



What to do when veld fire conditions are forecast

During high fire seasons, the establishment of fire control committees are essential and open air fires are strictly prohibited. In general, an alarm system, firefighting teams, and plans must be prepared in advance to mitigate the impact of a wildfire.

It is extremely important to know the contact details of the closest fire/emergency response unit. Save it on your cell phone!

What to do during veld fires

- Move livestock to safety and out of grazing land to ploughed fields.
- If water is not available in sufficient quantities or at adequate pressure for the control of major fires, sand or other loose mineral soil material can be an effective method of control.

Concerns and recommendations

Land owners should prepare and maintain firebreaks. They must ensure that, with due regard to the weather, climate, terrain and vegetation of the area, the following is taken care of in terms of installing the firebreaks (chapter 4 of National Veld and Forest Fire Act No. 101 of 1998):

1. A firebreak has to be wide enough and long enough to prevent a veld fire from spreading to or from neighbouring land.
2. A firebreak does not cause soil erosion.
3. A firebreak is reasonably free of inflammable material capable of carrying a veld fire across it.
4. Farming communities should establish fire protection associations to prevent and control veld fires as required by the National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act No. 101 of 1998).
5. Insure crops/livestock against financial loss due to fire damage.

The Fire Brigade Services Act provides for the establishment, co-ordination and standardisation of fire brigade services.

Local authorities (municipalities) are empowered to establish and maintain a fire brigade service, to be employed for the following purposes:

- Preventing the outbreak or spread of a fire.
- Fighting or extinguishing a fire.
- The protection of life or property against a fire or other threatening danger.
- The rescue of life or property from a fire or other danger.

Improved communication among members about fire hazard conditions are imperative. The aim is to achieve better integration of community preparedness, prevention, suppression and recovery strategies for veld fire management.

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: Disastermanagement@capewinelands.gov.za
Physical Address: Worcester Fire Station, Breede Valley, 6850

Central Karoo Disaster Management Centre

Head of the Centre: Neil Oerson
Tel: 023 414 4467
Email: nielo@skdm.co.za
Email: westcoastdm@wcdm.co.za
Physical Address: N1 North Weighbridge, Beaufort West.

Garden Route Disaster Management Centre

Head of Centre: Gerhard Otto
Tel: 044 803 1435
Email: Gotto@grdm.gov.za
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
Tel: 022 433 8906 / 8902
Email: Jan.Smit@westerncape.gov.za
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Moorreesburg, 7310

Central Karoo:

SRUM District Manager: Phyllis Pienaar:
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Physical Address: Pieter Jacobs Avenue,
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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
Tel: 021-808 7801/ 083 675 1315
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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
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/ 049 844 0365

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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