



Aloe



Issue 1
March

The mountain aloe is the official logo of the City of Windhoek and an important element of our corporate identity - appearing on municipal vehicles, buildings and stationery.

2022

The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

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COW PUBLIC EVENTS CALENDAR - MARCH 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)	1 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)	2	3	4	5 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Family Day	28 Registration for Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)	29	30	31 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)	1 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)	2 Month-end Street Market - Economic Development & Community Services (C. Kaverua)



Did you know that Windhoek is now listed as the fifth cleanest city in Africa? Volunteers of the Community-Led Total Sanitation initiative in Windhoek's Brendan Simbwaye neighbourhood recently mobilized Samora Machel residents to join ongoing clean-up campaigns in their area. **Read more on page 11!**

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E-mail: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na



Editor: Lydia Amutenya,
section head, Corporate Communication

Up Campaign which started on 12 March in the Moses //Garoeb Constituency. The campaign aims to get the residents directly involved in cleaning their surroundings and ensure a clean environment free from litter and pollution. We should take a collective responsibility to clean Windhoek and maintain its cleanliness. A clean environment attracts tourists and potential investors, and thus it should be a priority for each and every resident of this great city.

The Aloe Survey

We need your help in continuously improving our external newsletter, The Aloe. Please let us know what you think about the content, design and availability of the publication by answering a few, short questions (six questions only). To take the survey now, please click and follow this link:

CLICK HERE
to take the Aloe Survey



Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey.

Survey available on our website at:

http://www.windhoekcc.org.na/aloe_survey.php

Aloe

The Aloe is produced by the Corporate Communications, Marketing and Public Participation division in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. The public is welcome to give constructive feedback via the editor's column. If you have any comments, suggestions or contributions, send us an e-mail to cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na, or use our Post Office Box 59, Windhoek to send us a contribution via mail.

Executive editor: Harold Akwenye, manager, Corporate Communication, Marketing and Public Participation

Editor: Lydia Amutenya, section head, Corporate Communication

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Editorial

Dear readers,

We are pleased to bring you the first issue of the Aloe for 2022.

In this issue, we highlight some of the activities that took place during the past months. The year took off well with the rain that provided us with water and beautiful vegetation enhancing the beauty of our city.

On the health front, it is pleasing to note that the COVID-19 curve has flattened, however that does not mean we should relax our guards against measures to prevent the further spread of the virus. It however appears that we are not out of the woods yet, with the recent announcement by the Ministry of Health and Social Services regarding the confirmed cases of Typhoid fever in Windhoek. Further in this issue, you will find detailed information about this fever, amongst the precautionary measures is the maintenance of good hygiene and sanitation.

Council is determined to reclaim Windhoek's status as the cleanest city in Africa through various initiatives such as the Mayoral Clean-

While speaking about cleanliness in Windhoek, it is also important to enlighten our esteemed residents that we have started with the cutting of grass on high traffic flow roads, cemeteries and bush control on public open space and other areas. Due to the size of our city, we would like to request your patience and cooperation while we are attending to this task. You might have also observed the repair of potholes in our streets as well as a fresh touch of paint on the traffic lines to enhance visibility to the all-road users. Let us give the necessary cooperation to the city's teams working in our streets.

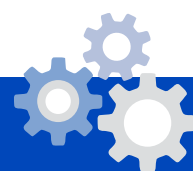
We are busy with awareness creations on various issues pertaining to our operation and look out for our public participation team when they are visiting your areas for information sessions. Let us engage and share important information pertaining to what we do.

Lastly, let me wish you all a happy 32 independence anniversary!

May you enjoy this issue until next time!

Regards,

Lydia





Mayor's corner

From contrasts to consistency. Hard work ahead for council.

(Official statement by the Mayor of Windhoek, Sade Gawanas, at the monthly council meeting held on 1 February 2022. Adapted by Botha Ellis – Communication officer)

I extend New Year's greetings to all residents and wish you a rewarding 2022. Reflecting on 2021 I see a year of contrasts. We faced seemingly difficult municipal issues that were exacerbated by COVID-19, but on the other hand I believe we worked with dedication. We never lost sight of the mandate we hold, from the electorate, to improve the quality of life of all our people.

This year we should accelerate the pace of service delivery. Increasing urbanisation (droughts and floods incidences affecting rural agricultural production and urban migration) coupled with rising urban poverty and unemployment all deserve our attention and commitment in trying to address food security issues. The lack of housing and serviced land in the city - for both housing and commercial development - is another challenge that requires our involvement.

I was briefed about council adopting the Windhoek Food and Nutrition Security Systems, which gave birth to the allotment of land for urban agriculture, for example at Farm

Okukuna. I was also briefed that council previously had an advisory committee on urban food and nutrition security. I request this August house to restart the activities of this committee and to provide political impetus in leading the agenda and activities around urban food security.

Our employees are the backbone and important assets. We should continue to invest in them through skills development, performance recognition and staff engagement initiatives. I call on employees to work with council to redouble service delivery efforts as we strive to achieve our common vision. Working together as a team will enable us to avoid the trials and tribulations akin to local governance. We should strive to achieve our goals together. We should also continue to work within our communities through stakeholder consultations to obtain inputs around developmental plans and programmes.

I noticed with concern that Windhoek

is becoming filthy, especially in the CBD and around shopping centres. We should intensify clean-up campaigns for our city to reclaim its title as one of the cleanest cities in Africa. Our programmes around the theme "my waste, my responsibility" should be strengthened by engaging stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

Windhoek and Bremen signed a project agreement with grant funding from the European Union Commission for activities spanning 2022 to 2025. We look forward to four years of hard work through this important cooperation agreement with our sister city.

I am mindful of our limited resources. I also believe that the little we have should make a positive impact. We'll continue to mobilise central government and our development partners' support to ensure sustainable municipal service delivery. I pledge that council will keep abreast with residents' present-day realities and live up to our promise of creating a better standard of living for all.

Thank you.
Sade Gawanas (Mayor)



Busy: Mayor Sade Gawanas opened the first council meeting of the year with a renewed commitment to focus on improving the standards of living of all residents.



Big or small: Councillor Ivan Stryker gets his point across during the first ordinary council meeting of 2022. All council meetings are live-streamed on our Facebook page @ [cowmunicipality](#).



Action please: Councillor Queen Kamati asked for consistent public participation in council's plans for 2022.



COVID-19 relief on interest for CoW land sales

By Liina Kalili (Section head: Property Finance and Administration)



More land: Councillors on a site visit in September 2021 to a proposed housing development site in Cimbebasia.

COVID-19 affected many livelihoods locally. As a caring city we saw it necessary to provide some relief to our customers during these challenging times. Therefore we reduced the interest rate of 15% per annum on land sales to the prime rate plus 2% of the seller's bank or financial institution appointed as the seller's bank. The additional 2%

is to cover administrative and other expenses. The prime rate when this decision was taken was 7.5%.

As a COVID-19 relief measure the City of Windhoek interest rate of 7.5% (prime rate at the time of adjustment) is being applied from 30 November 2021 until 30 June 2022 to all unregistered

properties that are not cancelled. Thereafter, interest of prime plus 2% will be charged. The prime rate shall be reviewed annually and a new prime rate will be implemented with effect on the first day of the month following such increase or decrease. Council also resolved that no properties already cancelled shall be reinstated as those properties were offered to the next person in line and no refund shall be entertained for properties that are registered in the Deeds Office already.

The prime rate plus 2% interest per annum will apply to all future land sales and all future deeds of sale will, after 30 June 2022, reflect an interest rate of prime plus 2%, per annum, on land sales. All instructions to transfer properties will reflect the interest rate of prime plus 2% per annum on land sales or the revised rate (except for the COVID-19 relief period effective from 30 November 2021 to 30 June 2022).

This is indeed good news for our customers and prospective landowners in Windhoek and another example of how we strive to enhance the quality of life of all our residents. For any questions on this interim relief measure, please contact our Property Management division on 061 - 290 2313 or email Liina.Kalili@windhoekcc.org.na.

The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

City of Windhoek

Vision: To be a SMART and Caring City by 2022

LET'S SAVE ENERGY AT WORK

Did you just pass by an unoccupied office/toilet with lights on? Wow!! Participate in switching OFF lights when not in use

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Corporate Communication, Marketing and Public Participation
Tel: +264 61 290 3797 / 3081 / 3648 / 2044
E-mail: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE VIRUS

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Reduction in upfront payment before reconnection of municipal services

Contributed by the Debt and Risk Management division

The Municipal Council of Windhoek approved a reduction from 33.3% to 15% for the upfront payment that residents with accounts in arrears are required to pay to have their disconnected municipal services reconnected. This arrangement will be in place up to 31 May 2022 and aims to provide relief to residents facing challenges with the repayment of their municipal accounts in arrears.

A minimum payment of 15% of the balance is thus required before services will be reconnected. At the same time a formal arrangement must be agreed upon for the settling of the remaining balance. For this, residents can visit any of our debt management offices located

in Ombili, Katutura, Khomasdal and at our head office in Independence Avenue.

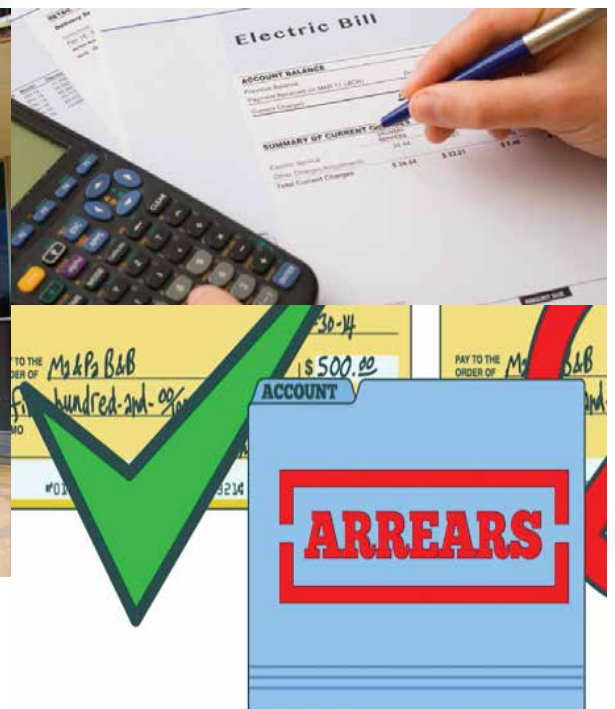
It is important for residents to take note that any reconnection will only be done after the 15% payment was made and an arrangement was concluded around the settling of the account. Failure to do so will result in the disconnection of services and the City's credit control policy will be fully applied. The reduction in the upfront payment does not apply to municipal accounts already handed over to RedForce Debt Management for collection. No upfront payment of less than 15% will be accepted before the reconnection of municipal services and/or if the customer's monthly charges are more than 15%, the

full, current amount will have to be paid, instead of paying 15%.

What will happen if a City of Windhoek customer does not comply with the above-mentioned arrangement?

1. Municipal services will get disconnected.
2. A 50% upfront payment will be required before the reconnection of services, and a new arrangement for further down payments will need to be agreed upon.

Residents are requested to contact our **Customer Contact Centre** on **061 - 290 3777** or email **enquiry@windhoekcc.org.na** if they have any further questions.



Payment venues: Windhoek residents can visit any of our debt management offices for the 15% upfront payment on their arrear accounts. The offices are located in Ombili, Katutura, Khomasdal and at our head office in Independence Avenue.



Brakwater Recreational Park (Paaltjies) open to the public

By Botha Ellis (Communication officer)

The City of Windhoek's Brakwater Recreational Park (formerly known as Paaltjies), about 24 kilometres north of Windhoek on the B1 highway, is open to the public. Bookings are essential and can be made during office hours, weekly from Wednesday to Thursday, at the City of Windhoek Parks division head office on the corner of David Hosea Merero and Goshawk Streets, in Pionierspark.

No advance bookings or fees are applicable for private, single family, casual visits, but we encourage prospective visitors to contact the supervisor, Randall (Romeo) Schroeder, in advance to ascertain available stand space. Social events must be booked in advance for a fee of N\$525.00. Social events include neighbourhood/friends/families get-togethers, reunions, birthday parties, parties (bashes), graduations, engagement parties, weddings etc. Corporate events are also allowed and can be booked in advance for

N\$1 575.00 per event - it includes any company/corporate-sponsored event. Visitors are required to have their booking receipts with them at the venue and first report to the park office on arrival, for record-keeping purposes. While the City is aware of the current, challenging economic times we live in, it is unfortunately necessary to charge for some events in order for our Parks division to maintain its standards and to render efficient services to our customers. The City often has big expenses around electricity and water-use by visitors to Paaltjies (Brakwater Recreational Park). There are also plans by the Parks division to upgrade the park in future to make it even more attractive to residents.

The park opens weekly, from Wednesday to Sunday, between 10:00 and 22:00. There are 38 braai stands at the park - each with its own power outlet, light, table and chairs. The City of Windhoek will allocate available stands on a

first come, first served basis. Visitors who wish to braai are advised to bring along their own wood and fire starters. For the children there are playgrounds strategically located around the park with ablution facilities centrally located for easy access. No alcohol and drugs are allowed in the park. The area is patrolled by security guards while the supervisor has an office on site should visitors have any questions. Come relax and enjoy the outdoors in a safe environment just 24 kilometres outside the city.

For any questions, please contact:

1. Randall (Romeo) Schroeder (Supervisor/Recreation administrator) on 061 – 290 3540 / 081 260 9413, or email Randall at randall.schroeder@windhoekcc.org.na; or
2. Olga Kazombiaze (Recreational and event management officer) on 061 – 290 3550 / 081 140 3671, or email Olga at ouk@windhoekcc.org.na.



A short drive: The CoW's Brakwater Recreational Park (former Paaltjies) is just 24 kilometres north of Windhoek and the route is tarred all the way to the entrance.



Fun in the sun: The Brakwater Recreational Park offers 38 braai stands - each with its own power outlet, light, table and chairs in a relaxed, outdoor environment.



LEFT: A friendly welcome: Randall (Romeo) Schroeder is the supervisor of Paaltjies (Brakwater Recreational Park) working hard to make your visit to the venue safe and relaxing.



Safety first: To help keep our visitors safe, no alcohol, drugs and pets are allowed when visiting the Brakwater Recreational Park outside Windhoek.



Typhoid fever cases confirmed in Windhoek

Contributed by Nevia Mundia, section head Health Promotion.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services confirmed cases of Typhoid fever in Windhoek. This article provides information on the transmission, symptoms, infection, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the disease.



What is Typhoid fever?

Typhoid fever is a bacterial infection that can spread throughout the body, affecting many organs. It is caused by a bacterium called *Salmonella typhi*.

Transmission

Typhoid fever is transmitted through food and water contaminated by faeces and urine of an infected person. Polluted water is the most common source of typhoid transmission. Food such as raw vegetables and fruits and contaminated milk products, usually from Typhoid fever carriers and flies are common sources of infection. People can transmit the disease if the bacteria remain in their bodies. Persons with Typhoid fever carry the bacteria in their bloodstream and intestinal tract. Most people are infectious before and during the first week of recovery, but 10% of untreated patients will discharge bacteria for up to three months. Severe cases may lead to serious complications or even death.

Symptoms:

1. prolonged high fever;
2. fatigue;
3. headache;
4. nausea;
5. abdominal pain;
6. constipation or diarrhea; and
7. some patients may have a rash.

Common risk factors in the development of typhoid fever:

1. travel to Typhoid fever endemic areas;
2. poor hygiene practices;
3. lack of sanitation facilities;
4. proximity to flying insects feeding on faeces;
5. contact with someone who recently suffered from Typhoid fever;
6. recent use of antibiotics and low immunity due to diabetes; and
7. uncontrolled HIV/AIDS and other immunosuppressive conditions.

Diagnosis

A diagnosis of Typhoid fever is confirmed by analysing samples of blood, faeces, or urine under a microscope for the *Salmonella typhi*

bacteria that causes this condition.

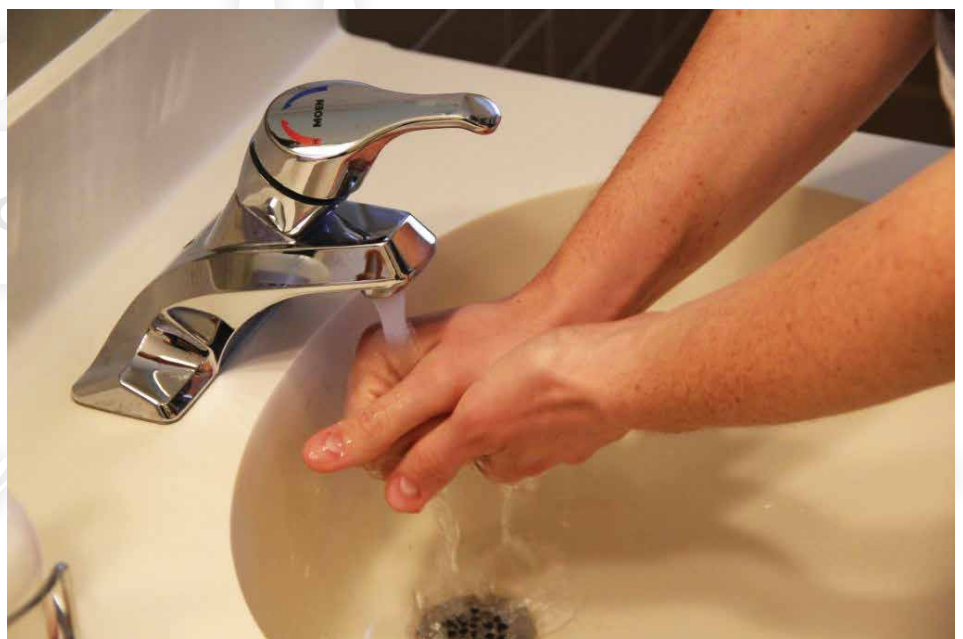
Treatment

Typhoid fever can be treated with antibiotics. However, resistance to common antimicrobials is widespread.

Precautionary measures:

1. maintain good hygiene and sanitation;
2. handwashing;
3. ensure drinking safe water or boil water before consumption;
4. food should be carefully prepared and food handlers need to be especially vigilant about handwashing and wearing gloves;
5. avoiding raw and uncooked food can also prevent the spread of typhoid fever; and
6. food that has been left over from a previous meal should be re-heated adequately before being eaten.

If you have the above-mentioned symptoms or were in close contact with a Typhoid fever case and showing symptoms, visit the nearest clinic or health facility immediately.





Council meeting highlights

A summary of council resolutions from 24 February 2022

By Lydia Amutenya (section head: Corporate communications)



The establishment of a twinning relationship between the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the City of Mannheim in Germany

Council has approved a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the friendly city relationship between the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the City of Mannheim in Germany.

The discussion on the establishment of municipal cooperation between the two cities started in 2019, out of artistic cooperation between Windhoek-based institutions of higher learning namely: the College of the Arts and the University of Namibia, and Mannheim's Popacademia. In June 2021, a delegation from Mannheim led by Councillor Markus Sprengler visited the Mayor of Windhoek and also engaged technical teams to identify possible areas of cooperation. The friendly cooperation is expected to strengthen the historic, economic, arts, and cultural ties between the two cities.

The signing ceremony will be done virtually at a suitable date yet to be announced.



Please take note that the above are only highlights of the ordinary council meeting that took place on 24 February 2022. More details about all the items discussed are available on our website through this link: http://www.cityofwindhoek.org.na/coun_agenda.php?fbclid=IwAR3Eou5NOtCwZuS7v9OTsYgUBQHMPs_Vy83s3-1julyBDOZIXzSbY4E0Hc



Proposed schedule to prepare the statement of estimated income and expenditure for the 2022/2023 Financial Year

Council approved the schedule for the stakeholders' consultations on the compilation of the 2022/2023 Financial Year. The budget process forms part of an integral part of annual planning to focus on key projects required for the city. As part of our efforts to promote the participatory budgeting process, the City has been utilizing community structures in place to engage the public and source their inputs to the annual budget.

The existing structures where the public is consulted and where proposals on some of the developmental projects they want to see in their community are such as at public meetings, consultations with the Khomas Regional Council and its Constituency Development Committee amongst other key stakeholders. Internally, a workshop will also be organised to allow for a better understanding of the budget.

The councillors and officials participating in the budget process will endeavour to manage stakeholders' expectations to ensure that tariff adjustments are kept minimal. It is also required that key initiatives are undertaken to educate the communities of Windhoek on the details of the budget.



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Media releases and public notices

We often release important information to the public, through the media, in the form of media releases and public notices. Many of these only appear once in some media, so to support the longevity of public messages, and to help ensure that our residents remain updated, we include selected ones in the Aloe.

The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

City of Windhoek
Vision: To be a SMART and Caring City by 2022

Happy 32nd Independence Anniversary
Namibia!

Our commitment remains to enhance the quality of life for all our people by rendering efficient and effective municipal services.

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City of Windhoek
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Temporary closure of Greenwell Matongo community library
17 February 2022

Please note that the Greenwell Matongo community library in Danela Street, Goreagab, is closed for renovations until further notice.

Community members who are returning books will still be allowed to visit the library for this purpose.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Enquiries: Bertold Karipi (Community development officer): 061 - 290 2973

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City of Windhoek
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Closure of free water and reinstatement of prepaid water supply in the informal settlement
18 March 2022

The public is hereby notified that the City of Windhoek has commenced with the closure of the free water supply to the informal settlements. The prepaid water system will be reinstated and going forward the residents will be required to use their water tokens to get water, as done previously. Those who have lost their water tokens should buy new ones from their nearest municipal offices.

The City of Windhoek has been supplying free water to the informal settlements since March 2020 due to the spread of COVID-19. However, the supply of free water has caused a financial burden to Council, and it resolved to stop the supply of free water and reinstate the prepaid water system.

For further enquiries, please contact our Customer Contact Centre at 061-290 3777

Issued by: Office of the Chief Executive Officer
Corporate Communications, Marketing and Public Participation

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Aloe "seen around"



LEFT: The City of Windhoek's (CoW) Parks division planted 43 new trees along the boundary wall of the Oponganda cemetery in Katutura recently. The trees are of the *Olea Africana* and *Sclerocaraya Birrea* (Marula) species. The trees, which cost over N\$20 000, were supplied by Ferreira's Garden Centre and Plant Nursery in Windhoek, are hardy, evergreen and indigenous to southern Africa. They are well-adapted to conditions here, grow fast and require less water than other trees. Uakazuvaka Kazombiaze, the CoW's Parks manager said: "The community living along the cemetery boundary requested us to plant the trees in order to beautify the new extension of the cemetery and to act as a screen or a barrier, blocking direct view of the graves from the residential areas and reducing some of the noise during burials. We had no choice but to buy the more expensive, bigger trees, because smaller ones are unfortunately stolen by residents as soon as we plant it."

There is an existing irrigation system at the cemetery, drawing semi-purified water, and catering for all the new trees. Other Windhoek cemeteries are also expected to receive new trees following the finalisation of a donation of trees to the CoW. The donation, once approved, will also include flower boxes for selected streets. In the meantime the Parks division is busy upgrading the city's semi-purified water connections and irrigation systems.



ABOVE: City and constituency councillors were in the field to familiarise themselves with the causes and possible solutions to flooded neighbourhoods in Windhoek. They received feedback from the Disaster Risk Management team.

The councillors in the photo are: (FLTR) Cllr Magdalena Lombardt, Cllr Samuel Angolo (Khomasdal Constituency Councillor), Cllr Queen Kamati, Cllr Ndesihafela Larandja, Cllr Ivan Stryker, Deputy Mayor Joseph Uapingene, and Cllr Sam Nujoma.



ABOVE: Did you know? In 2020 the City of Windhoek finalised the conversion of an old residential building built in 1907 into the Windhoek City Museum (WCM). The Founding President Sam Nujoma officially inaugurated the WCM on 4 November 2020. The WCM is situated on the corner of Robert Mugabe Avenue and Schwerinsburg Street.

The Museum houses seven galleries and a dry indigenous garden. The museum galleries include: (1) Reception, (2) Pre-colonial and Colonial Windhoek, (3) Wild Windhoek, (4) an audio-visual gallery, (5) Windhoek Today, (6) a temporary exhibition and (7) Life and times of the Old Location. There is no entrance fee and the Museum is open Mondays – Fridays.

Learn more about the stories behind these photos on our social media channels!

E-mail: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na

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African Report files
4h · 🌐

Top 12 Cleanest Cities in Africa 🌐

1. Kigali - Rwanda 🇷🇼
2. Port Louis - Mauritius 🇲🇺
3. Cape town - South Africa 🇿🇦
4. Tunis - Tunisia 🇹🇺
5. Windhoek - Namibia 🇳🇦
6. Dar es Salaam - Tanzania 🇹🇿
7. Gaborone - Botswana 🇸🇩
8. Algiers - Algeria 🇩🇪
9. Nairobi - Kenya 🇰🇪
10. Libreville - Gabon 🇬🇦
11. Kumasi - Ghana 🇬🇭
12. Asmara - Eritrea 🇪🇷

Source: Africa tours



ABOVE & LEFT: City councillor, Alderwoman Fransina Kahungu, joined volunteers of the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) initiative in Windhoek's Brendan Simbwaye neighbourhood, in the Samora Machel constituency, to help clean their neighbourhood. The aim of Cllr Kahungu's visit was to support the volunteers in mobilizing Samora Machel residents to join ongoing clean-up campaigns in the area. CLTS is an innovative methodology for mobilising communities to completely eliminate open defecation. Communities are facilitated to conduct their own appraisal and analysis of open defecation and take their own action to become open defecation free. A recent social media post by Africa Report Files listed Windhoek as the fifth cleanest city in Africa (see screenshot below).

Learn more about the stories behind these photos on our social media channels!



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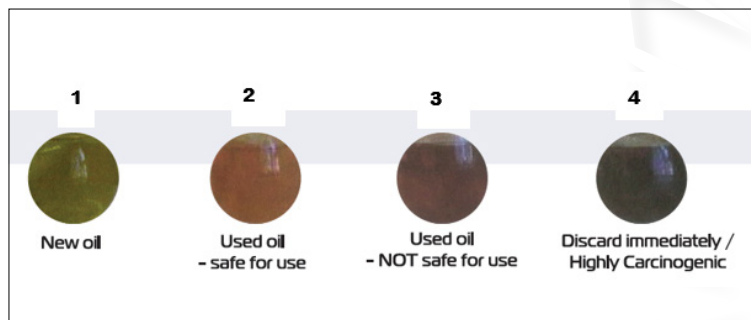
E-mail: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na

Used Cooking Oil Awareness

How many times can you reuse cooking oil?

Cooking oil may not be re-heated more than twice!

Once your cooking oil turns a shade depicted in 3 below, you need to stop using it immediately.



WHY IS RE-USING COOKING OIL BAD?

1. It can cause cancer

Research shows that re-heated oil contains toxic elements which can cause cancer. It also causes other deadly diseases such as obesity, heart disease and diabetes.

2. It increases the risk of heart disease

Food cooked in black and smoky oil which is being used and re-heated throughout the day can increase levels of cholesterol and heart attacks.

3. Toxic fumes

Oil re-heated to high temperatures releases toxic smoke. Toxic oil smoke causes headaches, nausea, increased blood pressure, dizziness, difficulty concentrating, and irritation to the eyes, nose and throat.



Call Biofuel Namibia at +264 81 289 4284 to arrange the safe disposal of your Used Cooking Oil!

