



Vorna Valley Residents Association

working for you

VVRA Newsletter April 2015

Dear Vorna Valley Residents

Thank you to all the Residents who make an effort to get involved and not leave matters for others to attend to. Whether it is an email or a phone call to inform the VVRA of matters reported, so that the VVRA can follow up and chase our council, or actively doing something to resolve a problem. The VVRA consists of a handful of volunteers who try to make Vorna Valley a better place to live in, hence your input and involvement is crucial and we urge everyone to get involved and keep their eyes open to problem areas, report it and send the ref. no to info@vvra.co.za so that we can have problems resolved as soon as possible.

Potholes have been a major problem as JRA have been on strike and our roads are deteriorating rapidly. Some of the non-striking JRA contactors have been to streets in Vorna Valley to clean the curbs and drains and the progress is slow.

Our Vlei is being cut 5 – 10 meters from the boundaries as City Parks, due to by-laws are unable to cut all of the vlei areas. Sadly red tape and environmental issues seem to take precedence over safety and security of Vorna Valley residents. The VVRA sends the cleaners in to pick up litter often but because a lot of the litter and contamination comes from upstream, it is an ongoing battle which the VVRA is taking up with council.

The VVRA approached Siemens regarding contamination to the water, and Siemens have had the inspectors in to do testing (at Siemens expense) and have concluded that this contamination isn't coming from Siemens. The storm water drain from Sanral joins the water way that passes under Siemens and any rubble on the highway washes down this water way. Contamination was found to come from across the highway opposite Siemens, from companies and restaurants on the water way. This matter is being pursued by the VVRA with council.

We are still urgently looking for an Auditor to audit the VVRA books free or someone to sponsor the fees.

Pavements and Verges:

Residents are still using their pavements to dump rubble and garden refuse on. The effect each property's pavement has on the overall appearance of every street is evident. There is no excuse for leaving pavements in a mess. We appeal to all residents and complexes to keep their pavements neat and tidy. Some residents have had building rubble etc. on their pavement for years, and some complexes have shown little regard to the effect their verges have on the appearance of our area. It is an eye sore to others and in some cases a security risk. We urge residents not to create or delay reasons for rubble on pavements. Rather to put it inside of the property if you don't want to get rid of it or have it removed.

We also urge residents & complexes to mow the lawns in front of their properties – and where the property is on a corner to consider the same even if the entrance is not on that side of the pavement. The council schedule for cutting grass is not sufficient for proper upkeep, and again we appeal to residents to assist by mowing their lawns in front/side of properties as well.

We all benefit from each person contributing in this manner.

Christmas in July:

The VVRA will be arranging a "Christmas in July" at the Swiss Club this year and the profits will go toward making Vorna Valley a cleaner and better place to live in. Your support in buying and selling tickets will be greatly appreciated. More details will follow next month. If anyone is willing to make a donation towards this fund raiser please email info@vvra.co.za.

SHAMROC STILL IN A SHAMBLES



THE VLEI



ILLEGAL SIGNS BEING TAKEN DOWN WEEKLY AND GIVEN TO JMPD



Message from the Sector Policing Forum for Sector 2:

There has been an increase in criminal activity in 2 major areas in Vorna Valley. We urge residents to take the statistics into careful consideration and to sufficiently secure themselves and their families.

- 1) Increase in Complex and House Break-ins/Robberies
 - a. The most recent statistics have indicated that crime in complexes are higher than in freestanding houses. SAPS has launched a project to reduce the crime rate by means of back-ground checks on prospective tenants, and additional services to agents to choose the right tenants for a property and decrease the risk to Lessors and residents. Apposed to inviting syndicates. Please contact Colonel Steven Moodley to arrange a consultation - gpmidrand.sc.moodley@saps.gov.za
 - b. However, there has been an increase in house break-ins as well. A few incidents of Hijackings and theft out of motor vehicles. Being alert and tentative to your surroundings can make the difference to being a victor, or a victim. There is a What's app security alert group for Vorna Valley residents, which helps to alert residents of suspicious behaviour and criminal activity. Please email your details (Name, Surname, Full street address and cell phone number) on info@vvra.co.za to be added to this group which is administrated by SPF members.
- 2) The security risks associated to Load Shedding
 - a. The VVRA is working with the SPF (Sector Policing Forum) and the CPF (Community Policing Forum) on addressing the issue of broken electricity boxes with the City of Johannesburg/council. There has been an increase in incidents whereby criminals gain access to the electricity boxes to switch power off, and wait for batteries of alarm/fences to run flat and then gain entry to the property without interference from security companies. We urge residents to familiarise themselves with the load shedding schedules, so that when this occurs not to assume it is related to load shedding. The importance of ensuring your alarm system and fence has sufficient back up battery supply is essential. A standard battery usually supplies up to 2 hours back-up, which is not enough to sustain the system for an average 4 hour load shedding. In the event of your electric box or the lock on the box being broken, please email info@vvra.co.za with your street address for this to be addressed with council.

City Power Electric Boxes

We urge all residents to check their boxes on the pavements to see if they are locked. Criminals take advantage of open boxes to switch off your power and wait for your alarm system's battery to die. They then have easy access to your property.

City Power contactors are busy installing new meters and don't seem to have keys for the boxes so they just break them open and leave them open. An other problem residents are finding is that they switch street numbers on the meters.

Please take photos and write an email of complaint to nmsomi@citypower.co.za and pmphahlele@citypower.co.za and copy info@vvra.co.za with your email AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Recycling:

The VVRA still need numerous complexes to contact them to get them involved in the recycling project. D&H Recycling and Waste Management Services go to complexes, recycle all the bins and/or skips and leave only a small amount of waste behind for Pikitup to collect. This is a FREE service they deliver and each and every complex should get involved, so if you live in a complex, please email your managing agents or trustee's contact details to info@vvra.co.za so that we can get them involved.

D&H Recycling and Waste Management Services
011 039 8023
072 356 3591/072 356 3575
fax no: 086 215 1823
e-mail address: dhrecycling@gmail.com

Home owners and residents living in houses also need to get involved. Pikitup are also giving a FREE service of collecting recycled material and they will supply the bags needed for this. According to Wikipedia, we have 12,446 people living in Vorna Valley in 2011. (Wikipedia), and this figure has grown since then, and only approximately 85 of those 12,446 have committed to get involved with recycling at source other than those who are already recycling, so please, let us all get involved and recycle at source.

COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM



UNLOCKED ELECTRIC BOXES



Pikitup:

Pikitup Midrand does not have any site that accommodates Builders rubble.

We have 6 garden site that can be Utilised for dumping the garden waste:

- 1.Cedar road Garden site situated at corner Cedar rd & Bryanston Main rd in Kyalami AH.
2. Dale road Garden sited situated at Dale road corner of Modderfontein road in president Park.
- 3.Falcon Garden site situated in Falcon street in Rabie Ridge
- 4.Strandlopper garden site situated in Strand lopper street in Rabie Ridge
- 5.Tuinfluiters garden site situated in Tuinfluiters street in Rabie Ridge
- 6.Spreu garden site situated in Spreu street in Rabie Ridge.

The following can be used to dump rubble

- 1.FG landfill site situated in Old Olifantsfontein road in Glen Austin. (Privately owned)
- 2.Limbro Park landfill site In Marlboro road.
- 3.Chloorkop Landfill site situated in Masala street in Commercia (privately owned)

The Waste Management Company of the City of Johannesburg, Pikitup announced that in an effort to deal with the illegal dumping across the city, it will be rolling out a free once a month bulky waste service (i.e. old mattresses, old furniture and fridges etc.) with effect from the 8th March 2015.

The aim of this initiative is to divert recyclables away from the landfill sites (except for waste suitable for, and as required for use as daily cover material), thus increasing airspace and increasing the lifespan of existing landfills.

Residents who want to dispose bulky waste from their households are urged to contact their nearest Pikitup depots or use the nearest garden sites in their proximity. Once a resident has logged a call at any of the Pikitup's depot, the responsible Depot Manager will book a call and arrange for a free once a month bulky waste service to collect such waste.

To book a free bulky waste service, residents can contact the following depots:

DEPOTS	RECEPTION SWITCHBOARD NUMBER
Avalon Depot	087 357 1288
Central Camp Depot	087 357 1609
Norwood Depot	087 357 1400
Marlboro Depot	087 357 1545
Midrand Depot	087 357 1378
Randburg Depot	087 357 1327
Roodepoort Depot	087 357 1549
Selby Depot	087 357 1938
South dale Depot	087 357 1261
Waterval Depot	087 357 1490
Zondi Depot	087 357 1340

We urge all residents of the City to become active participants in preserving and protecting the environment by applying the basic principles of waste management: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle when disposing waste.

The City of Johannesburg is your HOME! Don't trash it, Don't dump illegally. Recycle, Re-use and Reduce.

Our Sponsors:

Thank you to Midway Homes, who has come on board to assist with the cleaning up of our suburb

Once again a big thank you to our regular monthly sponsors - Wendy Redl from Harcourts Residential Properties, Platinum Residential, Mark McDonald of Leogem Properties and Danny Maduray of Ria Sebeta. They each sponsor a day a week for our weekly cleaners. The Vorna Valley Shopping centre also came on board to help keep the pavements of the shopping centre clean and tidy. Our cleaners tends to the gardens, picks up litter and takes down illegal signage. Also thank you to Heavens Kitchen for supplying one of our cleaners with lunch. If there are any other companies that would be willing to sponsor either a lunch or a cleaner, please email info@vvra.co.za.

Website and Facebook page:

Please remember to go like our Vorna Valley Residents Association (VVRA) facebook page. Here we post news and happenings continuously to keep you inform. Also visit and register on our website www.vvra.co.za where you can log an incident once you have reported it to council. Please add your ref. no when logging an incident so that the VVRA and follow up with council. You will also find the current load shedding schedule on our website.

QUICK LOG GUIDE

Please find below a quick guide to logging matters in the City of Johannesburg. If you have logged an issue and it hasn't been attended to in a reasonable length of time there is likely a reason for it; please let the VVRA know about such instances and we will do our best to escalate the issue.

0113755555 = 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74) – this is the best way to go as one gets a number automatically.

- * City Power: www.citypower.co.za and click "Fault Reporting"
- * Joburg Water: customerservice@jwater.co.za
- * Joburg Roads: hotline@jra.org.za
- * Pikitup: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74)
- * City Parks: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74)
- * JMPD: 011 375 5911
- * Revenue: 0860 JOBURG (56 28 74) / joburgconnect@joburg.org.za



That's all for now... and remember, "If you see something, Say something"!

Please follow us on Facebook: - Vorna Valley Residents Association (VVRA) or Twitter @valleyvorna for more updates about our suburb throughout the month.

Best Regards

The Vorna Valley Residents Association

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 Harcourts Midrand
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 C: 082 451 8365 E: wendy.redl@harcourts.co.za
 W: www.harcourtsmidrand.co.za

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Swiss Country Club
 JOHANNESBURG

Mark McDonald
 Cell: +27 84 096 1111
 Tel: +27 11 312 0148
 mark@leogemprop.com
 www.leogem.com

R19 EBETSA
 SECURITY SERVICES

Vorna Valley Shopping Centre
 Albertyn Road
 Vorna Valley, Midrand
 011 805 3346

Midway Homes

Marnicmel Solutions
 Computers, Servers,
 Networking, Webdesign,
 Hosting and support
 Cell: 082 460 8662
 Email: info@marnicmel.co.za

MIDWAY MICA PAINT & HARDWARE
 Tel: 011 805 5095 Fax: 011315 0469
 micaweb@mweb.co.za
 Midway Mews Shopping Centre
 Cor. 7th & Harry Gabaun

Veggie
 Divine Foods

PAM GOLDING
 PROPERTIES

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