

DRAKENSTEIN MUNICIPALITY



ENVIROMENTAL POLICY

MARCH 2010

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- Managing the entire life cycle of authorisation processes in order to ensure continuous conformity to requirements and safe keeping of relevant documents of external origin.

Protection, Conservation and Management of Resources

- Where DM is mandated to:
 - Protect or conserve identified natural resources, including biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- To adopt, implement and drive programs to reduce the:
 - per capita water use foot print of the DM operations, citizens and businesses;
 - per capita energy consumption of the DM operations, citizens and businesses;
- To routinely monitor air, water, ground water, drinking water quality and biodiversity within the DM's area of jurisdiction against acceptable quality standards;
- To protect, conserve and use DM's diverse cultural resource estate on a sustainable basis;
- To ensure that DM manages its human resources base by:
 - Recruiting suitably qualified and experienced staff;
 - Training staff, contractors and suppliers to ensure implementation of this policy and the EMS;
 - Communicate relevant environmental information to staff, contractors and suppliers.

Provision of services and maintenance of infra-structure

- To deliver services and facilities to all Drakenstein's citizens that:
 - Meet basic needs and requirements;
 - Are accessible;
 - Are lawful;
 - Are affordable;
 - Are safe and sustainable.
- To maintain and improve DM's infrastructure and facilities to ensure that they remain:
 - Lawful;
 - Efficient, including reducing resource consumption intensity;
 - Effective;
 - Preventing pollution or harm to people and the environment.

Sustainable Land Use

- To ensure that all land use decisions made by the DM are:
 - lawful and
 - in line with national, provincial and DM's policies, including sustainability principles;
 - taking into account cultural heritage;
 - industrial and residential land and finally
 - urban agriculture.

Environmental Emergencies

DM is committed to:

- Identify, plan for, respond to and mitigate the environmental impacts of all potential environmental emergency scenarios that DM is mandated to address.
- Take reasonable measures to prevent both occurrence and recurrence of emergency situations
- To render emergency service support to others as required and agreed.

Waste Management

DM is committed:

- To manage the lifecycle of general waste in line with the principles of integrated waste management so as to ensure:
 - Lawful conduct
 - Prevention of pollution and harm

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