



WATER QUALITY REPORT – 2010/11

The Department of Water Affairs (DWA) introduced the Blue Drop certification to ensure that municipalities provide residents with clean and healthy water. It is only awarded to municipalities that achieve a score above 95% of the Blue Drop certification programme criteria.

This year Ekurhuleni Metro received a Platinum Blue Drop Award from the DWA for obtaining the Blue Drop certification for the third consecutive year.

The quality and drinkability of water is measured against the South African National Standard for Drinking Water (SANS) 241 which compares the quality of water supplied by a municipality against chemical and microbiological parameters.

Total compliance is the overall compliance of all water samples taken within the Metro's water network and is inclusive of both microbiological and chemical compliance. SANS 241 regards microbiological (E. coli) water quality compliance below 97% as poor. The graph indicates that

Ekurhuleni has met the compliance requirements for SANS 241 which means Ekurhuleni water is of high quality and safe to drink.

Consumers can check the quality of the drinking water in their area by going to www.dwa.gov.za/mywater or www.my-water.mobi. For further information on EMM water quality, contact Annemarie Maurizi at 011 999 8736 or annemarie.maurizi@ekurhuleni.gov.za or Smuts Marais at 011 999 2630 or smuts.marais@ekurhuleni.gov.za. Alternatively visit www.ekurhuleni.gov.za for a more comprehensive EMM water quality report.

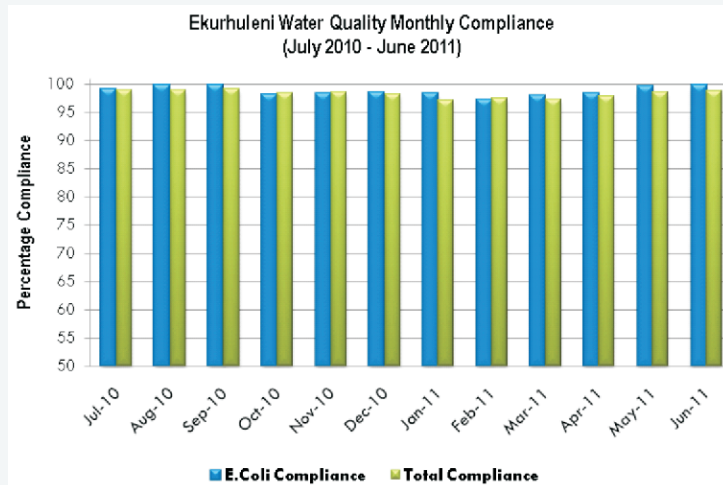


Figure 1: Monthly E. coli (microbiological) and total compliance of Ekurhuleni drinking water to SANS 241: 2006 requirements.

BY-LAWS BITE

The Metro is up in arms against residents contravening the laws governing the City. These laws, known as bylaws, are a guide for residents and the business community.

A bylaw enforcement team moved into Katlehong recently and uncovered a number of these bylaws being broken or not adhered to.

Contraventions varied from unlicensed businesses, road reserve encroachment to illegal electricity connections and illegal dumping.

The team was led by Katlehong Customer Care Centre (CCC) officials with representatives from the Metro Police, City Development, Fire, Building Control, Water, Solid Waste and Outdoor Advertising departments.

A total of R6 000 in fines were issued together with 22 warnings for which follow-ups are in the pipeline. Residents are advised to visit their nearest CCC for more information on the bylaws or visit www.ekurhuleni.gov.za

BRAKPAN WATER SAFE

Residents of Brakpan and surrounding areas are assured that Ekurhuleni tap water is safe to drink.

This follows rumours that the quality of water was compromised following an incident where water interruptions were experienced in the area on 9 October.

The interruption in water service was caused by an electrical cable fault at one of Rand Water pump stations that feeds the Brakpan area.

Water quality has not been compromised as was proven by the results from water samples taken by the Water Quality Section two days after the incident.

TORNADO HITS DUDUZA

When the tornado hit Duduza on 2 October, destroying 692 houses, leaving 2 790 people homeless, 166 injured and claiming one life, the response by the Metro, business and communities was instant.

Those injured were immediately transported to nearby Springs and Nigel hospitals, mobile clinics and temporary structures erected, chemical toilets placed and relief teams moved in to offer assistance with shelter, food, clothes and the like.

The Department of Home Affairs acted swiftly to issue lost documents such as IDs, birth and marriage certificates. When it came to the memorial and funeral services of the eight-year-old Xolani Mkhathshwa who lost his life, the Metro stepped in again to assist.

Ten contractors were brought in to help speed up the process of rebuilding and repairing the affected houses. Over 209 school uniforms, shoes and stationery were handed over by the Executive Mayor, Cnr Mondli Gungubele, to learners who had lost everything in the disaster, thanks to donations from the public and businesses.

If you wish to make a contribution you can either deposit money into the The Duduza Relief Fund at Nedbank, Tsakane branch, code number 143 605 00 and the account number is 2003 048 685, or contact Ndoli Mosiane at 082 458 4209 or 011 999 9079 or Busi Ndwane at 079 523 4251 for information on needed items.



The Executive Mayor, Cnr Mondli Gungubele helps with the rebuilding of some of the houses in Duduza.

AEROTROPOLIS CONNECTING PEOPLE

Professor John Kasarda has urged the business sector to be proactive towards supporting the Metro's effort to turn Ekurhuleni to an aerotropolis.

This was during the professor's second visit to Ekurhuleni to discuss the aerotropolis concept, which he coined. An aerotropolis is a type of urban form comprising aviation intense business and related enterprises. It is similar in form and function to a traditional metropolis, where there is a central city core and its commuter-linked suburbs. An aerotropolis has an airport city as its core and is surrounded by clusters of aviation related enterprise.

Airports have evolved as drivers of business location and urban development in the 21st century in much the same way as highways in the 20th century, railroads in the 19th and seaports in the 18th.

Prof Kasarda is of the view that with Ekurhuleni moving towards an aerotropolis state the OR International Airport is set to be known as a multi-nodal, multi-functional enterprise with major commercial development that will benefit the region, the province and the country as a whole. The commercial development in and around the airport will lead to urban growth because of the significant employment opportunities, shopping, trade and business. The airport will develop a brand image that attracts non-airport linked business.

The professor met with business gurus to discuss the Ekurhuleni aerotropolis and the aerotropolis concept during his visit in September.



Professor John Kasarda and the Executive Mayor, Clr Mondli Gungubele, during Kasarda's recent visit.

A BRIGHTER DAVEYTON

It was a moment alight with excitement as the residents of Chris Hani Extension II had electricity switched on for the first time since the 1300 families occupied their houses in the area three years ago.

Not only did the township in Daveyton get to enjoy electricity in their houses from October, but the Metro also erected five high mast lights, which were switched on.

BE INSPIRED BY HIS LEGACY



The interior of the Narrative Centre.

October is Tambo Month when the Metro celebrates the life and legacy of Oliver and Adelaide Tambo with a variety of events.

One of the most symbolic ways in which these two political stalwarts are remembered is through the laying of wreaths on 27 October, Oliver Tambo's birth date, each year.

Oliver died in 1993, while his wife Adelaide passed on in 2007. They are laid to rest side-by-side at the Tamboville Cemetery in Wattville, an area where the couple lived shortly after they were married and before being exiled.

As part of the events for the month, this year saw the opening of the Narrative Centre in the Oliver Tambo Cultural Precinct in Wattville.

Adelaide Tambo urged people to 'fight for the right to be literate, questioning, educated'. As a result of her firm beliefs in education, the Oliver and Adelaide Tambo Foundation has been established to carry out their legacy.

A liberation walk which had a stretch of 17km and 5km was held at the beginning of the month to kick start the programme.

Later in the month more than 200 learners from Wattville and surrounding areas learnt more on the life and legacy of Oliver Tambo during the hosting of a memorial lecture for schools.

Kwa-Thema was a hive of sport action through the OR Youth Games and also the Ekurhuleni schools finals held on October 15 and 22 respectively.

Approximately 12 municipalities participated in the Inter-municipal Games, at the Germiston Stadium on 21 October.

GREENING THE CITY

September was Arbor Month and, as part of promoting and understanding indigenous trees and the role they play in our society, the Metro planted around 1 500 indigent trees.

Roles played by trees include:

- They absorb harmful chemicals such as carbon monoxide and, in turn, give off oxygen.
- They clean and trap pollutants such as smoke, dust, and ash making our air cleaner.
- Trees provide shade in summer and shelter in winter. They can block the sun and have a refrigerating effect on us and our homes, and during the winter months, they can keep us warmer by shielding us from wind and snow.
- They can be used for making medicine.
- Preventing flooding, but also help disperse rainfall over a more even area. By retaining water, trees help reduce the amount of topsoil that runs off into our sewers and streams. Leaves on the ground keep moisture close to the ground aiding growth and traps chemicals keeping them out of lakes and rivers.
- Trees maintain our global environment in ways that we are just beginning to understand. By acting as enormous carbon sinks, trees absorb massive amounts of carbon dioxide from our atmosphere. If trees did not perform this vital function, there would be little to mitigate the effects of global warming caused by the Greenhouse Effects.

EMPD TRAFFIC CLEAN UP

As part of Transport Month, during October, the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Police Department (EMPD) embarked on a cleanup campaign to wipe out unroadworthy vehicles.

Just two weeks into the month a total of 96 unroadworthy vehicles were impounded, with 41 cars taken off the road.

The clean-up will continue throughout the months of November, December and January to ensure that Ekurhuleni's roads are safe.

EMPD spokesperson Wilfred Kgasago said the Metro police is up in arms against lawlessness, "We don't want unroadworthy vehicles on our roads."

If you have any unpaid traffic fines, Kgasago's advice is to pay up because the EMPD will be on the look out for defaulters.