

# Message from the Executive Mayor

Dear residents and visitors

We are at the end of another year and it is the Season to be merry again. Welcome to all our holiday visitors – Knysna has been busy getting ready for your arrival and we have an array of attractions to offer, including two blue flag beaches to enjoy the summer weather. This is a busy time in our area and you will not be short of options for things to do – visit our local Tourism office for more information on events, attractions and everything to be enjoyed in the area!

We are one of the top three green municipalities in the Western Cape and we hope that you will work with us to keep this up during the holiday season. Recycle, use water and our other natural resources sparingly and when you are using our beautiful estuary, be careful with what ends up in the water. It is the top estuary in South Africa in terms of biodiversity and it, and its inhabitants, deserve our respect.

Winston Churchill said “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” The Festive Season is a time of giving and this year I want you to make a life, rather than a living. Let us try and spread the cheer by giving, whatever we can afford or have, to someone that we know are in need. We can all make a difference in someone’s life in our own way - if each of us contributes.

Thank you to the municipal staff who will be working over the Festive Season, making sure the services and traffic is running smoothly. To those of you lucky enough to be on holiday, please enjoy your time off. Play responsibly though, we want you have a safe and happy holiday! To those of you that have to travel far, please drive carefully and make sure you reach your destination safely!

Season’s greetings and a wonderful and Blessed New Year to all of you.



Knysna Executive Mayor  
Georlene Williams



# Message from the Acting Municipal Manager

With thousands of visitors and residents looking forward to a summer of fun in and around the greater Knysna area, Knysna Municipality is urging everyone to enjoy everything that the area has to offer in a safe and responsible manner.

Acting Municipal Manager Grant Easton explained that additional firefighters would be on standby throughout the season, life guards will be on duty at the area’s beaches, additional temporary point duty- and law enforcement officers would be employed and increased strict law enforcement would be applied – especially against alcohol abuse and the associated unruly behaviour in public spaces.

“Our municipal law enforcement officers will be working very closely with the South African Police Service (SAPS), local neighbourhood watch organisations and, in some cases, private security firms to ensure a comprehensive approach regarding all aspects of public safety,” Easton said. “This approach is supported by municipal bylaws and will be strictly enforced to ensure that everyone gets to enjoy a safe summer season.”

No tents or overnighting on public land will be permitted, and the law dictates that no alcohol is allowed on beaches or public amenities. “Favourite public party venues will be strictly monitored and you will be taken to task if you disregard the law. Drunkenness and associated unruly behaviour will also not be permitted in our streets and other public spaces. And please, for your sake, as well as that of everyone else on our roads – do not drink and drive.”

It should be noted that law enforcement will be applied across the board at all beaches and amenities, and no exceptions will be made. “This includes illegal parking,” said Easton. “Our sea walls are fragile and vehicles parked on any sea walls will be towed away and released at the owner’s costs, while relevant fines may also be applicable.”

Life guards will be on duty on Blue Flag beaches from 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2015. Other beaches will be manned from Monday 15 December 2014 until early January 2015. Easton reminded locals and visitors that no dogs are allowed in the designated bathing areas of such beaches during peak holiday periods from 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2015.

“To accommodate pet-lovers, designated areas outside the swimming zone will be open for this purpose before 9am and after 5pm every day. In



Knysna’s Acting Municipal manager Grant Easton.

Brenton the pet-friendly zone is 300 metres west of the second lifesaving flag and in Buffalo Bay it starts east of the last beach residence. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and pet owners must clean up after their dogs and dispose of poop bags in the correct bins. Normal access routes can be used to both beaches.”

Residents and visitors alike are also encouraged to use water sparingly at all times. “Our area has undergone an extended dry season. I’d like to remind everyone to adhere to the existing water restrictions and to register alternative water sources such as spikes or boreholes on the municipality’s database.”

Gardens on even street numbers may be watered from 6pm -7pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Gardens on odd street numbers from 6pm – 7pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

“We are looking forward to welcoming our visitors and I know our residents are looking forward to enjoying some free time with family and friends this season. I hope that everyone has an enjoyable time; in the knowledge that Knysna Municipality will do everything in its power to ensure that it is a safe summer season for everyone.”

## Water Update

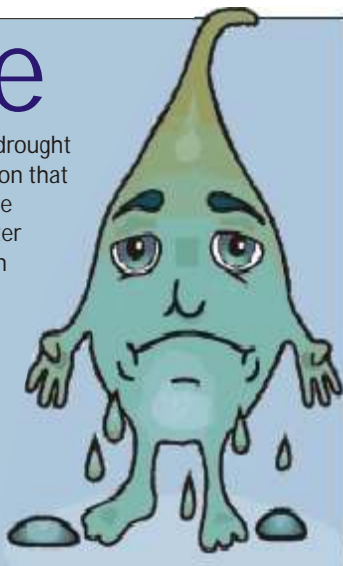
We note that various media and social media are referring to a drought and this is potentially disingenuous as it can create the impression that Knysna cannot accommodate its visitors who will be enjoying the festive season with us. The Municipality is very conscious of water demand, and the impact that the incorrect message can have on our town and its business.

As you are aware, a water conservation committee was established and it has regular meetings to discuss various water issues and measures to be taken in a drought situation.

Unfortunately consumption has not been reduced significantly in certain areas. While we have enjoyed a few rainy days please note that we are still in a low rainfall period. Restrictions are still in place and we continue to encourage people to consciously save water every day through our water saving campaign.

Herewith the statistics for November/December:

Week	Akkerkloof Dam level % full	Sedgefield Consumption Target 1ML/day	Rainfall mm	Knysna Consumption Target 7 ML/day	Rainfall mm
10 – 16 Nov	65%	1.9	61	9.3	37.2
17 – 23 Nov	61%	1.8	23	10.8	27.7
24 – 30 Nov	60%	1.8	0.0	11.1	1.0
1 Dec – 7 Dec	63%	1.8	29.5	12.4	10.8



## Council Snippets

### Holiday Programme for the kids

The municipality’s Social Services section will host a number of activities in Khayaletu, White Location, Hornlee, Rheenendal and Smutsville from 2 to 19 December 2014. Contact your local Youth Centre for further details.

### Load-shedding

Residents and visitors are requested to reduce their electricity consumption this summer. Eskom’s network remains under pressure. Note that loadshedding is controlled by Eskom and the municipality has no control over it. We endeavour to inform users whenever possible and if we are informed timeously. The load shedding schedule and stages are available on the municipality’s website on [www.knysna.gov.za/information-centre/notices/](http://www.knysna.gov.za/information-centre/notices/)

### Waste Collections days for Sedgefield & Surrounds

Day of the Week:	Area:
Monday:	Groenvlei area
Tuesday:	Sedgefield Central; Bibbeyshoek, Rheenendal
Wednesday:	Sedgefield Island, Smutsville area
Thursday:	Karatara
Friday:	Zeegezigt, Extensions 3 and 4, Cola and Myoli Beach

### Municipal Meetings 2015

- 22 January:- Mayoral Committee Meeting
- 29 January:- Council Meeting
- 3 February:- Governance & Economic Development Committee Meeting
- 4 February:- Finance Committee Meeting
- 10 February:- Community Services Committee Meeting
- 11 February:- Planning, Development & Infrastructure Committee Meeting
- 19 February:- Mayoral Committee Meeting

### Contact us:

ALL SECTIONS OFFICE HOURS:  
Tel: 044 302 6300 Fax: 044 302 6333  
EMERGENCIES ALL HOURS: 044 302 8911  
ANTI-FRAUD & CORRUPTION HOTLINE:  
0800 214 764  
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customer@knysna.gov.za  
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### Other important numbers:

SA Police Services: 10111 | +27 (0)44 302 6600  
Provincial Traffic: +27 (0)44 382 5525  
NSRI: +27 (0)44 384 0211  
Knysna Provincial Hospital: +27 (0)44 302 8400  
Life Knysna Private Hospital: +27(0)44 384 1083  
ER24: 084 124  
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