



PUBLIC NOTICE IN TERMS OF SECTION 84 OF THE STELLENBOSCH MUNICIPAL WATER SERVICES BY-LAW, 2017 AS WELL AS SECTION 55(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT 57 OF 2002, AS AMENDED, TO INTRODUCE LEVEL 6B WATER RESTRICTIONS

LEVEL 6B WATER RESTRICTIONS

The Municipality of Stellenbosch will be implementing Level 6B Water Restrictions, effective from **19 February 2018** until further notice.

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

- In terms of Government Notice 1394, reference 41317, dated 12 December 2017 it was determined that all domestic and industrial water consumption be curtailed by 45% and that all agricultural water consumption be curtailed by 60%, measured in terms of the equivalent average consumption of the five years from 2010/11 until 2014/15.
- Further to the above Stellenbosch Municipality hereby requires that all persons are required to use no more than **50 litres(l)** of municipal drinking water per person per day in total irrespective of whether the Customer is at home, work or elsewhere.
- No watering/irrigation with municipal drinking water allowed. This includes watering/irrigation of flower beds, lawns, vegetables, agricultural crops, other plants, sports fields, golf courses, schools, educational facilities, nurseries, parks and other open spaces, customers involved in agricultural activities, etc. (Nurseries and customers involved in agricultural activities or with historical gardens may apply for exemption. For more information, visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za)
- No watering of flower beds, lawns, vegetables, agricultural crops, other plants, sports fields, golf courses, schools, educational facilities, nurseries, parks and other open spaces, customers involved in agricultural activities, etc. shall be done with any other watering source after the hour 09:00 and before the hour of 18:00, unless a formal exemption has been received from the municipality.
- Municipal departments may only water/irrigate sports fields, parks, etc. using non-drinking water and upon agreement of days and times with the Water and Wastewater Division.
- Facilities/customers making use of borehole water, treated effluent water, spring water, irrigation water or wellpoints are strongly encouraged not to water/irrigate within seven days after rainfall that provided adequate saturation.
- All boreholes and wellpoints **must** be registered with the Municipality and **must** display the official Stellenbosch Municipality signage clearly visible from a public thoroughfare. **No borehole may be drilled without prior permission from the Municipality.** Please note that the landowner who is drilling a borehole for water is responsible to ensure that streets are cleaned afterwards of drilling debris and sludge. If the landowner fails to clear this, the municipality will clean the road and bill the cost thereof to the erf upon which the drilling occurred. Visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za on how to register. The registration as well as official notice is provided free of charge.
- The use of borehole/wellpoint water for outdoor purposes, including watering/irrigating and filling/topping up of swimming pools, is strongly discouraged in order to preserve groundwater resources in the current dire drought situation. Borehole/wellpoint water should rather be used for toilet flushing.
- Borehole/wellpoint/irrigation water must be used efficiently to avoid wastage and evaporation. Borehole/wellpoint/irrigation water users are strongly encouraged to water/irrigate only on Tuesdays and Saturdays before 09:00 or after 18:00 for a maximum of one hour.
- According to Department Water & Sanitation regulations published on 12 January 2018, notice 41381, all boreholes must be fitted with a water meter or electronic type water usage recording device and water extracted from the Boreholes must be curtailed by 45% in the case of residential, commercial and industrial and 60% in the case of agricultural users. The consumption of borehole water must be reported every Monday to the Municipality at water.metering@stellenbosch.gov.za or Department of Water & Sanitation at water.metering@dws.gov.za. Visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za, for further details.
- All properties where alternative, non-drinking water resources are used (including rainwater harvesting, greywater, treated effluent water, irrigation water and spring water) must display official signage to this effect clearly visible from a public thoroughfare. Visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za for further information. Registration and the obtaining of official signage is free of charge
- No washing or hosing down of hard-surfaced or paved areas with municipal drinking water allowed. Users, such as abattoirs, food processing industries, care facilities, animal shelters and other industries or facilities with special needs (health/safety related only) must apply for exemption. For more information, visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za.
- The use of municipal drinking water for ornamental water fountains or water features is prohibited.
- No topping up (manual/automatic) of swimming pools with any municipal drinking water is allowed, even if fitted with a pool cover. This includes the filling of new pools or the refilling of an existing pool after a repair. This applies to all pools, including public pools and pools at clubs, businesses and institutions. The construction of new swimming pools is strongly discouraged during level 6 restrictions in place. No new pools may be filled with any municipal water.

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

- Single residential properties (domestic full tariff category) may not consume more than **6000 litres (6 kl) per month**, unless the total of **50 litres(l)** per person per day exceeds the 6kl total in which case the total calculated amount must not be exceeded. In cases where such amount of **6 kl (50l/person/day multiplied by 4 persons multiplied by 30 day equals 6000l (6 kl)** will be exceeded, customers are to officially register such request on the prescribed forms at the Municipal Division: Water and Wastewater. **Registration may be done through our website on www.stellenbosch.gov.za.** This registration process is free of charge. Any person transgressing the above will be liable to an admission of guilt fine, currently R3000, in accordance with the various sections of the Water Services By-Law. (See note 1 below.)
- Should the above measure be transgressed such a property will also be fitted with a water demand measurement device and, as per Section 84(3)(a) of the Stellenbosch Water Services By-Law, be required to pay for the cost of, and the installation of, such a device, total cost averaged at R5 000.
- Cluster developments (e.g. flats and housing complexes) consuming more than an average of 6 kl per residential unit per month will be liable to an admission of guilt fine in accordance with the various sections of the Water Services By Law, unless approval has been granted to the contrary. (See note 1 below.)
- No washing of vehicles, trailers, caravans or boats with any municipal water is allowed, unless authorised by the Municipality or by Law. These must be washed with non-drinking water or cleaned with waterless products or dry steam cleaning processes. The use of rivers, stream, irrigation water or any other watercourse as defined, may not be used for this purposes and is a transgression of the National Water Act, Act 36 Of 1998, as amended. Also note that the washing of vehicles within a Municipal Street is not allowed in terms of the Streets By-Law of 2010, Section 9(b).
- Customers must install water efficient parts, fittings and technologies to minimise water use at all taps, showerheads and other plumbing components as prescribed by the Water Services By-Law.
- Customers are obliged to flush toilets (e.g. manually using a bucket) with greywater, rainwater or other non-drinking water where available. All valves feeding water to toilet normal flushing supplies must be turned off.
- The use of portable or any temporary play pools is prohibited for those customers residing in the water jurisdictional area of Stellenbosch Municipality and where water to be used comes from a any water source of the Municipality.
- **Indigent water supplies will only be free of charge up to 6 kl per dwelling unless such a dwelling has officially registered the amount of persons upon which up to the maximum of 10 kl will be free depending on the amount of people registered.** No increase of the indigent water allocation over and above the current free 333 litres a day (10 kl per month) will be granted, unless through prior approved application and permission for specific events such as burial ceremonies.
- Registered Guesthouses may apply for an exemption (including if more water than **50 l** per person per day is needed), but will then be required to reduce the consumption of water to at least 45% below the consumption of the 2015 year during the same time. Failure to comply will constitute an offence in terms of the Municipality's Water Services By-law, 2017 (or as amended). The accused will be liable to admission of guilt fines, and/or, in accordance with section 84(3)(a), an installation of a water management device(s) at premises where the non-compliance occurs. The cost thereof will be billed to the relevant account holder. This provision is effective from **19 February 2018**.

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO NON-RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

- All commercial and industrial consumers must ensure that their monthly consumption of municipal drinking water is reduced by 45% compared to consumption for the 2015 year.
- All agricultural users must ensure that their monthly consumption of municipal drinking water is reduced by 60% compared to consumption for the 2015 year.
- No washing of vehicles (including taxis), trailers, caravans and boats with any municipal water is allowed. These must be washed with non-drinking water or cleaned with waterless products or dry steam cleaning processes. Formal car washers may use a percentage of drinking water, but must recycle a percentage of water acquired. Formal car washers must register with the Municipality. The registration process is free of registration fees. The use of rivers, stream or irrigation water may not be used for this purposes and is a transgression of the National Water Act, Act 36 Of 1998, as amended. Also note that the washing of vehicles within a Municipal Street is also not allowed in terms of the Streets By-Law of 2010, Section 9(b).
- The operation of spray parks, or any other similar entertainment devices using any municipal water, is prohibited.
- Customers must install water efficient parts, fittings and technologies to minimise water use at all taps, showerheads and other plumbing components in public places as required by the Water Services By-law.
- No new landscaping or sports fields may be established, except if irrigated only with non-drinking water or water legally allowed from Irrigation Canals. Such legal use of Irrigation Canals must be reduced by 60% measured against the legal allocated quantum.
- For users supplied with water in terms of special contracts (notarial deeds, water service intermediaries or water service providers), the contract conditions shall apply, but must be reduced by the 60% quantum required by the Regulations of the National Water Act.
- In cases of illegal transgression of water use quantities a Water Demand Measurement Device will be installed as per Section 84(3)(a) of the Water Services By-Law. The cost of the limiting device, as well as installation thereof, will be billed to the relevant account holder. Failure to comply will constitute an offence in terms of the Municipality's Water Services By-law, 2017 (or as amended). The accused will be liable to admission of guilt fines, and/or, in accordance with Section 84(3)(a), an installation of a water management device(s) at premises where the non-compliance occurs. The cost thereof will be billed to the relevant account holder. This provision is effective from **19 February 2018**.

NOTE 1

Customers with good reason for higher consumption need to provide the Municipality with adequate sworn motivation to justify their higher consumption. Other restrictive measures, not detailed above, as stipulated in the Water Services By-law, 2017 (or as amended) still apply. Exemptions issued under **Level 5 and/or 6 restrictions** still apply, subject to review with the possibility of being revoked. The limit of **50 l** per person per day will however be strongly enforced. Water pressure may be reduced to pressures lower than normally prescribed by standards or interrupted to limit water leaks and such may cause intermittent water supply. Pressures will however be returned to normal in a particular sector, if a fire incident has occurred and water is to be provided to fight the fire. For further information visit www.stellenbosch.gov.za or contact us at engineering.services@stellenbosch.gov.za or at 021 808 8215 or 021 808 8953.

NOTE 2

Stellenbosch Municipality is in the process of drilling for water in order to supply all residents with an adequate emergency level of water should all surface water storage be depleted. It is calculated that the residents of Stellenbosch Municipality has so far reduced the consumption of water by 44% (combined residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural curtailment) of what was consumed in 2015. The current level of use is 56% compared to the 2015 statistics. It is further calculated that all the current boreholes, as well as planned boreholes, will be able to supply Stellenbosch at 52% of the 2015 consumption. In order to achieve this, a further water saving 4% must be achieved (reducing the current usage of water from 56% down to 52%). It is therefore imperative that a further saving, above **Level 5 & 6**, is achieved in order to match the availability of the stated 52%. Based on current water source quantities and the consumption of water, the Cape Metro/Cape Peninsula will have serious water problems from April 2018 until June 2018 and even more so from February 2019 to June 2019 if it still does not rain sufficiently. About two thirds of the water needs of Stellenbosch Municipality are acquired from the City of Cape Town as well as raw water from the Theewaterskloof Dam. Our own dams, supplying the other third of water needs, can also only last for 4 months without a flowing river and rain. This period has already commenced from December 2017 and is expected to last until May 2018 since the river is still flowing. We will therefore have to augment our water supplies with borehole water from March, in a lesser quantity, to June, in a maximum quantity. We can only save water if there is water to save. Once it has dried up, it is too late. We, therefore, have to save water right now and as much as we possibly can in order to successfully steer through the period of March 2018 until June 2018.