



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 03 November 2015

EMBARGO: Immediate

Zero tolerance on Guy Fawkes Day

Knysna Municipality urges residents to practice safe Guy Fawkes Day activities on Thursday, 5 November. The municipality pleads with residents to refrain from burning tyres, setting off fireworks and crackers and has asked locals to put their safety first. Together with the South African Police Service (SAPS), Knysna Municipality aims to ensure the safety of the community as a whole.

Community Services Chairperson, Cllr Irene Grootboom says, "Guy Fawkes is always a high risk time for people and property, and due to this the municipality has zero tolerance for illegal activities on this day. Our Public Nuisance by-law has a provision prohibiting the discharge of any fireworks, firearms, air guns or air pistols on any premises or any street or public place", Cllr Grootboom said.

"We urge residents to refrain from unlawful actions that result in the damage of roads and property. In terms of the Community Fire Safety by-law offenders can be charged with a fine of R500.00 and a R1000.00 fine in terms of the Public Nuisance by-law. Offenders can also be arrested and even criminally or civilly prosecuted", she added.

"The safety and well-being of our residents is one of our top priorities. And fireworks, although beautiful to watch, are not without their dangers so please stay safe and keep our rules and regulations in mind come the 5th of November".

"Residents should also keep in mind that a fine issued in terms of the Community Fire Safety by-laws is payable upon issue by the municipality, and if issued in terms of the Public Nuisance by-law the fine is payable upon conviction by a court", Cllr Grootboom concluded.

To report fireworks that are being illegally discharged, please notify the police on [044 302 6600](tel:0443026600) or the SAPS Emergency Control Centre on 10111.

In the event of a fireworks-related emergency, contact our Fire Station on [044 302 8911](tel:0443028911).

ENDS

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