



Vorna Valley Residents Association

working for you

VVRA Newsletter June 2015

Dear Vorna Valley Residents

We hope that everyone is keeping warm during these cold winter nights.

The vlei and grass areas are dry and vulnerable to being set alight. We ask everyone to be vigilant and report fires immediately. Please DO NOT burn rubble etc. on your property or in open spaces as this is illegal according to the by-laws.

Emergency services_by-laws

CHAPTER 2

FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE PROTECTION

Part 1: Fire Prevention

Certain fires prohibited

3. (1) No person may make or allow any other person to make a fire that may endanger any person, animal or property.

(2) No person may burn or allow any other person to burn any refuse or combustible material—

(a) without the prior written permission of the Chief Fire Officer; or

(b) unless the refuse or combustible material is burnt in an approved incinerating device.

(3) Any person who makes a fire or allows any other person to make a fire, must take reasonable steps to ensure that the fire does not endanger any person, animal or property.

(4) The prohibition in subsection (2) does not apply to any fire made—

(a) in an approved and purpose-made stove, fireplace or hearth that forms an integrated part of a building or structure;

(b) for the purpose of preparing food on private premises set aside for that purpose; or

(c) in any device for preparing food which –

(i) is heated by electricity or liquified petroleum gas; and

(ii) is so positioned that the fire does not endanger any person, animal or property.

Joburg Water

Joburg Water had their hands full again with water leaks and blocked sewerage drains. Unfortunately all too often Joburg Water dig up at the leak and damage the power cables leaving residents without water and electricity. We have taken this problem up with Joburg Water but have had no response as yet.

Vorna Valley Residents Association AGM – 26 August 2015 @ Swiss Club – 18:00 for 18:30

Guest speakers Cnr Candice James will talk about our wetland and the police petition and Col Stephen Moodley will talk about crime in the area and community participation and projects initiated between saps and the community. Everyone in Vorna Valley is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to info@vvra.co.za

VORNA VALLEY VLEI



WATER LEAKS IN VORNA VALLEY



VORNA VALLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM



“Separation at Source” with Pikitup

The “separation at source” (recycling) started off with some teething problems, of which some have been ironed out, but problems relating to the informal collectors is a difficult issue and we have asked Pikitup to address this. Tonnage from 3 June 2015 - 27 June 2015: **4.823 tons**. Residents involved with this project to date: **182**. We urge every resident in Vorna Valley to partake in this project. Let’s get all our neighbours who are not recycling to join this project. If you have not yet given your details to be added to this project, please email your full name, surname, street address and number to info@vvra.co.za.

A Note from Pikitup:

Please remember, Separation at Source (Recycling) is on **WEDNESDAY** and normal garbage collection is on **THURSDAY**.

This past week almost half of the residents taking part in this project didn’t put out any bags for recycling. Let us all make an effort to put out recycling bags weekly even if the bags aren’t completely filled.

Complexes in Vorna Valley have been very slow to get involved with D & H Recycling & Waste Management Services. If your complex hasn’t gotten involved in this project yet, please email the managing agents or trustees details with the complex name to info@vvra.co.za so that we can get them involved.

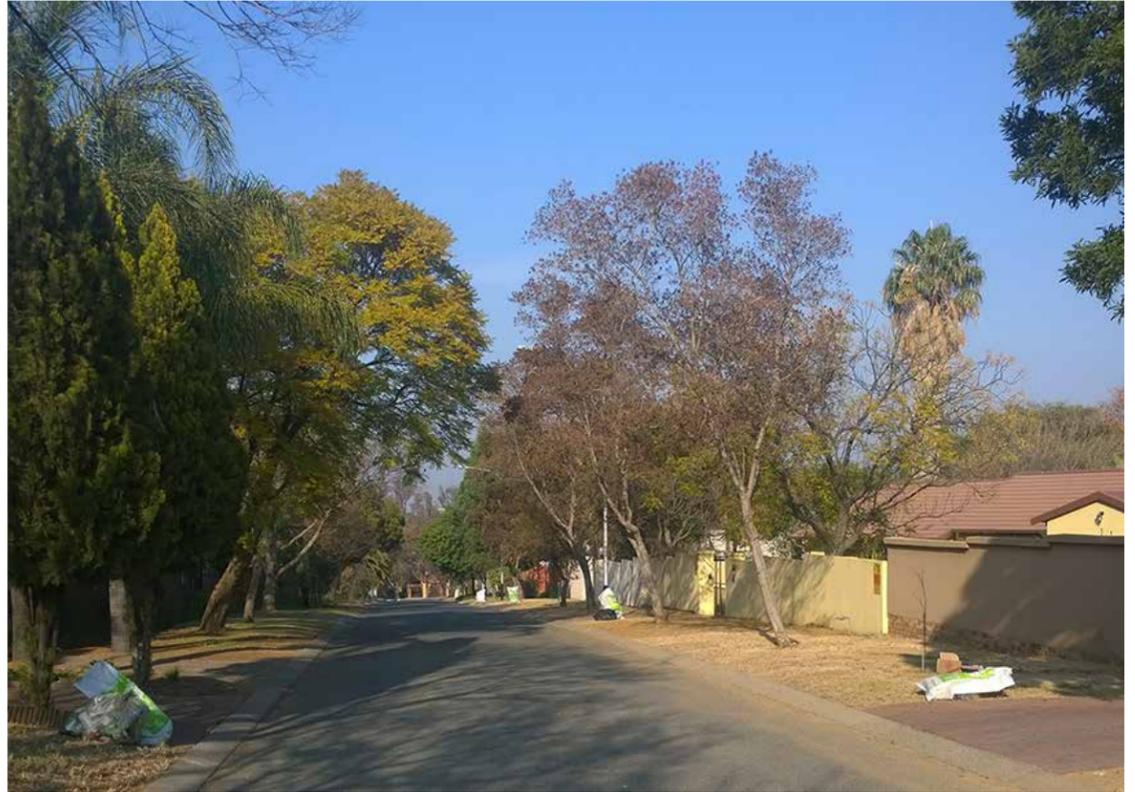
When driving around Vorna Valley while bins are out for collection at complexes, the litter that gets transferred from bins into the streets is a sad sight. It blows down the road and stays there until the VVRA cleaners pick up the litter the next week, as the cleaners of the complexes clean the immediate area where the bins are picked through by the informal collectors but no further. D & H Recycling & Waste Management Services offer a free service to remove your recyclable material and they leave the area spotless, so please complexes, get involved as soon as possible. The informal collectors often have fights in the street regarding who is going to collect where and they leave a mess behind.

Taxi ranks in Vorna Valley

We are happy to say that we had a meeting with cllr Candice James, Khomotso Ratlabala (COJ Transport) and Armsta Taxis bosses this week. It was a very informative meeting. We now have an arrangement with them that we email photos of reg. no. of offending taxis with the description of what they did wrong or if no photo, just the reg. no. and details of offense. They will then bring in this offending taxi and take them to task. So please feel free to email this to info@vvra.co.za and lets test and see if they will address the problems we send to them.

We discussed the matter of too many taxis parking at corner Harry Galaun and Albertyn and corner Pretorius Street and le Roux. They will also address this problem with their members. Council is looking into putting up a holding area this side of the highway to accommodate taxis having to wait for commuters, where they can also have ablution facilities. We mentioned that this must be in an area where it does not hinder residents and where taxis don’t have to park too far from their commuters. As this is often the only means of transport for many coming to this area, we need to try and accommodate both the residents and the commuters. The problem with all the litter etc. stemming from taxi ranks was also put to Armsta and we suggested they employ people to clean up the area on a regular busses and they were in full agreement with this idea. So let us give them a bit of time to put things into place and we will monitor them and see if things change.

SEPARATION AT SOURCE COLLECTION DAY



HARRY GALAUN/ALBERTYN TAXI RANK



JRA

Shamroc Ave has received a little bit of attention, but there is a water leak again from under the road. This has been brought to the attention of JRA months ago, but no response has been received as yet. This past Wednesday we spoke to a resident in a complex in that area, who said the JRA says the water problem isn't their problem and didn't bother reporting it to Joburgwater. We sent it all through to JRA and Joburgwater and Joburgwater phone us immediately and would be sending someone out to assess the problem. **Thank you Ian Cooper.**

Auditors

The VVRA books are being audited shortly costing us R1000. If you would like to sponsor this fee, please contact info@vvra.co.za.

City Power.

The VVRA has taken the broken electric boxes up higher and this is being investigated by City Power - Stuart Webb. Katlego has assured us that it is getting attention and we just need to be patient while it is being investigated.

After sending another email to Stuart Webb today, 02/07/2015, stating that we have an obligation to inform the residents of Vorna Valley what action will be take and that this vicious circle of broken electricity boxes needs to be sorted out, he responded by saying:

“ I'm not sure if the roll-out of protective structures falls under the RRP or under Capex but I think we must include this area in the plan – may I please have your input ?”.

The VVRA will follow up on a weekly basis, so please send photos or details of all broken and open electric boxes to info@vvra.co.za so that we can bombard City Power with our complaints.

Illegal street signage

The battle of the illegal signage is still on going. A certain estate agency gets very verbally abusive when they see people taking down their illegally placed signs. Maybe they believe that they are empowered to place their illegal property signs where ever they please, but they will be taken down again and again. If each resident takes down illegal signs around their home, these culprits will soon realise that the Vorna Valley residents will not allowed illegal signs to be placed anywhere in Vorna Valley. We can not rely on JMPD supporting us, so let us all stand together and work together. Download by-laws here

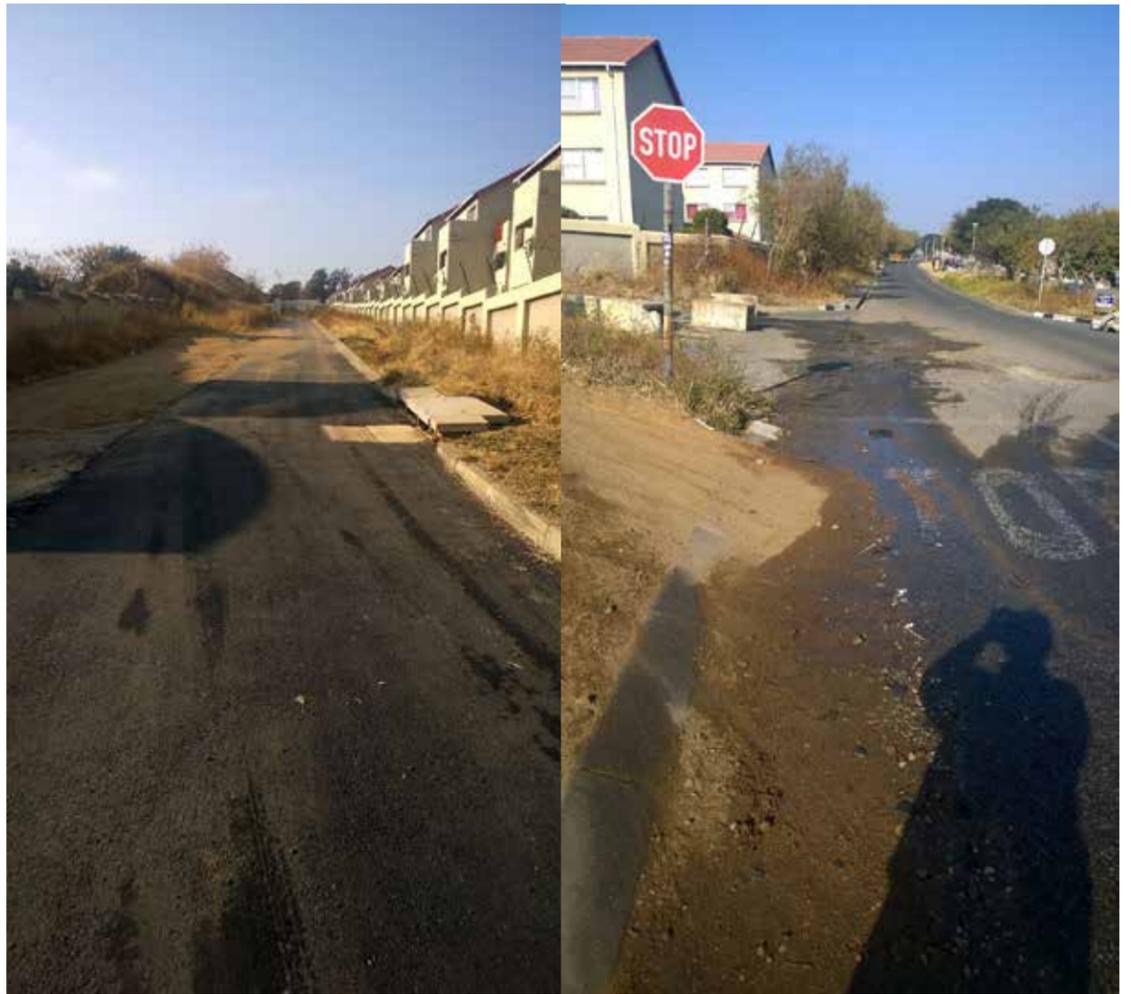
Vorna Valley Shopping Centre.

This shopping centre will be revamped very soon. They are also trying to meet with the roads engineer, but she is eluding them, as they want to sort out the NO Entry exit as soon as possible. Message from Howard:

“Hi Marianne I have left at least 8 messages for Ester and called her at least 10 times. She does not respond.

We have done what we can on our side and our architects have redesigned the part of the entrance on the center's property. But this will not impact on the one way. All it will do is make the flow of traffic and ease congestion in the center.”

Management want to keep the residents happy. When people complained about the car wash sign at the no entry, they had it taken down immediately, so let's be a bit more patient so that this can eventually be resolved.



CITY POWER



ILLEGAL SIGNAGE IN VORNA VALLEY



VORNA VALLEY SHOPPING CENTRE



Fibre to the home

As residents of Midrand, especially Vorna Valley, we continue to endure a lack of attention from Telkom to upgrade their internet infrastructure, and as a result we receive a sub standard, poor quality ADSL service. As you all are aware, you pay for a 4Mbps service (maximum in our area) and at best receive half of that, 2Mbps.

With internet woven into the fabric of our daily lives, this sub standard service is not adequate, considering the number of smart phones, tablets, iPads and computers each home has. Most of us have spent the last 10 years or so, challenging Telkom on this, and its clear that they have no intention to bring high speed internet at affordable prices to our area.

As small group of residents, who share this frustration, we have come together to gather support from the wider community to look at the best way to bring high speed, fibre broadband to Midrand (10Mbps, 20Mbps, 50Mbps and 100Mbps). We need your involvement and your voice, for only in numbers are we strong. We aim to follow in the direction of newly established fibrehoods example, Parkhurst, Craighall, Saxon World and Bryanston. The advantages are numerous and can only increase our investments, that is our properties. Think about the possibility of high definition CCTV camera's on every street and a vision of a smart suburb. Its up to us !!

Your voice and support is essential to us making this a reality. Please share your details with fibretothehome@vvra.co.za and become part of the change you want to see.

Spencers Foodmart

We would like to give Spencers FoodMart a warm welcome to Vorna Valley and wish them success with your new venture. Cllr Candice James and Marianne were invited and were honoured to be part of the grand opening. Please feel free to visit them and lets support local.

Our Sponsors

Once again a big thank you to our regular monthly sponsors - Wendl Redl from Harcourts Residential Properties, Platinum Residential, Mark McDonald of Leogem Properties and Danny Maduray of Ria Sebetsa and Midway Homes They each sponsor a day a week for our weekly cleaner. Our cleaner tends to the gardens, picks up litter and takes down illegal signage. Also thank you to Heaven's Kitchen for supplying one of our cleaners with lunch.

If there are any other companies that would be willing to sponsor the VVRA in anyway, please email info@vvra.co.za.

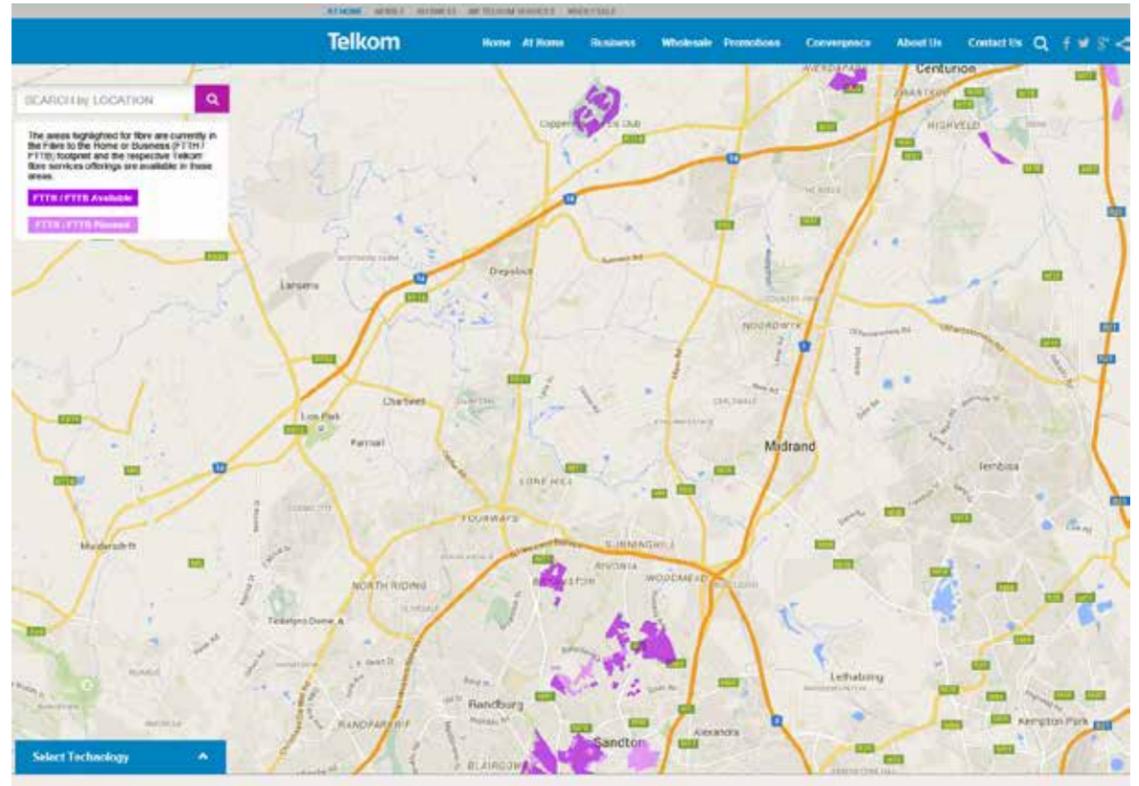
Website and Facebook page

Please remember to go like our Vorna Valley Residents Association (VVRA) facebook page. Here we post news and happenings continuously to keep you informed.

Also visit and register on our website www.vvra.co.za where you can log an incident once you have reported it to council. You will also find the load shedding schedule, 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 and helpful links on our website and helpful links.

We are also on Twitter # valleyvorna

TELKOM SAY FTTH IS NOT ON THE 2015/2016 ROLL OUT PROGRAM



THE OPENING OF SPENCERS FOODMART



OUR SPONSORS



Advertising bins in Vorna Valley

Continental Outdoor have now come back to us with photos of bins they will move to a less obstructive position (to where the gentleman is standing).

Hopefully this isn't another of their empty promises. So please keep your eyes on the bins and let us know if you notice that they have been moved.

Illegal Truck Stop

Trucks were illegally stopping on the pavement just before the Swiss Club and overnighting there. Thank you to JMPD for addressing this matter so speedily, after the owner of the trucks told the complainant that he knows who he is and where he lives, and to keep his nose out of the truck owners business.

Message from the Sector 2 Policing Forum

With the rise of Hijacking incidents, the CPF would like to share some statistics about this crime we all have (Hopefully) educated ourselves in prevention methods:

Days of the Week: Although occurring every day of the week, hijacking reaches a high on Fridays when motorists are being more relaxed. Tuesdays have second highest rate.

Times of the Day: Highest rate is between 16h00 and 20h00 (17h00 being peak), then 04h00 to 08h00.

These are commonly the times residents arrive/leave home and are least alert. Most of these events occur because people can be blocked in at their gates (Complexes and Houses).

Weapons Used: 70% of Hijackings involve the use of a firearm.

Remember if you were facing this traumatic experience: Your life is worth more than your vehicle. Most security companies offer a rendezvous service (meet you at home), USE IT if you are not comfortable with entering/exiting your property. Some streets in Vorna Valley have also started utilising neighbours to meet at gates. Great to see neighbours stand together!

Members of the CPF are coordinating attendance for Residents through BMW for an anti-hijacking course, more information will be provided towards September.

We hope that you find our newsletters informative and if there is something you would like to see published in future issues, please feel free to let us know.

“Remember: If you are not part of the solutions, you are part of the problem”.

Best Regards
The Vorna Valley Residents Association

CONTINENTAL OUTDOOR



ILLEGAL TRUCK STOP



A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

NO ANNUAL LICENCE FEES

NO ANNUAL INCREASES FOR 36 MONTHS

FREE GSM LINK UP

**ARE YOU FRUSTRATED?
CHANGE OVER TO RIA SEBETSA SECURITY**



Free alarm link up for

ARMED RESPONSE

Vorna Valley & Halfway Gardens Residents

**CONTACT US TODAY FOR ALARM
MONITORING/ARMED RESPONSE
or SECURITY GUARDING via
info@riasebetsa.co.za or
011-315-9956**



"WE ARE WORKING FOR YOU"

QUICK LOG GUIDE



SAPS - Midrand

011-347-1600 - Station
SAPS Sector 2 - 071-675-6110
SAPS Sector 2 - 071-675-6111
Police Emergency - 10111



Midrand Fire Department and Ambulance

011-375-5911
10177



Joburg Water

011 375 5555
customerserviceemails@jwater.co.za

SMS LINE 082 653 2143
Tip-offs Anonymous
0800 00 25 87
SMS 32840
*sms charged at R1.50 per sms
anticorruption@tip-offs.com



City Power

011 375 5555
0860JOBURG - OPTION 2
<http://citypower.mobi>
www.citypower.co.za and click "Fault Reporting"



Joburg Road Agency

0860JOBURG - OPTION 5
011-298-5001
hotline@jra.org.za

Find&Fix Mobile App
<http://www.jra.org.za/index.php/find-and-fix-mobile-app>



Pikitup

0860 JOBURG /0860 56 28 74
011-375-5555
Info@pikitup.co.za

Joburgconnect@joburg.org.za



City Parks

0860JOBURG - OPTION 0
011-712-6600
Environmental Crimes and Incidents
Hotline on 0800 205 005



Joburg Metro Police Department

011-375-5911
10177
ANTI-FRAUD HOTLINE
0800 002 587