



Wake up and smell the water

Increasing demand, pollution, poor management structures and crumbling sewerage infrastructure could spell catastrophe for South Africa's fresh water supply. **According to** Professor Anthony Turton from the University of the Free State's Centre for Environmental Management, **South Africa is entering the early phase of a 'perfect storm'**. This is being driven by the convergence of at least five significant factors over which no individual has any direct control:

1. The country is transitioning to a fundamentally water-constrained economy.
2. The deterioration of water data management systems in our country.
3. The infrastructural collapse of South Africa's sewage management plants.
4. The overloading of our country's potable water plants, and
5. The impact of the El Niño phenomenon.

The average water levels in our dams, are considerably lower than last year, the only exception being North West Province. The good news is that we can do something about our country's water crisis. There is a cost effective and proven method that will help your household and business to be prepared, and have fresh water available, no matter what. This method is called **rain water harvesting**. - *L. van Dyk*

Province	2016	Same time last year
Gauteng	→ 87 %	→ 95 %
KwaZulu-Natal	→ 51 %	→ 70 %
Limpopo	→ 60 %	→ 86 %
Mpumalanga	→ 63 %	→ 87 %
North West	→ 67 %	→ 66 %
Free State	→ 54 %	→ 82 %
Northern Cape	→ 64 %	→ 80 %
Eastern Cape	→ 72 %	→ 79 %
Western Cape	→ 31 %	→ 42 %

I am so proud of elected and co-optend members participating in our success as GRA. They all contribute tremendous amounts of their own time to make our suburb the best in the city. We encourage residents to become part of this.

- What do you want for your suburb?
- Why did you buy here?
- Why do you stay here?
- Why should we not just give up and make it commercial like our neighbours?

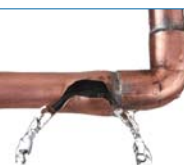
This is you choice. Don't wait for someone else to do it for you. Get involved!

- *Werner Comrie - Chairman*

Winners, GRA photo competition:

- 1st Prize: Stoffel Lombard - Cordless Drill / Screwdriver
 2nd Prize: Gisela Holzapfel - Groenkloof Spar Voucher
 3rd Prize: Gisela Holzapfel - Groenkloof Liquor City & Groenkloof Engen vouchers

H2O



Because sater pipes in Groenkloof are rather old, they are inclined to leak. The council holds property owners liable for both the cost of the water that leaks out from underground pipes on their property, as well as for the cost of repair. You will know that water is leaking from under-ground pipes on your property if your water meter spins fairly rapidly but stops spinning when you shut down the supply. In that case, you should turn off your water supply and summons a plumber. The current best practice is to replace the entire underground pipe system with above-ground PVC pipes. This above-ground replacement cost could be R4000 or more, depending on property size, etc. An undetected burst or leaking water pipe on your property could result in a water bill of up to R4000 in a month!. - *D. Kourie*

Payments toward GRA:

to all 2016 paid-up Groenkloof residents! With over 600 residents, we have to date received 130 payments!

A BIG thank you...



Go to <https://www.facebook.com/#1/pages/Groenkloof-Residents-Association/236018943186381> or search 'Groenkloof Residents Association' on Facebook

Special votes for the local government election

The local government election is to be held on **Wednesday (a Public holiday) 3 August 2016**.

Voters who either:

- Cannot be present at the voting station on 3 August 2016 where they are registered, may cast a **Special Vote at their voting station on 1 or 2 August 2016**, provided they apply in advance; or
- Those due to physical infirmity or disability, who cannot travel to their voting station, must apply in advance for a **Special Vote - home vote**.

Both applications must be made in advance between 10 June 2016 and 8 July 2016 by either:

- Accessing the IEC web site at www.elections.org.za and completing a MEC 35 (Appendix 35) application or by;
- Completing a physical copy of a MEC 35 (Appendix 35) form and submitting it to an IEC office or by;
- Sending a SMS to 32249.



In each instance the voter will be informed of acceptance of an application either electronically or by post. Votes cannot be cast at any other time. **Prior application must be made**. Make sure you cast your vote at the station at which you are registered!

- C. Napier

Eugene Marais Park / Klapperkop Nature Reserve

Friends of Groenkloof Nature Reserve and volunteers from GRA undertake invader plant hacks (against bugweed, lantana, etc.) on the 3rd Saturday of the month in Klapperkop Nature Reserve or Eugene Marais Park to help conserve our indigenous fauna and flora. SAPS does frequent patrols along Johan Rissik Drive to try to deter muggers. A Working for Water team of about 8 chainsaw operators and knapsack sprayers is making a more noticeable impression. We need your assistance - please join us! 072 213 2176.

- A. Urban

Invader Plant Hacker in Need of Assistance



Weed Warriors with Weapons

GSI - Groenkloof Monitored Access

The GSI submitted an application for Monitored Access for Groenkloof. We received confirmation on 6 June 2016 that all the relevant departments have provided their feedback and requirements. City Planning and Development Department must now draft a report that has to be submitted to the Strategic Land Development Forum. Mr Sabelo Hlatshwayo confirmed that the department will start to draft the report this week (13 June). It took us a year to get all the departments to provide their feedback. We will continue to follow up on the progress of the application.

- C. Barnwise

Community involvement

We have decided to concentrate on the Old Age home, Deutche Altersheim across the road during 2016. There are several residents (20) at the Old Age Home that hardly ever receive visitors. We are currently doing rounds to get an idea of what interests these people have and how we can be of assistance. An outing is planned for later the year when the weather is more favourable.

We say thank you to the resident who reached out to get involved in bridge playing activities at the Old Age Home and to others who have shown interest in visiting these people.

- J. Strauss