

Working with you, for you

Vorna Valley Residents Association

Newsletter



February 2020

VVRA Committee

Marianne Nel - Chairperson
 Paul Veltman - Secretary, Infrastructure
 Hein de Kock - Treasurer, Infrastructure
 Mark Straw - Illegal Signs/Greens
 Varushka Singh - Liaison

Facebook Twitter Email Website



Whatsapp your details and email address to 082-460-8662 to join the VVRA council issues

Contact details for Sector 2:
Sector Commander - Sergeant Benji 079 877 6504 (Office Hours)
Sector 2 Vehicle 071 675 6110 (24/7)
Areas: Vorna Valley, Waterfall Park, Carlswald, Halfway Gardens, Kyalami Hills.



VICTIM EMPOWERMENT
076 445 2451

The Victim Empowerment Centre comprises of volunteer counsellors who assist victims with debriefing and trauma counselling. If you need counselling after a traumatic violent crime, please contact the VEC on 076 445 2451 to set up an appointment. All counselling is confidential and no charge!



Swiss Country Club
 JOHANNESBURG

We would like to let residents know that the **The Courier Restaurant** at the Swiss Country Club on Moerdyk Street is not just for members. Anyone can go there for a good meal. They support the VVRA and it would be wonderful if residents supported them.

Email: courier@hot.co.za
 Cell: 082 561 0063 (Wolfgang)



HEAVEN'S KITCHEN
 FOOD SO GOOD... IT'S TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL

COVID-19

Online Resource & News Portal
SAcoronavirus.co.za



health

Department:
 Health
 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Dear Vorna Valley Residents

COVID-19 Lockdown

The National Coronavirus Command Council has decided to enforce a nation-wide lockdown for 21 days with effect from midnight on Thursday 26 March, ending on April 16th, 2020.

For everything you need to know about the COVID-19 virus click on the links below:

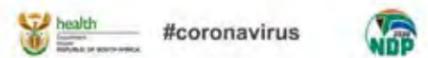
- <https://coronavirus.datafree.co/>
- <https://www.gov.za/welcome-official-south-african-government-online-site>
- <https://www.nicd.ac.za/>
- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Thank you to all those essential services that continue their work to help and protect the people of South Africa.

Stay informed on #COVID19
 Join the WhatsApp support for South Africans

Say "Hi" to
0600 123 456

or go to www.sacoronavirus.co.za



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LOCKDOWN UPDATE ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Coronavirus Hotline | 0800 029 999 |
| Coronavirus WhatsApp | 060 012 3456 |
| National Institute for Communicable Diseases | 0800 029 999 |
| Presidential Hotline | 17737 |
| South African Police Service - Crime Stop and Anonymous Tip-offs | 08600 10111 |
| Reporting undue price increases | 0800141880 |
| Support to SMMEs in distress | 0860 663 7867 |
| National Crisis Line | 0861322 322 |
| Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit | 0800 150 150 |
| GB VF-related service complaints | 0800 333177 |
| Gender-based violence command centre | 0800 428 428 or *120*7867# (free) |
| Women Abuse Helpline | 0800150150 |
| Persons with disabilities | SMS 'help' to 31531 |
| National Human Trafficking Helpline | 0800 222 777 |
| Child line | 0800 055 555 |
| Suicide Crisis Line | 0800 567 567 / 0800 456 789 |
| AIDS Helpline | 0800 012 322 |
| SASSA call centre | 0800 60 10 11 |
| PostBank call centre | 0800 53 54 55 |
| Department of Trade and Industry | 080 000 6543 |
| Department of Home Affairs | 0800 601190 |
| Department of Water and Sanitation | 0800 200 200 |
| Department of Tourism | 0860 868 747 |

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

WHATSAPP SUPPORT
0600 123 456
EMERGENCY NUMBER
0800 029 999
sacoronavirus.co.za

The national lockdown is for 21 days from 23:59 on 26 March to 23:59 on 16 April.



PresidencyZA
stateofnation.gov.za

Harcourts

Wendy Redl
 Property Specialist

T 011 206 5900 C 082 451 8365
 E wendy.redl@harcourts.co.za
 harcourtsmidrand.co.za

Harcourts Midrand

TFT House Challenger Avenue, International Business Gateway, New Road, Midrand, 1685



Here we are.
 With you all the way.



NETCARE
082911
 24HR EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Allandale Road upgrade update



VV residents were very unhappy with the Allandale road closure announcement. Traffic in this area has increased so much so that a 10 min trip in peak traffic could take 2 hours if Allandale was closed.

The cllr had meetings on site but no satisfactory solution was forthcoming. The cllr posted the MEC's cell number all over whatsapp and said, please phone the MEC directly for any queries. I therefore called MEC Mamabolo who was not aware of the major problems to closing off Allandale. I explained the history of the road and that Century Dev is supposed to make it a dual carriage way together with Province. I suggested that the MEC spoke with Century Dev which he was happy to do, so I called Harm from Century Dev, and explained my call to the MEC. Harm was very willing to phone the MEC and this led to a meeting on Friday and again on Sat and the outcome of the meeting was published and residents are now happy with the outcome.

MEC Mamabolo phoned me after his meeting with Harm on Saturday to say thank you that I had contacted him and put him in contact with the right people that could solve this problem, whereas others were just making the problems worse.

So, from all the residents in and around Vorna Valley, we would like to thank Harm of Century and MEC Mamabolo for listening to the residents and taking their concerns into consideration, and finding the right solution.

Council Issues



Pikitup yet again has set backs with broken down trucks, leaving residents with unemptied waste bins for a week or more.

PIKITUP APPEALS TO RESIDENTS TO SANITIZE THEIR BIN LIDS BEFORE COLLECTION

Pikitup, the waste management entity of the City of Johannesburg continues to render waste collection services during the lockdown period and appeals to residents to take a precautionary measure of sanitizing their bin lids.

Despite Pikitup employees being provided with protective clothing during this period, the call is made to residents to practice extra caution when handling their 240L bins to ensure that we protect one another. We also wish to reiterate that waste plastic bags should be tied at all times.

Residents are also reminded that Pikitup's garden sites which are located in all the seven regions of the City are operational. Residents are advised to use these facilities to dispose off their excess waste and recyclable. To locate a garden site please visit www.pikitup.co.za or call the nearest Pikitup depot.

Furthermore, Pikitup is aware of fake messages circulating on various social media platforms intimating that residents are required to donate tinned food or money to its employees.

It is against Pikitup's policy to request residents to offer any kind of donations to its employees or for its employees to make such requests. Residents are advised to report such incidents to Pikitup and must obtain the following details where possible:

- The registration details of the Pikitup truck concerned
- Time and area where the incident has occurred and report such incidences to the following number: 011 712 5200.

Residents are also advised to be on the lookout for fake news. All official communication during the lockdown period is issued by the City of Johannesburg's Group Communications Department on its official letter head, through official social media accounts and Councillors where necessary. Residents are therefore urged to disregard all communication pertaining to Pikitup that comes from other sources except the City of Johannesburg.

For more information

Contact: Muzi Mkhwanazi: 071 312 7757

Or 087 357 1116

or muzimkhwanazi@pikitup.co.za

Council Issues cont...



There have been some major sewerage leaks again but JWater was quick to respond once the VVRA escalated the problems.

There were also some water pipe burst which were also escalated and happy to know that JWater attended to them promptly. Sadly some of the pipes are very old and burst in different parts several times.



Load shedding was still on going and on some occasions power was only restored after load shedding ended. There were issues with overloading in parts of Vorna Valley and Halfway Gardens after switching power on again. A team was sent out immediately to access the problem and some complexes and street had power restored a bit later.

Several residents had issues with loading power on prepaid but City Power was quick to assist these residents.

We also had a few cases where parts of Vorna Valley lost power, but City Power was quick to find the fault and restore everyone power. There was a fault at Bel Aire complex, leaving several complexes and residents without power until the next day.

Open or broken power boxes is still on going.

Sadly power boxes are still being opened forcefully by contractors and many of them are so damaged, they can not close anymore.



Residents in Elizabeth Fry have been facing flooding into their homes from storm water coming off Harry Galaun.



This was reported and escalated several times, yet it took another downpour of rain to get JRA to attend to this problem urgently.

The VVRA continued to escalate to JRA and finally the Truck was available to attend to this issue. Harry Galaun storm water drains were also cleared.



Help somebody in Midrand stay warm this winter, one blanket at a time!



The Victim Empowerment Centre (VEC), Community Policing Forum (CPF) & SAPS Midrand, will be collecting blankets over March & April for those in need. Blankets can be dropped off at the VEC container at Midrand SAPS, by popping them through the window. Collection can also be arranged, simply email midrandcpfpro@gmail.com



Vorna Valley Specialist

Rickus Bouwer

082 520 3737
rickus@firzt.co.za

www.firzt.co.za





Compeg Services (Pty) Ltd and its sister company, Land Securities Management (Pty) Ltd (Landsec) offer a complete property management service in Gauteng.

Compeg Services (Pty) Ltd focuses on sectional title management whilst Landsec focusses on rental administration, (Residential, commercial, industrial and retail) as well as the letting of property.

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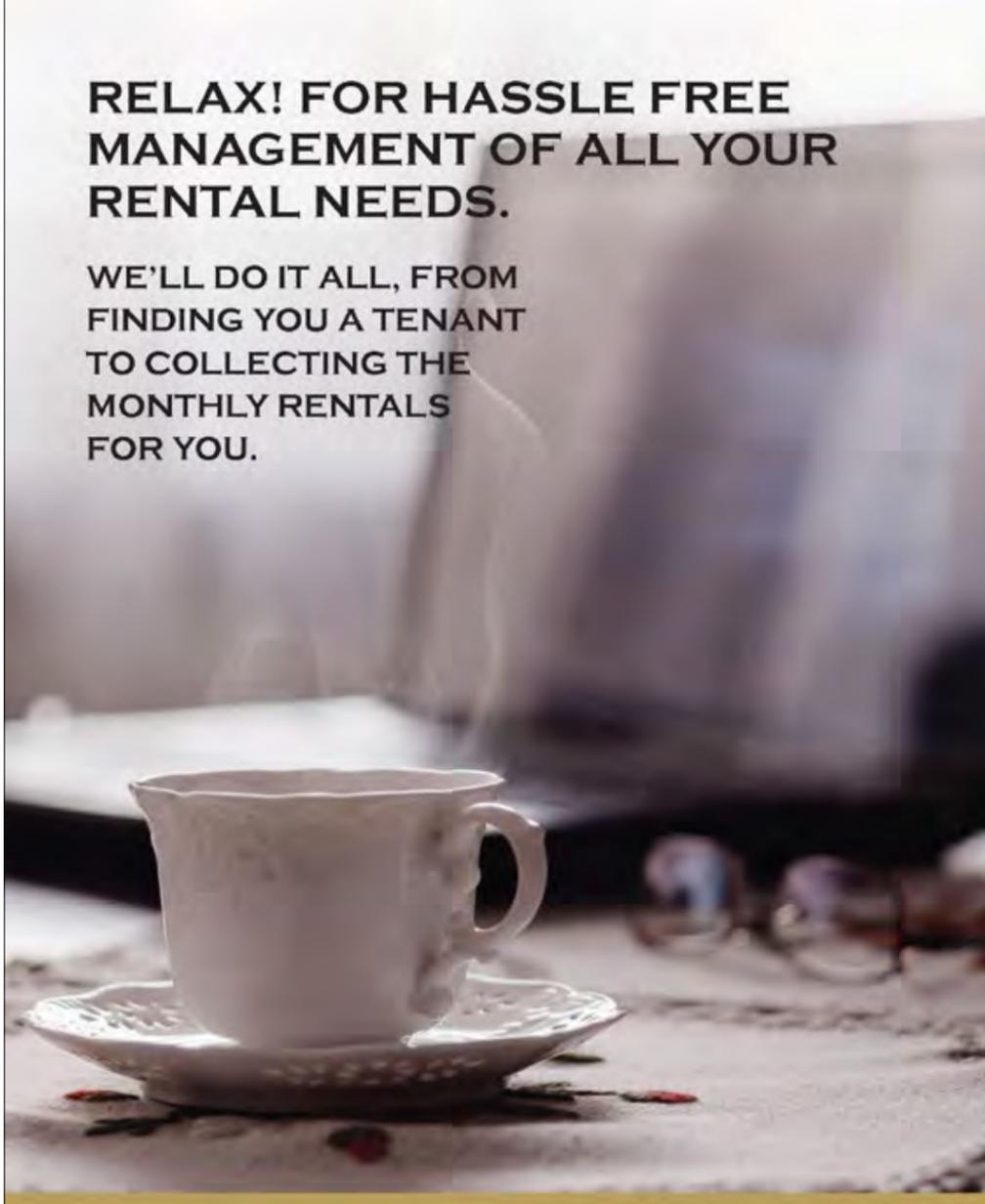
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Vorna Valley
area specialists

Midrand Office +27 (0)11 702 2033



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Tel: +2710 224 0160 / +2778 636 6704
Email: info@apsstrading.co.za

Reduce your garden waste removal rates.

Boombadotmobi is a small waste management business that cares about the environment and ensures that your waste is disposed responsibly (i.e. It doesn't end up in rivers or illegally dumped). We even send you pictures of the final destination of your waste.

We already have clients in your area that will make it affordable for you to share garden waste removal costs. We come once a month and the costs remains the same regardless of the size of your waste.

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boombadotmobi
For more info: 060 688 4004

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Advertisement Pricing

Would you like to place an ad in our monthly Newsletter?

Half Page : R400/month

Full Page : R800/month

Please contact info@vvra.co.za

Small Ad : R50/month

Small Ad : R35/month

Quarter Page : R200/month.

Small Ad : R50/month

Small Ad : R85/month

Recycling

A reminder that recycling is compulsory. Phambili Services collect recycling in Vorna Valley on behalf of Pikitup, every Wednesday.

If you are not yet recycling with Phambili, please contact marianne@phambiliservices.co.za via email or via whatsapp on 082 460 8662 so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

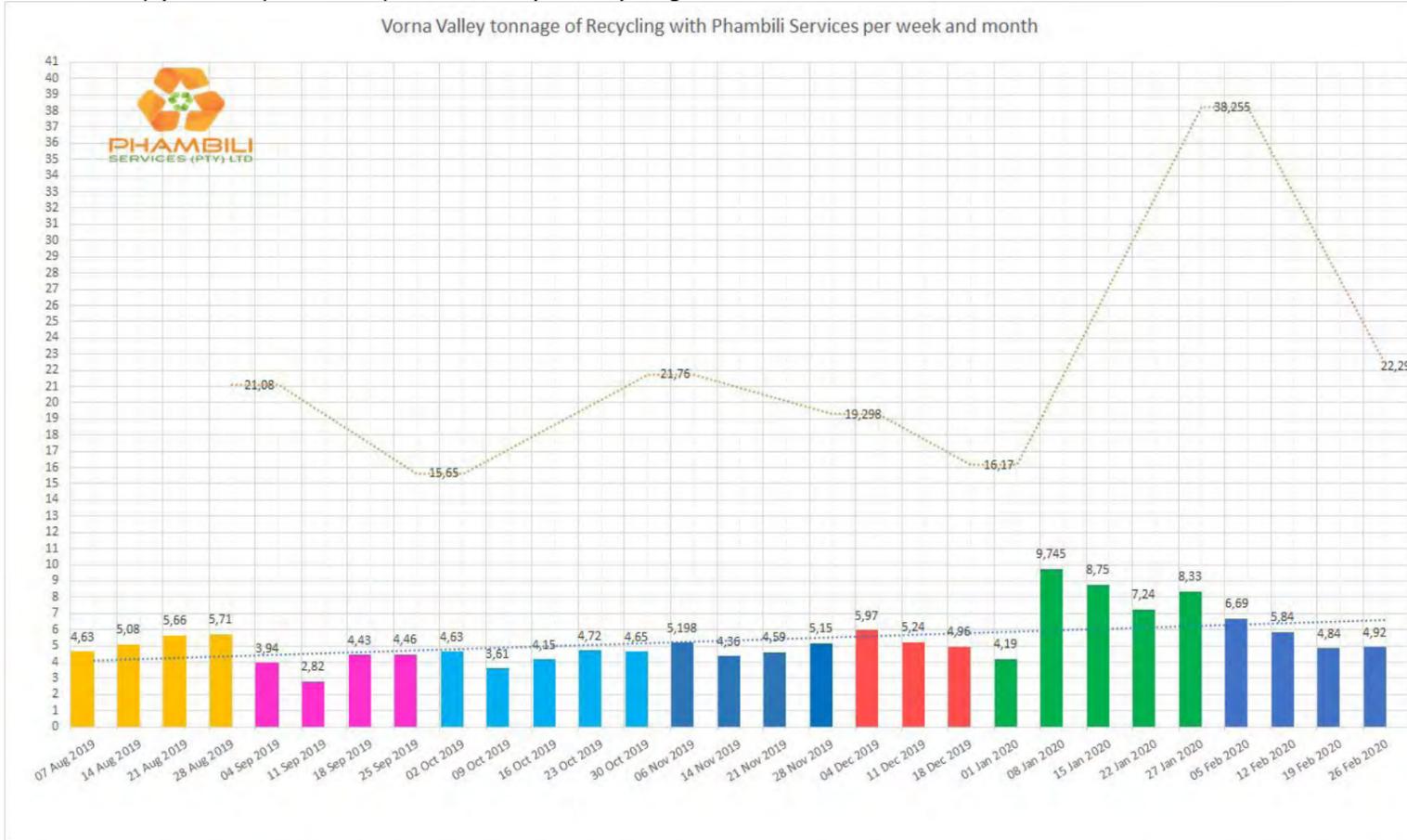
Phambili Services supply blue bags and collect weekly.

All recycling material goes into one bag. (Paper, Cardboard, Magazines & Newspapers, Plastics, Glass, Bottles, Milk and Juice Cartons, Cans, Jars.

Phambili Services now also place informal reclaimers into complexes to do the recycling on their behalf. Phambili then buys back all the recycling they collect, taking them to the depot to weigh and pay.

This will hopefully take many of the informal reclaimers off the streets and afford them a monthly income.

If you would like your complex to join this project, please email your details to marianne@phambiliservices.co.za, so that Phambili can come and setup your complex with a picker to start your recycling.



Recyclables to be placed in plastic bags are:

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|------------------------|----------|-------|---------|------------------------|------|------|
| Paper | Cardboard | Magazines & Newspapers | Plastics | Glass | Bottles | Milk and Juice Cartons | Cans | Jars |
|-------|-----------|------------------------|----------|-------|---------|------------------------|------|------|

PLEASE NOTE:

Phambili Services will continue collecting the recycling during the 21 days lock down. Please make sure that your bags are out on your allocated day of the week, and new bags will be left for your next week's of recycling.

This is a good opportunity for those who have not yet started to recycle, to get into the habit of separating their normal waste and recycling materials.

Phambili have been dropping off bags at all houses and complexes, even though many still don't recycle. Recycling is compulsory.

Please stay safe during this lock down.

Any queries can be sent to Marianne on 082 460 8662 via whatsapp or on email to marianne@phambiliservices.co.za
Thank you

Dont get a fright but they will be wearing protective PPE





Safety tips from the police

Never give your card or PIN (personal identification number) to anyone, for any reason.

Don't write your PIN on the card or anything that is kept with the card.

Do not insert your card until asked to do so by the display screen.

Never use an ATM with a blank screen and, if the ATM is obscured from view or poorly lit, leave immediately and find another ATM.

Stand close to the ATM and use your body and hand as a shield to make sure nobody sees you keying in your pin.

Keep your hand over the card slot to make sure nobody can swap or take your card.

Never accept help from strangers when using an ATM. You should be wary of strangers asking for help.

Criminals work in teams – one to distract you while the other steals your card or money.

If your card is retained (swallowed) by the ATM, it is advisable to phone your bank's toll-free stop card line

Immediately and stop your card.

Never allow a bystander to call the toll- free stop card line on your behalf – they could be tricking you into thinking your card has been stopped.

Security guards are placed at ATMs to discourage criminal activities and therefore cannot help you with transactions.

If you need help, ask a bank official.

It is advisable to set a daily ATM withdrawal limit at your branch.

Important telephone numbers for reporting ATM related incidents:

ABSA 0800 111 155

Bidvest Bank 0860 111 177

Capitec Bank 0860 102 043

Citi Bank 1 800 950 5114

FNB 0800 110 132

Investic Bank 011 286 9663

Mercantile Bank 0860 119 925

Nedbank 0800 110 929

Standard Bank 0800 020 600

Post Office (Postbank) 0800 535 455

U Bank 0860 00 8322.

How to report bad and reckless driving



The Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) has introduced a WhatsApp-based hotline to report reckless and negligent driving behaviour, as well as by-law infringements across the City of Johannesburg.

Dubbed "Buya Mthetho", which means bring back the law, the hotline allows residents to upload footage of infringements via WhatsApp, after which the JMPD will follow up and take the necessary action.

The reckless driving hotline WhatsApp number is 081 410 6338, and to report incidents, residents should follow these steps:

Take a clear photo or video of the subject of complaint with registration number of the vehicle and other relevant information. Upload to the hotline with a short description, including date, time and location of the incident.

Provide name and contact details, which will be kept anonymous.

The department explains:

"The photo or video must have been taken by the complainant themselves, and not forward photos or clips taken by a third-party

or downloaded from other sources. The complainant must also be able and willing to testify against the offender if required in terms of the legal process. Once the complaint is received, JMPD will analyse the evidence and deal with it accordingly, including submission of the complaint to the National Prosecuting Authority for prosecution."

According to JMPD, voice complaints for reckless driving can still to be reported on 011 375 5911 / 081 410 6338

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/BuyaMthetho> is also illegal to park trucks on pavements. Residents are urged to report such cases to JMPD immediately on 011 375 5911 and make sure you get a ref no.

If you see anyone driving badly in Joburg, take a video or picture and send it via Whatsapp to JMPD reckless driving hotline 081 410 6338 with details of where, when and what.

Invasive Plants and Trees



Cat's claw creeper (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)
(Bignoneaceae)

The weed

The exotic vine *Dolichandra unguis-cati* (formerly *Macfadyena unguis-cati*) is a woody, evergreen creeper that has become a significant threat to biodiversity in many sensitive ecosystems around South Africa.

The vine is originally native to central, and tropical South America, including the West Indies, but has become invasive in a number of regions of Southern Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Mauritius, China, New Caledonia and the USA, including Hawaii. This extensive range has been facilitated through the horticultural trade which distributed the plant as an ornamental. Showy yellow flowers coupled with its climbing habit made the fast-growing creeper ideal as a hedging plant or natural screen for unsightly walls and buildings. The plants' ability to 'climb' is facilitated by its distinctive leaves which consist of two leaflets and a modified three-forked tendril. Each tendril is tipped with a tiny hardened hook which can attach to most surfaces enabling the vine to grow up walls, tree trunks and over other vegetation. It is these tendrils that resemble claws and the feature from which the plant draws its name.



Within South Africa, although spreading, cat's claw creeper is considered to be in the early stages of invasion due to its relatively small distribution. Nevertheless, the weed has formed some very dense infestations in Gauteng, Kwazulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and the North West. Within these provinces the weed has become a significant invader of cultivated orchards and plantations, riparian corridors, natural forest remnants and disturbed areas such as roadsides and urban spaces. Vigorous growth allows the vine to sprawl over other vegetation and, through a combination of both shading and weight, it can kill even the largest canopy trees. In the absence of climbing support, individual stems grow along the ground resulting in a thick carpet which precludes the growth and seed germination of indigenous understorey vegetation.

From: <https://www.arc.agric.za/arc-ppri/Pages/cat%27s-claw-creeper.aspx>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolichandra_unguis-cati



Description: Annual, very spiny herbs up to 0.9 m high; stems exude a yellow sap when cut. Leaves: Grey or bluish-green, with prominent white veins, spiny; up to 150 mm x 60 mm. Flowers: Bright yellow (*A. mexicana*) and pale yellow or creamy white (*A. ochroleuca*), September–January (–all year). Fruits: Spiny capsules, ovoid (*A. mexicana*) to oblong (*A. ochroleuca*), green turning brown, up to 50 mm long, splitting into five lobes and releasing numerous small black seeds.

Invasive status: Ruderals & agrestals; special effect weeds (competitive in watercourses, poisonous, irritant). Declared weeds. Herbicide registration. Poisonous.

Irritant: Skin (sap, spines).

From: <https://www.wits.ac.za/media/migration/files/cs-38933-fix/migrated-pdf/pdfs-7/Alien%20Weeds%20and%20Invasive%20Plants%20A%20Complete%20guide%20to%20declared%20weeds%20and%20invaders%20in%20South%20Africa%20Author%20Lesley%20Hendersoncompressed.pdf>

<https://www.environment.co.za/weeds-invaders-alien-vegetation/alien-invasive-plants-list-for-south-africa.html>



Ailanthus altissima (tree-of-heaven)

A. altissima has gracefully curving branches, usually only 6-10 m tall, but sometimes growing up to 30 m high. The bark is smooth with pale stripes.

Leaves up to 90 cm long, pinnate compound, pubescent or nearly glabrous, the lower pinnae having a blunt tooth near the base together with a large gland, leaflets up to 25, ovate-acute, usually with 1-3 pairs of glandular teeth near the base, otherwise entire.

Flowers are unisexual, small and yellow, in large panicles; male flowers having an unpleasant odour.

The seeds are contained within one-celled, one-seeded, oblong, thin, spirally-twisted samaras, 3 x 0.8 cm and light reddish-brown. The seeds have no endosperm.



There are about 7000 seeds per kg.

A. altissima is native to northern and central China, ranging from Liaoning and Hebei in the north to Guangxi and Fujian in the south, and from Zhejiang and Shandong in the east to Gansu in the west

Where to log calls

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| All road and storm related emergencies standby team 060 960 0764 (Midrand, Ivory Park, Diepsloot, Fourways, Woodmead) | | |
| Level 1 water restrictions will be enforced by fines to consumers who contravened the Water Services By-law and consumers are urged to report non-compliance by phoning the JMPD 24/7 hotline on 011 758 9650 | For billing assistance kindly contact: 011 358 3614\011 358 3562 | |
| Johannesburg Water | | |
| 011-375-5555 or 011-688-1400 customer@jwater.co.za | Water Burst | 48 Hours |
| SMS 076-333-5052 | No Water | 1 day |
| Anonymous tip-offs 0800-00-25-87 anticorruption@tip-offs.com | Sewer | 24 Hours |
| Midrand Depot 621 6th Road Erand: 011-205-9500 | Meter Leak | 7 Working days |
| | Fire Hydrant Leak | 2 days |
| | Bees in meter box | 3 days |
| City Power | | |
| 011-375-5555 | No Power to area/property | 4 Hours |
| 086-056-2874 http://citypower.mobi | Illegal Connection | 24 Hours |
| https://za4.forcelink.net/forcelink/customportal/cp_mdt/customerportal.html | Dangerous Situation | Immediate |
| Report illegal connection 080 000 2587 anticorruption@tip-offs.com | Street Light not working | 2 working days |
| Cable Theft and illegal activities: 011 490 7553 or 0800 002 587 | Meter Conversions | 5 working days |
| Metering Queries Telephone :011 490 7484 SMS Line :44074 wmcqueries@citypower.co.za | Faulty Meter | 7 working days |
| Pre-paid Queries: Telephone: 011 490 7484 estimations@citypower.co.za | | |
| Johannesburg Road Agency | | |
| Joburg connect: 086-056-2874 | Potholes | 3 working days |
| 011-298-5000 hotline@jra.org.za | Manhole Cover missing | 3 days |
| https://findandfix.jra.org.za:8443/ | Blocked kerb inlet | 3 days |
| Depot: 011 256 8550 6 Dale Road, corner Glen Austin Road, Midrand | Road trenches | 3 days |
| Report faulty traffic lights on whatsapp to 082-827-8250 | Road Collapse/Dangerous Situation | Immediate to make road safe |
| | Stop/traffic signs damaged/missing | 7 days |
| | Traffic Signals All Out | 24 Hours |
| | Traffic Signal Flashing | 24 Hours |
| Pikitup | | |
| Joburg connect 086-056-2874 | New/additional bin request | 7 days |
| 011-375-5555 info@pikitup.co.za | Animal Carcass removal | 24 hours |
| joburgconnect@joburg.org.za | Cleaning of an Illegal Dumping site | 7 days |
| http://www.pikitup.co.za/customer-services/ | Street cleaning, Lane flushing, Area cleaning | |
| | Bulk Waste collections | |
| | Full details and Reg no. of vehicle | Photo if possible |
| Midrand Depot: 82 Lechwe Street, Corporate Park: 087-357-1378 | Illegal Dumping | |
| Bulky Waste Service 087-357-1378 | e.g. old mattresses, old furniture, fridges etc | free-once a month |
| Garden Site: Falcon Street, Rabie Ridge | Paper, Glass, Used car oil, Scrap metal, EWaste, Tins & Cardboard | |
| Garden Site: Cedar Road, Kyalami | Paper, plastics, boxes, cans ,ewaste & used oil | |
| Garden site: Dale Road, Glen Austin | Paper, plastics, boxes, cans ,ewaste & used oil | |
| City Parks | | |
| Joburg connect 086-056-2874 or 011 375 5555 | Grass cutting in open spaces | Up to 30 days |
| City Parks and Zoo Switchboard: 011-712-6600 | Grass cutting of parks | Dependent on status of park |
| 10177 | Grass cutting in cemeteries | 7 days |
| jcp@jhbcityparks.com or joburgconnect@joburg.org.za | Fallen Tree/branches | 24 hours |
| | Pruning of Tree | 30 days |
| Fire Department and Ambulance | | |
| Midrand Fire Department and Ambulance 011-375-5911 10177 | | |
| South African Police Service | | |
| Midrand Police Station: 011-347-1600 | c/o Smuts Drive & Oracle Street Halfway Gardens | |
| Sector 2 SAPS: 071-675-6110 | | |
| Relief Commanders: 071-675-6114 | | |
| Police Emergency - 10111 gps.midrand.sc.@saps.gov.za | | |
| Crime Stop Tip-Off 08600 10111 | | |
| Hawks Anti-Corruption Desk: 012 846 4590 CorruptionReports@saps.gov.za | | |
| Johannesburg Metro Police Department | | |
| 011 375 5918 / 5911 | Traffic Violations | Dependent on incident and resources available |
| JMPD 24 - hour Traffic Hotline 080-872-3342 | Noise | |
| Illegal dumping: 082-779-1361 (Whatsapp) | Dumping | |
| | Motor Vehicle Accident | |
| | Vagrants | |