



STELLENBOSCH
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MUNISIPALITEIT • UMASIPALA • MUNICIPALITY



☎ 021-808 8344 / 8957 / 8953 / 8215 / 8345
📞 0769510768

Directorate: Infrastructure Services epos/email:
Direktoraat: Infrastruktuurdienste engineering.services@stellenbosch.gov.za

MUNICIPAL NOTICE 12/2026

STELLENBOSCH MUNICIPALITY - WATER SAVING NOTICE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES I.T.O. WATER USE

Good day residents.

Please be advised that due to the recent multiple severe fires within the Cape Winelands District, Overberg and Stellenbosch Municipalities, a large amount of untreated water from the Municipality's Idas Valley Dam was utilised in all the fire-fighting efforts. The Municipality also assisted the Overstrand Municipality in their fire-fighting efforts which is standard process to help control and prevent the spread of fires.

Also, the extreme heat and wind conditions have accelerated evaporation from the Municipal dams, coupled with lower-than-normal river flows over the dry season.

Based on this, the Municipality is alerting the public to please urgently assist in the below water-saving efforts, to avert a situation of instituting formal water restrictions and higher tariffs associated thereto.

The Municipality itself is also instituting water saving measures and will not be utilising dam water, nor treated water for irrigation purposes etc.

Direktoraat: Infrastruktuurdienste/ Directorate Infrastructure Services
2026/01/29 (LH)

In order to most effectively save water, please apply the following measures with immediate effect:

WATER-SAVING MEASURES:

1. Watering/irrigation should be done with borehole or non- drinking water from municipal supply please. This would apply to gardens, lawns, flower beds and other plants, vegetable gardens, sports fields, parks and other open spaces. Please consider rather using a bucket or watering can and avoid the use of hoses/pipes or automatic sprinkler systems. Watering times are not restricted, however, residents are urged to limit their watering to the mornings and evenings.
2. Golf courses, sports facilities, parks, schools, learning institutions, nurseries, customers involved in agricultural activities, users with historical gardens and customers with special requirements can write to the Director: Infrastructure Services for exemption to the above.
3. All properties where alternative, non-potable water resources are used (e.g. rain water harvesting, grey water re-use, treated effluent water, spring water, wellpoints and boreholes), must ensure that they display the appropriate signage to this effect, clearly visible from a public thoroughfare.
4. All wellpoints and boreholes must be used efficiently to avoid wastage and evaporation.
5. Please avoid washing or hosing down of hard-surfaced or paved areas with municipality supply water (except for health purposes).
6. Users, such as abattoirs, food processing industries, industries using water to prepare for painting or similar treatments, care facilities, animal shelters and other industries or facilities with special needs can apply to the Director: Infrastructure Services for exemption.

7. Ornamental water fountains/water features should be operated only by recycling the water or if using non-potable water.
8. Washing (using municipal supply water) of vehicles and boats should only be allowed if using a bucket.
9. Commercial car wash entities must comply with industry best practice norms regarding water usage per car washed.
10. Informal car washes to use only buckets and not hoses/pipes please.
11. All automatic flushing urinals should be turned off in all buildings during times when such buildings are normally vacated by the public and/or staff other than cleaning staff. Attention is also drawn to Provincial Gazette Extraordinary Number 5014 (1996) which prohibits the use of automatic flushing urinals.
12. Customers are strongly advised to install water efficient parts, fittings and technologies to minimise water use at all taps, showerheads and other plumbing components.
13. Manual topping up of private swimming pools should please be avoided and, where possible, fitted with a pool cover.
14. No automatic top-up systems should be used for private or public swimming pools.
15. The use of fitted pool covers for public swimming pools is strongly encouraged where practically possible.
16. The use of portable play pools should cease please until further notice.
17. Spray parks and related activities are to be strictly managed to minimise water wastage.

18. Customers should utilise water efficient parts, fittings and technologies to minimise water use at all taps, showerheads and other plumbing components in public places and adhere to Water By-law requirements.
19. Golf courses, sports facilities, parks, schools and learning institutions are not allowed to establish any new landscaping or sports fields until further notice, except if irrigated only with non-potable water (boreholes/ wellpoints or grey water re-use).
20. For users supplied with water in terms of special contracts (notarial deeds, water service intermediaries or water service providers), the contract conditions shall apply in terms of a water saving scenario.

Customers should note that water pressure may be reduced by the Municipality to limit water usage and wastage

Enquiries can be directed to the Let's Fix It Whatsapp service
076 951 0768 or contact 021 808 8215/021 8088345/ 021 808 8957