

EKURHULENI TALKS *to our community*

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018



Blow the on fake GOODS



Ekurhuleni Environmental Health Practitioner Bamponang Mogane inspects food labelling in one of the spaza shops at Buhle Park.

First citizen, Executive Mayor Cllr Mzwandile Masina, is taking a firm stand on the selling of fake goods in the City.

Health inspections at spaza shops and retailers have been intensified and residents are urged to report any incidents or suspicion of the selling of counterfeit or expired goods and food.

When buying goods, take note of the labelling on the products – incidents have been reported of sell-by dates being tampered with or products sold after the sell-by date has long past.

Canned foods need to be looked at closely, a

bulging container is one of the indications of a defect and that the content is not fit for eating.

If you suspect foodstuff is not of satisfactory standard, report it to the City's Health and Social Development Department at your nearest customer care centre. Residents are cautioned not to buy from shops that do not have a Certificate of Acceptability issued by the City.

This certificate is issued after inspection to confirm that the shop/retailer is authorised to handle food for sale to the public and complies with regulations.

You can report incidents to the following offices:

- Boksburg and Vosloorus - 011 999 5407
- Alberton and Germiston - 011 999 0347/8/ or 011 999 5737/0530
- Alberton Head Office - 011 999 2970
- Kempton Park - 011 999 6461
- Benoni - 011 999 6431
- Nigel - 011 999 9258
- Edenvale - 011 999 3335
- Katlehong 1 and 2, and Thokoza - 011 999 2347/8 or 011 999 2466

OLD AGE HOMES

For a fee starting at just R75.05, plus standard monthly levies ranging from R233 to R389, senior citizens can apply to be housed comfortably at Council-owned old age homes.

To qualify to apply for a place, you must be at least 60 years old, a South African citizen and resident of Ekurhuleni. You must be self-

sufficient, have a monthly income (individually or jointly) of between R1 501 and R4 000, so as to be able to pay the monthly 5% rental fee, starting at R75.05.

Monthly levies are charged to cover fees for assessment rates, service charges, administration, maintenance and water consumption. The levy is charged in addition to

the 5% of income, and are as follows:

- Double unit levy - R292.31;
- Single unit levy - R233.85;
- One bedroom unit levy - R292.30; and
- Two bedroom unit levy - R389.74.

Electricity consumption is billed separately. For more information visit any of the customer care centres.

NEWS IN BRIEF:

BOGUS 260ℓ WHEELIE BIN TENDER

The City distances itself from the bogus 260ℓ wheelie bin tender scam.

Scammers send possible service providers an appointment letter bearing the City's logo, together with a fraudulently generated order number purported to come from the City for delivery of the 260ℓ wheelie bins at 47 Van Buuren Road in Bedfordview.

This is a scam and the City is investigating to establish if there is any involvement of City's officials. The City does not use or manage any operations which involve a bin of this size.

OPEN TENDER BID ADJUDICATION

Members of the public and interested parties can attend the Bid Adjudication Committee (BAC) which sits every Monday to consider bids.

The adjudication takes place in Germiston, Ground Floor, Boardroom 1, at 12h30. An agenda for the meeting, which lists the bids to be discussed, is published on the City's website - www.ekurhuleni.gov.za

CHECKMATE!

Focus, discipline, strategic thinking and concentration are all the requirements necessary to take up a game of chess.

Young and old are welcome to take advantage of the free chess classes offered by the City through graded coaches. The programme to develop chess players runs over a period of one year.

The City's objective is to assist and develop the players into professional chess players by providing chess sets, clocks and notation books, and to rope in highly rated local coaches.

The programme is supported through the City's Grant-In-Aid programme. See the schedule and coaches at the following libraries:

Coach: Lebohlang Mphela

- Kattlehong (011 999 1341/2)
Wednesdays, 14h00 to 16h00
- KwaThema (011 999 8494)
Thursdays, 14h00 to 16h00
- Vosloorus (011 999 5937)
Fridays, 14h00 to 16h00

Coach: Clive Mthunzi

- Germiston (011 999 0522)
Mondays, 14h00 to 16h00
- Soncini (Wattville) (011 999 7261)
Saturdays, 10h00 to 12h00
- Actonville (011 999 6865)
Wednesday, 14h00 to 15h00
Saturday 10h00 – 11h00

Coach: Brighton

- Primrose (011 999 0946/7)
Fridays, 14h00 to 16h00
- Kingsway – Tuesdays, 14h00 to 16h00
- Leondale (011 999 0508/1747)
Wednesdays, 15h00 to 17h00

Coach: Sean Conwright

- Alberton (011 999 2617/8/9)
Tuesday, 14h00 to 16h00

- Daveyton (011 999 6867)
Thursday, 15h00 to 16h00

Coach: Tshediso Mpya

- Tembisa (011 999 4606/7)
Thursdays, 14h30 to 16h30
- Winnie Mandela (011 999 4926/4/5)
Monday, 14h30 to 16h30
- Phomolong (011 999 4807/8/9)
Fridays, 13h30 to 15h30

Coach: Elrich Grootboom

- Reigerpark (011 999 5593)
Tuesdays, 11h00 to 12h00 and 15h30 to 16h30
- Edenpark (011 999 2679)
Fridays 11h00 to 12h00 and 15h30 to 16h30
- Boksburg (011 999 5440/5650)
Thursdays, 11h00 to 12h00 and 15h30 to 16h30

Coach: Sean Conwright

- Alberton (011 999 2617/8/9)
Tuesdays, 14h00 – 16h00
- Daveyton (011 999 6867)
Thursdays, 15h00 – 16h00

CUTTING ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS

The City has intensified its war against illegal electricity connections which costs the City over R800 million in unaccounted electricity per year.

August saw the City remove illegal connections in Dukathole and surrounding areas in an effort to restore a fully functional electrical network in the area and surroundings. This after four transformers blew recently due to overloading on the network as a result of illegal connections. Illegal connections are the main cause of overload on the power grid which results in persistent power supply interruptions.

"Plans are under way to install new transformers and repair or replace damaged electrical equipment to stabilise the supply of electricity. In order to do so we need to work on a network that has not been tempered with through illegal connections, which is why we started with the disconnection operation," MMC for Water, Sanitation and Energy Cllr Tiisetso Nketele said.

Residents are encouraged to report any illegal connection or suspicion of illegal connection activities to the call centre on 086 054 3000.



EMPD officers loading some of the uprooted cables after an operation at Dukathole.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE SNAKE!

Snake season is upon us, which means snakes will soon be out and about looking for food after a long period of hibernation.

The City's Senior Environmentalist, Christopher Mthombeni (or snake catcher as he is known), cautions pet owners to be on high alert and keep an eye on their domestic pets as they just may fall prey to snakes.

Should you come across a snake, Mthombeni cautions not to panic; keep the snake within your vision at a distance of about 5m. Don't try to kill or handle the snake but give it right of way - and call for help.

If you get bitten, be sure to remain calm and relax - panic will just increase the speed of blood flow. Get medical attention as soon as possible and be sure to provide the symptoms and any other information that can help in treating the bite.

Should you see a snake, call Mthombeni at 083 239 7774 or 011 999 3029 or email him at christopher.mthombeni@ekurhuleni.gov.za for assistance, more information and advice.