

## POWER OUTAGE RESPONSE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR



### FOR FARMERS AND AGRI-WORKERS

- It is important to ensure that your workspace is properly ventilated during loadshedding.
- It is equally important to take the necessary precautions, particularly during winter when using candles and open fires, as there is an increased risk when using open flames.
- Ensure that all fires and candles are extinguished before going to bed or leaving the workplace.
- Ensure that no fire is left unattended.
- Opt for battery-operated lighting or PV-charged where possible.
- Generators should be kept in well-ventilated areas as they release poisonous gases when running.
- The noise of generators due to the noise decibels can also cause hearing damage if placed too close to a workstation for a prolonged period.

### ON THE FARM

- Ensure that you understand your energy/electricity needs and understand which of these needs are the more critical one i.e. if you only have limited backup power during load shedding /an outage, what should this be used for, in other words, do an energy assessment of your farm.
- Ensure that you have a backup generator or inverter to minimise losses, specifically if you have equipment that requires electricity. This is particularly important for the animal production industry, whilst agri-processing industries can also be gravely impacted.
- Ensure that you back-up your computer and other tools used for data collection and make sure cellphones are always charged.
- Ensure that you switch off appliances and equipment that is not in use to reduce energy usage and to minimise the possibilities of damage caused by the regular power surges.
- Ensure that you insure equipment that is likely to get damaged.
- Ensure that you have alternative measures in place for the care of animals when mechanised feeders are not operational during load shedding.
- Ensure that you have a sufficient supply of water and forage for animals in the case of an emergency.
- When you are unable to pump water to animals, ensure that clean water is made available. It can be from an outdoor source, provided that the water is clean.
- Ensure that adequate quantities of diesel for generators are stored safely.
- Ensure that you monitor the movement around the farm as there is a higher risk of attempted theft and farm attacks during load shedding/power outages.

## POWER OUTAGE RESPONSE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

- If you are not already on a farmer group in your area, join one in order to be able to support one another. Be in close communication with your neighbours to create a safety network.
- Create an emergency response plan for your farm consisting of emergency contact numbers.
- Replace your regular bulbs with Smart LED lights.
- Solar powered lights are a good investment given the large amount of sunshine hours in SA.
- Generators.
- Inverters.
- Gas geysers.
- Portable power banks.
- Surge resistant/protector plugs.
- Uninterruptable power supply (UPS) allows you to power various devices, from IP cameras to routers.
- The trusty flask to keep water warm for longer.
- Portable thermos cooler.

Consider keeping meals simple and sufficient for a day or two to reduce the requirement to store leftovers. In order to avoid having spoilt food causing food poisoning or to waste food because it is unfit for human consumption.

As we head into the colder and wetter winter season, let's be mindful of these tips to ensure a safer and more sustainable agricultural sector.

### **For more information or assistance, contact:**

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### **Disaster Management Centre Western Cape**

**(assist with major disasters and link up various stakeholders in the event of a disaster):**

#### **Cape Winelands Disaster Management Centre**

Head of Centre: Shaun Minnies  
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#### **Central Karoo Disaster Management Centre**

Head of the Centre: Neil Oerson  
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## POWER OUTAGE RESPONSE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

### **Garden Route Disaster Management Centre**

Head of Centre: Gerhard Otto  
Tel: 044 803 1435  
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Email: disastermanagement@gardenroute.gov.za  
Physical Address: 54 York Street, George, 6529

### **Overberg Disaster Management Centre**

Head of Centre: Reinard Geldenhuys  
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Physical Address: 26 Long Street, Bredasdorp, 7300

### **West Coast Disaster Management Centre**

Head of the Centre: Franquin Pietersen  
Tel: 021 023 3692  
Email: westcoastdm@wcdm.co.za  
Physical Address: 17 Station Street, Moorreesburg.

**Alternatively, contact your district Sustainable Resource Use and Management (SRUM), Agricultural Producer Support and Development (APSD) or State Veterinary Office:**

### **SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE AND MANAGEMENT (SRUM): LandCare District Managers**

#### **West Coast:**

SRUM District Manager: Jan Smit  
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Physical Address: 42 Long Street, Moorreesburg, 7310

#### **Central Karoo:**

SRUM District Manager: Phyllis Pienaar:  
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#### **Overberg:**

SRUM District Manager: Grant Jephtas  
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#### **Cape Winelands:**

SRUM District Manager, Cape Winelands:  
Rudolph Röscher  
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#### **Garden Route/Eden:**

SRUM District Manager: Hannes Muller  
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Physical Address: Airport Road, George, 6529

### **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT (APSD)**

#### **West Coast:**

Rose Horne (Swartland)  
Marius Du Randt (North West Coast)  
027 201 3502/3503/3506/3521

#### **Central Karoo:**

Vianca Erasmus  
023 415 3134 | 021 551 1034 | 023 541 1970 | 049 844 0365

## POWER OUTAGE RESPONSE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

**Overberg:**

Hennis Germishuys  
028 425 4832

**Cape Winelands:**

Cobus van Schalkwyk  
021 808 7050 | 023 312 1021 | 023 614 3610 |  
021 873 0241

**Garden Route:**

Clyde Lamberts  
044 803 3747/3757 | 044 203 9428/9452

**Cape Metropole:**

Ayanda Obose  
021 483 7785 | 021 808 7085/7067

### VETERINARY SERVICES

**State Veterinarian: George**

044-803-3771/0  
Ms Shirelle Strydom (Admin Clerk)

Dr Leana Janse van Rensburg  
0837970010

**State Veterinarian: Boland**

021-808-5028/5253  
Ms Renee Jack (Admin Clerk)

Dr Vivien Malan  
0822289076

**State Veterinarian: Swellendam**

021-808-5059/028-425-4850  
Mr Bidwell Gelwana (Admin Clerk)

Dr Christi Kloppers  
0836415163

**State Veterinarian: Beaufort West**

023-414-9220/1  
Ms Chriszelda Mtwalo (Admin Clerk)

Mr Anton Barnard (Acting)  
082 805 9757

**State Veterinarian: Vredendal**

027-201-3514/0  
Ms Deidre Daniels (Admin Clerk)

Dr Chanel Lombard  
027 201 3510

**State Veterinarian: Malmesbury**

022 482 1380  
Ms Samantha Burger (Admin Clerk)

Dr Michael Swart  
083 469 2404

**State Veterinarian: Oudtshoorn**

044-203-9443/5  
Ms Jeoninse Noni (Admin Clerk)

Dr Cathy Fox  
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**State Veterinarian: Worcester**

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