

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

- Identify 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 an alternative energy supply 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.
- Switching off appliances and equipment to reduce energy usage and to minimise the possibility of damage caused by the regular power surges.
- Insurance on equipment and property to protect you from unplanned expenses.
- 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 food for animals.
- Clean water should be made available to all livestock to ensure animal health.
- 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.
- 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.

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- Replace your regular bulbs with rechargeable light bulbs.
- Solar powered lights are a good investment given the large amount of sunshine hours in the Western Cape.
- 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, e.g. wonderbag that can help keep food cold or warm.

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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Sustainable Resource Use and Management (SRUM)
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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
Tel: 021 888 5847 / 0861 265 263
Email: Shaun@capewinelands.gov.za
Email: hoc@capewinelands.gov.za
Physical Address: Worcester Fire
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Central Karoo Disaster Management Centre

Head of the Centre: ???
Tel: 023 414 4467
Email: ???@skdm.co.za
Email: ????
Physical Address: N1 North Weighbridge,
Beaufort West.

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Garden Route Disaster Management Centre

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

Overberg Disaster Management Centre

Head of Centre: Reinard Geldenhuys
Tel: 028 425 1690
Email: rgeldenhuys@odm.org.za
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
Tel: 022 433 8906 / 8902
Email: Jan.Smit@westerncape.gov.za
Physical Address: 42 Long Street, Moorreesburg, 7310

Central Karoo:

SRUM District Manager: Phyllis Pienaar:
Tel: 023 414 2126 / 083 649 9306
Email: Phyllis.Pienaar@westerncape.gov.za
Physical Address: Pieter Jacobs Avenue, Beaufort West, 6970

Overberg:

SRUM District Manager: Grant Jephtas
Tel: 028 425 4819/ 079 378 0672
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Physical Address: Golf Street, Bredasdorp, 7300

Cape Winelands:

SRUM District Manager, Cape Winelands:
Rudolph Röscher
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Physical Address: Veld Reserve, Worcester, 6849

Garden Route/Eden:

SRUM District Manager: Hannes Muller
Tel: 044 803 3720 / 082 908 1113
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Physical Address: Airport Road, George, 6529

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT (APSD)

West Coast:

Rose Horne (Swartland)
Tel: 022 433 8903 / 8901 / 063 695 3860
Marius Du Randt (North West Coast)
Tel: 027 201 3502 / 3501 / 082 907 1134

Central Karoo:

Vianca Erasmus
Tel: 023 415 3134 / 021 551 1034 / 023 541 1970
/ 049 844 0365

POWER OUTAGE RESPONSE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Overberg:

Hennis Germishuys
Tel: 028 425 4832

Cape Winelands:

Cobus van Schalkwyk
Tel: 021 808 7825

Garden Route:

Clyde Lamberts
Tel: 044 803 3747/3757 / 044 203 9428/9452

Cape Metropole:

Ayanda Obose
Tel: 021 483 7785 / 021 808 7085 / 021 808
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
082 699 6043

State Veterinarian: Worcester

021-808-5052
Mr Daniel Ryan (Admin Clerk)

Dr Ansulize Pepler
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