

## RV NEWS BULLETIN

**NOVEMBER 2015**

### 1. **Memorandum of Incorporation SGM**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016 has been earmarked for this meeting. We will circulate all relevant documentation as soon as possible.

### 2. **Rabies Update**

No cases were reported for the month of October.

We remind residents that although rabies incidents are in the decline, it remains a possibility that animals may still be affected and exposure to humans remains possible. Do not approach wild animals when out and about.

### 3. **Contractors Gate Closure**

The contractor's gate will close at 18:00 on 11 December 2015 and re-open on 11 January 2016. The contractor's gate will be closed during this period as no construction activity will be taking place. Access for service providers will only be permitted in the event of an emergency, such as a water leak.

### 4. **RV Dams**

We are well on our way with the repairs to Guineafowl dam, and have started on Osprey dam as well.

We have had the water tested in the Osprey dam as well as the standing water that is in the Sandspruit River. There is ecoli present, so we urge residents and their children not to play in the water in order to prevent exposure.

### 5. **Water Restrictions**

Please take note of the water restrictions imposed by Maruleng. Please adhere to them as any wastage of water will affect everyone in the long run.

### 6. **Attempted Break-in**

On the morning of Sunday, 15 November 2015, we had an attempted break-in one of the SCS boarding houses. A bare footed individual gained access by crawling underneath the fence. The same exit route was used. The fence energizer and alarm along that portion of fence was faulty, but has since been repaired. We have also strengthened the fence, added razor wire across the northern fence straining posts and acquired a spare energizer.

Although we see this as an isolated incident, we do remind residents that we are going into the "silly" season. There is already an increase of crime in the Hoedspruit area. Always be vigilant and remember to lock you house when not at home.

### 7. **Hoedspruit Farm Watch**

Raptors View, as an estate, will be joining the Farm watch initiative.

The Hoedspruit Farm watch offers the community a safety and support service and will assist and respond to emergency calls from their members in any situation that potentially indicates a threat to life or property. Hoedspruit farm watch take both a Pro-active and Re-active stance to incidents in the area.

### **Patrols**

Undertaking proactive measures, Farmwatch conducts regular patrols around the region in different sectors. Patrols are done by volunteers from the larger community who are given a structured duty roster and thus conduct regular patrols around the region. These patrols and the ability to pick up on suspicious activity immediately has resulted in a decrease of criminal incidents by 80% within the farming region

### **Reaction Unit**

In addition to the regular patrols, Hoedspruit Farm Watch has an active and dedicated Reaction Unit. The Reaction Unit consists of approx. 20 individuals who undergo monthly training in various focus areas, from medical support to crime scene management, firefighting skills and techniques, legal issues around fire arms etc. The Reaction Unit is responsible for responding to emergency situations from motor vehicle accidents where they support with traffic control and ensure that the emergency personnel working within the incident zone are safe, through to armed response for any criminal attack in the area.

## **8. Fire Plan**

We are experiencing a drought, along with extremely high temperatures. All of this increases the fire risk. Attached is our fire plan. Please familiarize yourself with it.

We urgently need fire monitors in each of the four sectors. If you are a permanent resident and would like to become a monitor, please contact Byron on 071 675 2525.

## **9. Feeding of Animals**

We have had numerous queries about when we will start supplement feeding. RV has a veld monitoring program in place to monitor available resources for the animals on the estate. We do not have to introduce a feeding program at this point in time, and request residents not to put out lucerne and salt licks. (Salt licks contribute to the spread of rabies) We are going to be introducing new gene pools in 2016, and will combine this with a feeding program should it be required.