up whatever beach you please. The more hands the merrier!

SATURDAY 2 SEPT

Hoekwil

HOEKWIL COUNTRY FAIR 9 till 1pm on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Hoekwil Primary. Contact Mariëtte Künkel on 082 472 0922 or 044 850 1058 or mmk692@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY 6 SEPT

Milkwood Village

FAIR & WILD ART FAIR: 1st WEDNESDAY of every month. 9.00—16.00 Live music and Awesome Art!

15th and 16th SEPT

Wilderness Hotel

The 4th THOUSAND SENSATIONS CRAFT BEERS, SPIRITS & FOOD FESTIVAL!



The Garden Route's most notable craft beer festival, the **Thousand Sensations** Craft Beer, Spirits & Food Festival returns to the Wilderness Hotel in September! 40 craft brewers will showcase more than 170 handcrafted beers and ciders, to an anticipated crowd of over 3,000 sensation seekers. Joining the brewers are eight craft distilleries, presenting whisky, brandy, vodka, gin and rum, plus two wineries and a variety of handmade, delicious, non-**alcoholic alternatives**. **As always there's** craft food on the menu too. The Wilderness Hotel and ten gourmet food stalls are tasked to keep stomachs full and satisfied throughout the weekend along with 16 hours of live music entertainment.

Entry to the festival is only R90 per person per day, and includes a 340ml branded tasting glass, and 500 ml of craft beer. For more information contact Alewijn Dippenaar on 082 457 5675 or via thousandsensations.co.za.

Water Saving Tips from a Bush Dweller!

With the Garden Route Dam supply dropping to 45%, the George Municipality has introduced stringent water restrictions with immediate effect. How can an ordinary household comfortably use less than water? Easily, says Gavin Margrate who lives in Rondevlei where no municipal **water is supplied. Here's his advice on how to become 'water wise':**

Buying a property out in the country 'in the bush' meant that we moved into an environment where municipal water piped into our home did not exist and as a family had to make lifestyle changes with regard to water usage. Our ONLY source of fresh water is what we can (and do) harvest off our roof and store in tanks. Simply put, for every 1mm of rain we receive, we harvest one litre of water per square metre of roof area.

Our constant aim is to restrict our usage to 35 litres of water per person per day or 3 000 litres per month for the three of us – and we have maintained that for the last 13 years. We started the process from when we first moved in – and here are some of the actions we took:

THE TOILETS

The average water cistern holds 10 litres of water so if the toilet is fully flushed every time has a 'tinkle' (let's say an average five times a day) plus one bowel movement multiplied by 3 people, totals 180 litres per day or 5 400 litres per month – that's a staggering 36% of the new target set by the latest George water restrictions!



So our toilet usage rules:

- **If it's yellow, let it mellow, if it's brown, flush it down.**
- Put a loo deodorant block in the cistern. It colours the water and masks the odours.
- Put a brick or 1,5 litre plastic bottle filled with water in the cistern. 10 litres is wasteful and not necessary. A brick replaces approximately 1.5 litres of water.
- Bend the float on the ball valve down as far as is possible to reduce the water level in the cistern.
- Aim to reduce the volume of water in the cistern to 6 litres.
- Boys piddle in the garden.
- The end result: 2.5 flushes per person per day @ 6 litres x 30 days = 1 350 litres per month – a saving of 4 050 litres per month.

THE SHOWER

- Shower time is limited to five minutes, more than enough time to do what needs to be done.
- Install a low pressure shower rose. They are restricted to 2 litres a minute so 5 minutes = only 10 litres.
- Collect the shower warm up water in a bucket to use on the garden or washing the car.



THE WASHING MACHINE

- The old thirsty washing machine (110 litre per cycle) was replaced by an eco-friendly unit that uses 35 litres per cycle.
- The machine is filled to its 9kg limit every time. The same 35 litres is used regardless of the amount of washing.
- Jeans can be worn for more than a day without being washed, believe it or not!! Be prudent about what you throw in the wash basket. Our machine runs four times a week, usage 6.5 litres per person per day.

YOUR DOMESTIC STAFF

It is imperative to spend some time explaining the basics to your domestic help.

- **You don't need to flush the toilet five times to clean it. Once is enough.**
- Half a bucket of water (4.5 litres) is sufficient for rinsing cloths etc. instead of doing so under a running tap.
- Wash sinks, hand basins, baths etc using a bucket, not with running water.



GENERAL TIPS

- The water used while waiting for the shower or kitchen sink water to warm up should be collected and used in the toilet, for washing cars, watering plants and various other uses.
- The waste water from the washing machine can also be used to wash cars.
- **Don't run a whole sink of water to wash two mugs and a spoon. Wait until you can justify filling the sink.** The average sink, half full holds 15 litres.
- **Don't bath... shower instead.** The average bath holds upwards of 100 litres half full. (Besides, a bath is the dumbest idea ever. You get into the bath, wash all the gunk off in the lovely clean water and then rinse yourself off with the dirty water. Makes no sense!)

- Never leave a tap running while brushing your teeth, washing your hands etc.
- **FIX ALL WATER LEAKS, EVEN DRIPPING TAPS.**
- **BUY A WATER TANK OR TWO AND HARVEST YOUR OWN WATER. IT'S FREE AND TASTES LIKE WATER!!**

FLOW RATE AND PRESSURE

Water flow rate is directly proportional to water pressure. The average water pressure in Wilderness is approximately 6 Bar. At that pressure a 15mm water pipe (ignoring all variables and not going into all the hydraulic calculations) will deliver in excess of 14 000 litres an hour.

If the pressure is reduced to 2 Bar, the same pipe will deliver 8 800 litres per hour. These figures will never be this high because of various factors too detailed to discuss. This, however, serves to illustrate that by reducing the water pressure in your home, you will contribute massively to saving water. The saving occurs when using water in the shower, rinsing veggies - everywhere where a running stream of water is used. This can be done simply by closing the stopcock at your water meter by two thirds.

Reduced pressure = less flow = lots of water saved



Thanks Bush Dweller! Valuable, sensible and easy to implement advice.

Let's just hope that George residents get saving as much as we do!



From our Ward 4 Councillor—Marlene Barnardt

One of the most common concerns expressed by residents of George and Wilderness is vehicles "speeding" through their neighbourhood regardless of the speed limit signs. Herewith some useful information to consider before requesting a speed hump.

SPEED HUMPS – PROS & CONS



The lack of adequate law enforcement perpetuates the implementation of traffic calming measures, which treat the symptom and not the cause. One of the physical devices to control speeding is a "speed hump" which usually has positive results in slowing down motorists in the vicinity of the hump. But unfortunately there are disadvantages associated with speed humps which must be taken into account:

- they may cause delays for police, fire, and medical emergency vehicles.
- speed may increase between humps as drivers speed to make up for lost time.
- Speed may increase over time as drivers get used to negotiating the humps.
- Speed humps often increase noise levels as vehicles drive over the humps.
- Traffic volume may be diverted on to adjacent streets as drivers seek alternate routes to avoid the speed humps.
- Some motorists drive with their left wheels in the gutter or bike lane (if one exists) in order to minimise the impact of the humps.
- Speed humps may have a negative impact on air quality and energy consumption due to the increased slowing and braking.

Residents are requested to keep all of the above in mind before approaching the municipality for the erection of speed humps.

Contraventions of water restrictions can be reported on 044 801 6350 to which municipal law enforcement officers will respond and investigate.

Transgressors caught red-handed will be issued fines on the spot, which will be processed through the municipal court system.

A signed declaration by a witness reporting someone else watering illegally, may also lead to a fine to the offender. After three offences, jail time may apply.

Although complainants must initially furnish their full details for legal reasons, they may ask to remain anonymous.



MORE WRRRA @ WORK!

All the new gravel pathways.

The WRRRA has also delivered 10 more fishing line collection pipes that SANParks will put up at popular fishing spots.



The Last Word



Our WRRRA Monitor program has won a reprieve for now, but the WRRRA will continue working with the Wilderness businesses to find a better long-term solution for financing this very necessary Wilderness initiative.

Good news is that Wilderness has joined our Mayor in his **"War on Waste"** and over the next few weeks you will all see our expanded WRRRA@Work team (8 full time cleaners!) hard at work keeping our piece of paradise pristine clean from Kleinkrantz to Wilderness Heights, EVERY DAY!

But Be Warned, the WRRRA and the Municipality will be using this team as our ears and eyes to wage war on illegal dumping and over-grown stands. Fines will be levied and we are not kidding!

In the next few days, the Municipality will be clearing the stand at the bottom of our Wilderness common as a showpiece and example of how an undeveloped Wilderness stand should look and the WRRRA will offer advice on what you can and can't clear. We urge you all to go and take a look at what you need to do. Let's all get cracking, get with the Wilderness Vision and keep Wilderness clean!



Donald Goldfain
Chair person

