



NDLAMBE MUNICIPALITY



WATER CRISIS! WATER CRISIS! WATER CRISIS! ALL WATER SOURCES ON LOW LEVELS: WATER CRISIS & RESTRICTION NOTICE

On the 24th of October 2019 the honourable Premier of the Province of the Eastern Cape, acting in terms of section 41(1) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), declared a Provincial state of disaster in the Province of the Eastern Cape due to the drought which has affected the Province.

Ndlambe has been heavily affected by drought since 2018 and all the water supply source levels are very low, especially in Port Alfred and Alexandria. Therefore, Ndlambe Municipality would like to remind all the community members and holiday makers that the Municipality imposed water restrictions in terms of Section 4 of the Water Services Act 108 (No 108 of 1997), these restrictions are still standing and we therefore request our communities to familiarise themselves with the prohibited water activities stipulated on these restrictions (*See attached Annexure A- WATER RESTRICTIONS*).

It must be noted that there are areas like Alexandria, Port Alfred and Bathurst where the situation is so critical that the source levels are already below 20%. The communities are urged to use water wisely to avoid a day zero situation which would be a crisis during the festive season. The municipality has applied for drought funding to implement possible alternatives to assist in this situation.

We would like also to inform the community that as per the current situation where levels are lower than 20%; the Municipality is closing off the water supply for a certain period in order to lengthen the supply period. We therefore urge our residents to use water sparingly and we encourage households to invest in rain water storage tanks as this could assist with the current situation during the carting of water and small rainfall that we usually get.

PORT ALFRED A HOT SPOT

Sarel Hayward Dam level has dropped drastically to around 10%, which reduces pumps outflow to the balancing dam. There is no water coming in to the dam as the catchment area is dry. It is therefore clear that we need rain in order for these pumps to work under normal conditions.

Interventions to address the current situation:

- The municipality is in the process of procuring 2ML Emergency Desalination Package Plant to increase the water supply in Port Alfred Area and request for proposals are closing on the 20 December 2019. This plant is expected to be completed before end of March 2020 pending the availability of additional funds.
- Additional water trucks are hired to assist areas without water (still a challenge as there are water challenges even in the areas that we are supposed to cart water and supplement each other), meaning we will have to share the little that we have within our area.
- Water be switched on and off in certain areas.
- To urge residents through pamphlets to reduce their normal water consumptions where necessary and use water wisely.
- Prioritise quick response on burst pipes to avoid water wastage.
- Establishment of a Joint Operations Committee to come up with plans to assist during this period

PLEASE USE WATER SPARINGLY

**NOTICE NUMBER: 311/2019
20 DECEMBER 2019
MANAGER**

**ROLLY DUMEZWENI
MUNICIPAL**

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