



# STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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## **MEDIA RELEASE:**

### **Stricter water restrictions as dam dries up**

Dry conditions, low rainfall figures and receding dam levels have forced the Steve Tshwete Municipality to impose stricter water restrictions for residents of Mhluzi and Middelburg, from 15 October 2013 with fines of up to R10 000 for contravening the prohibitions.

The restrictions are in response to depleting water supplies as the Middelburg Dam is currently only 30% full, which is putting the water supply at risk.

The decision was taken at a council meeting on 26 September 2013, where it was announced that penalty tariffs will be introduced to encourage the responsible use of water, as it was agreed that most homeowners were not complying with present water restrictions that are in place. Traffic officers, peace keepers and building inspectors will be doing inspections to ensure the restrictions are enforced.

The restrictions are:

- No Watering of gardens by means of hosepipes or by means of irrigation systems,
- Watering of sport facilities at schools; and
- Cleaning of vehicles or driveways by means of hosepipes.

In accordance with the new increases and penalty tariffs it should be noted that:

- A penalty tariff of R100,00 per kl is applied on residential water usage in excess of 20 kl per month, with effect from December 2013. Penalties will be reflected on consumption commencing on 20 October 2013.
- Car washes, residential complexes on a single meter, guesthouses, lodges and hotels are required to affect a 20% saving on water usage based on their October 2013 consumption, with effect from December 2013 and that a similar surcharge of R100,00 per kl is applied in

respect of water consumption above 80% of the October 2013 consumption.

“The water restrictions as stated at the council meeting will remain in place until the level of the Middelburg Dam has reached at least 50%, or an alternative raw water source has been secured,” explained Executive Mayor Mike Masina.

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Yours faithfully

WD FOUCHE  
MUNICIPAL MANAGER