



CAPE WINELANDS DISTRICT
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www.capewinlands.gov.za • QUARTER 4 2025/2026

GRAPEVINE

BREDE VALLEY • DRAKENSTEIN • LANGEBERG • STELLENBOSCH • WITZENBERG

Cape Winelands Hosts First-Ever Farmworker Sport Awards



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Hope for our Future

On 16 June all eyes turn to Youth. The CWDM through the Rural and Social Development unit hosted an event to celebrate the creativity, enthusiasm and hope that youth bring to our homes, communities and country.

Youth from the Witzenberg area met at the Community Hall in Bella Vista where they could share their stories through dance and other expressive arts.

Jason Nicol of Bella Vista shared that Youth Day is an opportunity for youth to re-unite and be reminded that they are not alone. Sandra Jooste of PA Hamlet, shared "your circumstances do not determine your future, no matter how difficult it is, there is hope, look for help if you need it."

Our Executive Mayor, Ald (Dr) Elna von Schlicht's Youth Day message, followed on to what youth said at the event. The mayor's message read, "the youth of the Cape Winelands are the heartbeat of our district. You are the innovators, entrepreneurs, artists, athletes, dreamers thinkers and future leaders who shape the destiny of our district and country."



Winelanders: Nominate your women of stature now

Nominate 2026's

Phenomenal Women of the Winelands



Visit capewinlands.gov.za to complete **free nomination form** online or download one. Forms are available at **all offices** of Cape Winelands District Municipality and **Historium in Pastorie Avenue, Paarl**. Or request one via **WhatsApp** on **076 017 6026**.

SUBMIT NOMINATIONS BEFORE 16:00 ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2026.

Details, terms and conditions at capewinlands.gov.za, their offices, the Historium Trust as well as on the forms themselves.

The Afrikaans Language Museum and Monument (ATM), Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM) and Historium Trust are delighted to announce the fifth Phenomenal Women Awards. This leading annual event will celebrate the remarkable achievements of the incredible women in our community.

The call for nominations is now open and we invite the public to nominate unsung heroes who are making inspiring contributions to the Cape Winelands communities. **ENTRIES ARE FREE AND CLOSE ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2026, AT 16:00.**

The judging will be conducted by a panel of leading women in August, after which the awards ceremony on Tuesday, 25 August 2026, promises to be a highlight of Women's Month once again. The gala event will recognise and celebrate the exceptional achievements of women who have inspired their communities and motivated others to strive for excellence.

The Phenomenal Women Awards aim to fill future generations with hope and empowerment, and prove that there are no limits to what women can achieve. The community is encouraged to participate in recognising these exceptional women, regardless of their backgrounds, and their extraordinary journeys.

This year's event also takes place in the same year that the country celebrates the adoption of South Africa's constitution 30 years ago (1996), commemorates the Soweto uprisings 50 years ago (1976), and honours the historic women's march on Women's Day 70 years ago (1956). In this way, it pays tribute locally to women's role in advancing human rights, equality and community development.

The 10 categories are: Agriculture, Early Childhood Development, Basic Education, NGO/CDW Sector, Entrepreneur, Support, Management, Passion, Promotion of Afrikaans/multilingualism as well as Disabilities. Category descriptions and terms and conditions at capewinlands.gov.za.

Nomination forms can be completed and downloaded online from the CWDM website at capewinlands.gov.za or collected from any CWDM office or the Historium Trust in Pastorie Avenue, Paarl. You can also receive the form by sending a WhatsApp message with the text 'Phenomenal Women' to 076 017 6026. Completed forms must be sent by email to info@historium.co.za or by WhatsApp to 076 017 6026 by **TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2026, AT 16:00**. It can also be physically submitted at the Historium Trust or any CWDM office.



'n agentskap van die
Departement van Sport, Kuns en Kultuur



CAPE WINELANDS DISTRICT
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Funksie- en Konferensiesentrum • Function and Conference Venue



Ald (Dr) Elna von Schlicht

Executive Mayor:

Cape Winelands District Municipality

Dear, Cape Winelands friends and neighbours!

Can you believe we're already more than halfway through 2026? Time flies! As we look back on the past six months, we've celebrated some wins and tackled some tough challenges. Let me share a quick reflection on what we've been up to.

In May, we took an exciting step forward by approving the Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework for our budget from 2026 to 2029. Here are some of the highlights from the 2026/2027 budget that I'm excited about:

Boosting Our Economy

Creating jobs and supporting growth is our priority! We're all about Local Economic Development, tourism, sports, entrepreneurship, and helping small businesses thrive. Plus, we're keeping a close eye on food security because we know many in our community are feeling the pinch.

Investing in Our People

This budget is all about uplifting our community. With the Mayoral Study Aid Fund, we're helping students with scholarships. We're also focusing on youth development, wellness, sports, and humanitarian programs to support those who need it most.

Prepared to Serve in Times of Need

The recent disasters have once again reminded us of the importance of strong and responsive emergency services. For this reason, we continue to invest in firefighting, health services, disaster management, and community preparedness. While we recognise that natural disasters cannot always be predicted or prevented, we remain committed to strengthening our mandated services so that we are ready to respond with care, efficiency, and resolve when our communities need us most.

Building for the Future

Infrastructure remains essential to both the strength of our economy and the quality of daily life in our district. We are therefore continuing to prioritise strategic projects and initiatives that support long-term development while caring responsibly for our

environment, including the Regional Landfill Site.

Creating Safer Communities

The safety and wellbeing of our residents, visitors, and businesses remain a priority for this administration. We continue to work closely with local municipalities to strengthen integrated safety initiatives, disaster risk reduction, and public safety efforts, so that our communities can feel protected, supported, and confident in times of need.

Proud of Our Financial Stability

I am proud to serve as the Executive Mayor of a municipality that has achieved its 12th consecutive clean audit for the 2024/2025 financial year. This milestone reflects our continued commitment to good governance, transparency, and responsible financial management, even in challenging times.

Thank you

As many of you know, May was a challenging month as severe flooding affected various areas in our district. I want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible teamwork demonstrated by local municipalities, the provincial government, emergency services, and the volunteers who stepped up to assist those impacted. Your spirit and collaboration are truly inspiring!

We understand that there is still much to be done, such as restoring damaged infrastructure and getting essential services back on track. Rest assured, we are here to support our communities and work towards returning things to normal as quickly as possible.

Despite the challenges facing our district, we successfully hosted a variety of initiatives, as you will see in this Grapevine. One highlight was the Winelands Autumn Expo 2026, which took place in May and was an absolute success! It brought together tourism, local economic development, and fostered a wonderful sense of regional collaboration. Thank you to all the locals and visitors for your support!

Looking ahead,

We're gearing up for the Annual Phenomenal Women Awards, in partnership with the Afrikaans Taalmuseum. These awards shine a spotlight on amazing women in our communities.

And lastly, don't forget the Local Government Elections are coming up on 4 November 2026! If you're 18 or older, make sure to register to vote in your correct area before the voters' roll closes. Your voice matters!

Here's to a great rest of 2026!

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Talk soon!

Your Mayor,
Ald. (Dr) Elna Von Schlicht

Elna von Schlicht



Henry Prins

Municipal Manager:

Cape Winelands District Municipality

Dear Residents and Visitors,

It is a pleasure to share some of the projects, achievements and activities that have taken place during the final months of this financial year. Like municipalities across the country, we have recently adopted our 2026/27 Budget, which was approved unanimously by Council. Much like a household budget, municipal budgeting requires

careful choices and responsible prioritisation. In a rapidly changing economic environment, planning is often challenging. Rising fuel costs, inflationary pressures and the increasing impact of climate-related events all affect the cost of delivering services. While these challenges are significant, they are not insurmountable.

I continue to be inspired by the dedication and adaptability of our employees, who consistently rise to meet demanding circumstances. This was particularly evident during the recent fire season, as well as the devastating floods experienced in May. Throughout these events, Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM) teams worked tirelessly to find solutions, mobilise resources and provide support to affected communities as quickly and effectively as possible.

There is also much to celebrate. As you browse through this edition of Grapevine, you will see many examples of CWDM's ongoing commitment to economic development and tourism. During the past few months, we represented the district at both the World Travel Market Africa at the CTICC and Africa's Travel Indaba in Durban, showcasing the Cape Winelands as a destination of choice for visitors and investors alike. We also hosted our 3rd Winelands Autumn Expo, which was a tremendous success and

attracted more than 5,000 visitors.

On that celebratory note, August is Women's Month and the CWDM celebrates this by giving you the opportunity to nominate a woman who you believe deserves an award. Have a look at the article in this newsletter or visit the CWDM website (www.capewinelands.gov.za) and click on the button to nominate and see the Ts and Cs.

As we enter the new financial year, one of our key focus areas remains responsible waste management. We are proud to be opening the Regional Waste Management Facility in Worcester, the largest single infrastructure project ever undertaken by CWDM. This state-of-the-art facility will serve our region for many years to come, but its lifespan ultimately depends on how responsibly we manage and reduce the waste we produce.

Keeping our communities clean is a responsibility we all share. Clean starts with me. Clean neighbourhoods, public spaces and business districts create a positive impression, improve quality of life and contribute to safer, more attractive communities.

They also play an important role in attracting investment, supporting tourism and creating opportunities for economic growth and job creation.

If we want our district to thrive, we must all play our part in preventing littering, illegal dumping and environmental neglect. I encourage you to explore the centre pages of this newsletter for practical ways to become part of the Clean Spaces, Beautiful Places movement.

There is much more to discover in this edition of Grapevine. The projects featured throughout these pages are the result of careful planning, informed by the needs and priorities expressed by our communities through the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) process. Your input helps shape our service delivery objectives and guides the work we do every day.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and for partnering with us in building a district that remains resilient, prosperous and beautiful for future generations.

Kind regards,
Municipal Manager
Cape Winelands District Municipality

Henry Prins

Cape Winelands District Municipality Mayoral Committee and Council



Ald (Dr) Elna von Schlicht
(DA)
Executive Mayor



Ald Margie Sampson
(DA)
Executive Deputy Mayor



Ald Donovan Joubert
(DA)
Speaker



Cllr Thys Blom
(DA)
Whip



Ald Reggie Farao
(DA)
Fire Services



Cllr Esther Groenewald
(DA)
Corporate Services



Cllr Jacques Kriel
(DA)
Technical Services



Cllr Xoliswa Mdemka
(DA)
Municipal Health



Ald Clara Meyer
(DA)
Disaster Management



Cllr Minnie Petersen
(DA)
Agri-Parks & Disabled



Cllr Koos Steyn
(DA)
Economic Development



Ald Dirk Swart
(DA) Financial Services & Sport, Arts & Culture



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Cllr Leigh-ann Adams
(PA)



Cllr Ruth Arnolds
(DA)



Ald Nobantu Bushwana
(ANC)



Cllr Doreen Carolissen
(GOOD)



Cllr Patric Daniels
(DA)



Cllr Attie Du Plessis
(VF Plus)



Ald Sammy Goedeman
(DA)



Cllr Alwyn Hanekom
(DA)



Cllr Vuyiwe Hani
(ANC)



Cllr Andrew Hess
(GOOD)



Cllr Frances Jacobs
(DA)



Cllr Barbara Janse
(DA)



Cllr Lindiwe Kahla
(ANC)



Cllr Claire Klaaste
(ANC)



Cllr Jacqueline Maliti
(ANC)



Cllr Thuso Mpulanyana
(ANC)



Cllr Nicolaas Nel
(VF Plus)



Cllr Lulama Ngwane
(EFF)



Cllr Andre Pedro
(DA)



Cllr Nomzame Phatsoane
(ANC)



Cllr Moutie Richards
(ANC)



Cllr Nical Sauerman
(DA)



Cllr Hannes Smit
(DA)



Cllr Margaurite Smit
(DA)



Cllr Marius Van Stade
(GOOD)



Cllr Ayanda Tomose
(ANC)



Ald Colin Wilskut
(BO)



Cllr Hector Yabo
(ANC)



Vision
A unified Cape Winelands of excellence for sustainable development

Mission
Working together towards effective, efficient and economically sustainable development

Last updated: 19 June 2026

Inspecting the flood damage



On 11 and 12 May, the Cape Winelands was one of a number of areas that sustained significant damage to roads, homes and electricity infrastructure due to the strong winds and heavy rainfall associated with two severe storms.

Roads were damaged by mudslides and rockfalls, while many formal and informal homes were flooded, causing extensive damage and displacing thousands of residents. Farmers and wine producers lost entire blocks of vineyards and orchards as the Breede River rose and broke its banks, depositing sand and debris across valuable agricultural land.

Beyond the immediate humanitarian crisis, the impact of the storms continues to be felt through ongoing road closures and damaged infrastructure. In towns such as Rawsonville, residents are still required to travel via a detour in order to enter or leave the town. Across the Langeberg and Breede Valley areas, numerous roads were closed, while

in Drakenstein and Franschoek several residents required evacuation. In the Witzenberg area, some communities are still experiencing electricity-related challenges as Eskom works around the clock to repair damaged pylons and power lines.

And yet, amid the devastation, communities came together to support one another.

"People assisted neighbours, shared food, and helped where they could. Together we mourned the loss of life and worried about family members," shared the Cape Winelands District Municipality's Executive Mayor, Ald. (Dr) Elna von Schlicht, on Facebook.

Towards the end of May, the Mayor accompanied Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and Western Cape Minister of Infrastructure, Tertius Simmers, on a visit to some of the affected areas. The delegation met with residents, farmers and business owners, listening to their concerns and gaining a better

understanding of the challenges they continue to face regarding access and transport.

The Premier shared that he was profoundly affected by the level of devastation caused by the storms, stating: *"We are doing everything we can to address the damage. We have to prioritise and repair what we can as quickly as possible."*

During the visit, several Rawsonville residents also shared suggestions on how repair work could potentially be accelerated, helping to lessen the ongoing impact of the disaster on local communities.

The Cape Winelands District Municipality's Roads teams continue to work tirelessly to repair damaged roads. To date, many gravel roads have been graded to provide safe alternative routes, and progress is being made daily as teams work to restore access to affected communities.



Story of Hope

The severe storm that hit the Breede Valley area from 11 to 13 May called for quick action by healthcare teams. Not only did we deliver, but we ensured that there was a Whole of Government and Whole of Society support.

Healthcare workers visited two farms in the Rawsonville area where individuals were isolated due to heavy flooding, as well as the community of Zwelethemba where many people were temporarily sheltered in a community hall.

On the farms in the Rawsonville area, a 14-year-old child was in urgent need of specialised medical products. Our team called in the help of the Breede Valley Municipality for access to an alternative route to reach the child. After liaising with Worcester Hospital, the appropriate medical product was obtained and delivered to the child by the Department of Social Development. With their support as well as SASSA, and the Department of Agriculture this young patient as well as persons with disabilities received the appropriate support. As needed, ongoing support is provided by

Boland Hospice.

"The dedication and teamwork of all departments involved resulted in meaningful assistance, enabling the community to navigate an exceptionally challenging period and supporting their ongoing recovery," said Mr Clint Jacobs, Deputy Director of the Violence Prevention Unit, who initially took the lead in a needs assessment. *"This collective response is a testament to the unwavering commitment and cooperation across departments, demonstrating our ability to support vulnerable families even under the most difficult circumstances."*

A special shout out to Dr Jan Heese for his support to displaced families, staff of the Cape Winelands District Office, the South African TB Vaccine Initiative for sponsoring some of these items, as well as the University of Stellenbosch for providing refreshments, and healthcare workers who monitored patients with chronic conditions and the distribution of chronic medication to displaced families.

The Department of Health and Wellness was also able to provide humanitarian relief to the 850 families who were displaced in Zwelethemba. It included the provision of:

- immunisation of children
- support to individuals who lost their chronic medication
- referral of pregnant women for antenatal support
- 200 packs of infant nappies
- Formula milk infants
- Adult nappies for elderly and incapacitated community members
- Refreshments for volunteers and Community Health Workers who worked tirelessly at displacement sites



One of the bakkie loads of nappies on their way in support of people from the Zwelethemba community who were displaced.

Cape Winelands Farm Sports Awards

The Cape Winelands Farmworkers Sport Recreation and Association, in collaboration with the Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM), Western Cape Department of Agriculture, and the Cape Winelands Sport Council, proudly hosted the first-ever Cape Winelands Farmworkers Sport Awards on 13 June 2026 at the Hugenote Community Hall in Paarl.

This landmark event brought together 180 athletes, farmworkers, partners, and community members to celebrate and showcase the rich sporting talent within farmworker communities across the region.

The awards ceremony was dedicated to recognising active participation in sport while providing a platform to identify and nurture emerging talent. It highlighted the critical role of sport in community development and personal growth. The event featured six key sporting codes, namely Football, Netball, Rugby, Cross Country, Dominoes, and Tug of War, highlighting a diverse range of athletic participation across the region.

The programme also ensured inclusive participation, with representation from sportsmen and women living with disabilities.

With a vision to become the leading sporting organisation in the Cape Winelands region, the Cape Winelands Farmworkers Sport Recreation and Association is committed to empowering farm and rural sportspeople. Its goal is to uncover and develop talent within farmworker communities, thereby strengthening the overall sports development pipeline across the region.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the following partners and stakeholders: the CWDM, Stellenbosch Municipality, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, the Western

Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Stellenbosch Landbougenootskap, SATI, and Deon Carinus (Late Councillor – In Memoriam).

By investing in these initiatives and partnering with organisations such as the Cape Winelands Farmworkers Sport Recreation and Association, the CWDM not only promotes active and healthy lifestyles but also encourages participation in sport as a powerful tool for social cohesion, talent development, and community empowerment.



2026 Award Winners		
Award	Recipient(s)	Municipality
Best Player (Disabled Men)	Haindrick Fortuin	Langeberg
Vlakkie Cricket Best Team	Langeberg Municipality	Langeberg
Best Dominoes Team	Andries Rosenberg & Leandre Vrolick	Breede Valley
Best Player (Tug of War – Men)	Emile Krugler	Stellenbosch
Best Player (Tug of War – Women)	Candine Salvester	Stellenbosch
Best Player (Netball)	Le-Handre Galant	Drakenstein
Best Player (Rugby – Women)	Shanice Lukas	Witzenberg
Best Player (Rugby – Men)	Lecian Botto	Stellenbosch
Best Player (Football – Women)	Joanique Abrahams	Breede Valley
Best Player (Football – Men)	Kurt Syster	Stellenbosch
Player of the Year (Women)	Candine Salvester	Stellenbosch
Player of the Year (Men)	Emile Krugler	Stellenbosch



Email us on admin@capewinelands.gov.za

BE LEKKER. RECYCLE.

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Clean spaces are beautiful places. Help keep the Cape Winelands District clean by recycling. Recyclable waste is collected from your doorstep once a week on collection day. It's a quick, free, and effective way to make a positive contribution.

WHAT! WE HAVE RECYCLING?

Yes! Your local municipality has a collection system where black bins and clear bags (containing recyclables) are collected once a week.

HOW DO I RECYCLE?

To recycle, place all your recyclables into the provided clear bag and place it next to your bin on collection day.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY RECYCLING?

Your separated recycling goes to the Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF) where our Waste Heroes sort the items according to type and then sell them on to be recycled and turned into new products! This supports the livelihoods of these Waste Heroes, while also ensuring valuable items do not end up in landfill.

WHAT ABOUT E-WASTE?

Do you have any unwanted electrical or electronic household appliances at home? Any equipment that requires electricity or batteries to work (TVs, cell phones, hairdryers, laptops, you get it) are not permitted in your recycling bag, but can be taken to your nearest Materials Recovery Facility.

Contact your local municipality to find out where your nearest MRF is.

YOU CAN RECYCLE

- Paper, newspapers & magazines
- Flattened cardboard and paperboard (such as biscuit/ cereal boxes)
- Glass bottles & jars
- Empty plastic bags, bottles & containers
- Food tins, cans, foil, scrap metal & empty aerosol cans
- Foil-lined juice & milk cartons

Recyclable material go into the clear bag.



YOU CAN'T RECYCLE

- Disposable nappies & sanitary items
- Hazardous household waste
- Wet or dirty items
- Adhesive & laminated paper
- Cigarette butts and ash
- Pet litter
- Garden waste & food scraps
- Clothing & shoes
- Paper towels, serviettes & tissues
- Anything that will dirty other clean recyclables in the bag
- Number 7 plastics (look for the identification code on the packaging's label)

Do NOT mix the above with your recyclable items.



SUNNY'S TIPS

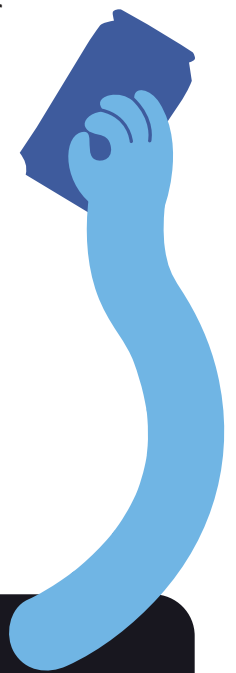
Be a recycling pro by:

- Scraping off food waste and rinsing out containers.
- Ensuring items are clean and dry before adding them to your recycling.
- Wrapping glass items or broken glass in newspaper before putting it in your clear bag.
- Flattening boxes and placing them underneath your recycling bag.



REMEMBER!

Human hands are going to sort through your recyclables, so make sure it's clean and safe!



INTERESTED?

Be a waste hero, man! Your municipality will issue you with **FREE** recycling bag(s). When a bag is full, put it out on collection day.

MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET YOUR RECYCLING BAGS?

Contact your local municipality.

CLEAN STARTS WITH ME



Contact us on 0861 265 263

CLEAN STARTS WITH ME

Exciting environmental awareness campaign launching soon!

HELLO,
I'M SUNNY!



Sunny the Sun

High above the beautiful valleys and vineyards of the Cape Winelands, the sun rises every morning to watch over the communities of the region. But one special sun decided that simply shining light was not enough: Sunny.

Sunny noticed that while the Cape Winelands is one of the most beautiful places in South Africa, litter and waste found their way into rivers, fields, and streets. Sunny believed that everyone could help keep the environment clean if they are reminded. So Sunny stretched his bright rays into two strong arms shaped like a C and a W (just like the symbol of the Cape Winelands District Municipality) and came down to Earth to help. Welcome, Sunny!

Now Sunny travels through towns, farms, and schools teaching people how small actions can make a big difference. From separating waste for recycling to picking up litter, Sunny shows that caring for the environment is something everyone can do.

Sort with Sunny!

As part of the Educational Toolkit for households a home bin system sticker set has been designed to turn everyday waste sorting into a simple household habit. You are encouraged to gather any 4 containers you already have at home, stick a Sunny sticker on each container and sort with Sunny!



Home Bin System: 4 Sticker Set. Available soon!

New Regional Landfill Site

Alongside various partners, the Cape Winelands District Municipality celebrates the opening of a new regional landfill site in Worcester. The goal is to keep it in use for as long as possible. So be lekker, reduce and recycle!



The New Regional Landfill site in Worcester.

CLEAN SPACES
= BEAUTIFUL
PLACES

The Cape Winelands - Clean Spaces are Beautiful Places

The Beautiful Cape Winelands

The Cape Winelands District Municipality is home to some of South Africa's most spectacular landscapes.

To help protect these beautiful places, the Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM) is launching a comprehensive environmental awareness campaign. It is aimed at strengthening understanding of the roles and responsibilities of residents, stakeholders, and partners in effective waste management.

The Executive Mayor of the Cape Winelands District Municipality, Ald (Dr) Elna von Schlicht, emphasises that every individual has the power to make a meaningful contribution to protecting the environment. From our homes to the wider community, we can work together as a team to reduce waste and create cleaner, healthier surroundings for everyone. Clean starts with me!



Meet your waste heroes



You see a person collecting recyclables. **Reclaimers see a pathway to supporting their families.**

What you can do:

Remember that there is a **person behind the trolley**, not just the work they do.

What they can do:

Waste reclaimers have an **environmental responsibility** to **keep an area clean and tidy.**

Sunny in Schools

Children are eager learners. Through a fun and interactive educational toolkit, this campaign will help schools teach learners about responsible waste management.

Educational Song:
Sunny says 'Clean starts with me'

Sunny, Sunny, what do we say?
Keep our streets clean every day!
Bottle, wrapper, paper too,
Put it in the bin, that's what we do!
HEY! HEY! HEY!
Clean starts with me! (x6)
Start with me!
Sunny shines for all to see,
A happy, healthy community!
HEY! HEY!
Clean starts with me! (x6)
Start with me!



Keep an eye on our socials for **exciting competitions and cash giveaways!**



capewinlands_DM1

Cape Winelands DM

capewinlands_DM1

CLEAN SPACES = BEAUTIFUL PLACES

24 Hour Emergency 021 887 4446



YOUTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

As the youth of South Africa, we can be catalysts for change, we have the power to take the future into our own hands today. Your voice matters!

Climate change impacts on youth

Youth in South Africa are especially affected by climate change because it adds pressure to challenges they already face. With youth unemployment at 32.8% and more than half of South Africans living in poverty, children, who are twice as likely to be poor as adults, have fewer resources to cope with climate impacts. The effects of today's climate decisions may fade for current leaders, while the youth will live with their consequences for a lifetime.

Youth & Climate vulnerability

Inequalities in race, gender, income, and location mean many young people have fewer resources to cope with climate shocks, making them more vulnerable.

Limited Access to Support

Youth in under-resourced communities are more vulnerable because they have less access to climate information, tools, and support systems that help people prepare for disasters.

Disrupted Education

Climate disasters disrupt education most for young people in poorly resourced areas, where damaged schools and limited infrastructure make recovery much harder.

Socio-Economic Barriers

Poverty and gender inequality increase vulnerability by limiting young people's access to essentials like food, water, healthcare, and safe living conditions during climate crises.

Geographic Exposure

Young people in certain regions face higher climate risks because marginalised communities are often located in areas with fewer services and greater environmental hazards.

Scan the code if you want to read more about what we do when it comes to Climate Change



How can you get involved?

Your voice matters! Here are practical ways to get involved and shape South Africa's climate future:

GREEN JOBS & CLEAN ENERGY FUTURES

South Africa's clean energy transition is opening pathways for youth to enter green careers. You can explore renewable energy training, internships, or green-tech skills as the sector grows.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP & POLICY SPACES

National climate events and youth roundtables are creating real spaces where young people can contribute ideas and influence climate and energy policies - don't be afraid to join youth climate forums and make your voice heard!

SKILLS TO LEAD COMMUNITY ACTION

Climate education and digital literacy are giving young people practical skills to lead local projects - look for community climate clubs, digital skills programmes, or youth training opportunities.

ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Youth can access support, training, and community spaces through organisations that help young people take action on climate change: African Climate Alliance, Project 90 by 2030, and Centre for Environmental Rights.

CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION STATION



Ever wondered what is the difference between Climate Mitigation and Climate Adaptation?

MITIGATION: Actions taken to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon sequestration is one such example - refers to the capture and storage of CO₂ to prevent it from entering the atmosphere.

ADAPTATION: Steps taken by people or communities to adjust/adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Scan the QR Code below to view the Western Cape Climate Change Response Strategy: Vision 2050



Global Recycling Day Ceres'ly Celebrated!

The Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM), through its Municipal Health Services, partnered with Witzenberg Municipality to celebrate Global Recycling Day on 18 March at the Ceres Material Recovery Facility (MERF). Grade 6 learners from Bella Vista Primary School participated in the Ceres'ly Clean, Ceres'ly Green initiative, which promotes environmental sustainability through recycling awareness, community clean-ups, and tree planting.

The open day provided learners with practical insight into waste management, demonstrating how materials are sorted and recovered for reuse. Key principles—Recycle, Reduce, Re-use, Recover, and Respect—were emphasised to highlight the impact of responsible waste practices. Learners were encouraged to apply these principles in their daily lives at home and school.



Freedom Waste Dialogue empowers Mbekweni youth on responsible waste management

The Keep Mbekweni Clean initiative, led by the Mbekweni Recycling Project, hosted a Waste Management and Recycling Awareness session on 28 April 2026 at the Be Part Yoluntu Centre to commemorate Freedom Day. In collaboration with the Cape Winelands District Municipality's Municipal Health Services, the event engaged around 30 learners aged 11 to 15 from local schools.

The session encouraged meaningful discussions on proper waste management, recycling practices, and identifying recyclable materials within schools and communities. It also highlighted environmental and public health concerns, including the dangers of illegal dumping and waste burning, which contributes to air pollution and health risks.

Various partners, including Drakenstein Municipality and local businesses, contributed expertise and practical solutions. The initiative emphasised that freedom comes with responsibility, encouraging community members to protect the environment.



Farmers and Landowners

Before you burn waste – take note.

With winter in full swing, CWDM Fire Services know that many farmers and landowners have collected a lot of waste over the summer months. Traditionally, burning waste is done in late autumn and winter, when there is a much lower risk of the fire spreading to valuable areas.

Readers may not be aware of this, but there is no municipal garbage collection on farms, like one has in towns, farmers need to manage their own household and farming waste products. (Farming is not always rosy!). Non-recyclable household waste, such as used nappies and sanitary towels, pressurized cannisters, paint tins plastic wrappers etc. are collected and taken to the local landfill. While items such as agricultural off cuts, poles, prunings etc. are burned.

But farmers and landowners may not just collect their garbage and burn it. A permit needs to be obtained. There are a few reasons that a permit is required.

- The permit informs Fire Services where and when a burn will take place
- The permit allows Fire Officers to visit the burn site prior to the burning to ensure that the area is safe and that no dangerous items are being burnt.
- The permit ensures that both farmers and fire services are informed of safety procedures required before, during and after a burn.
- All rural Municipality's have by-laws that in accordance with the National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act 101 of 1998) prohibit the setting of fires under certain conditions.

For many years permits were available from the Winelands Fire Protection Association (WFPA), who serves as an interface between landowners and CWDM's Fire Services.

However, this has now changed, as from 1 July 2026 all landowners need to apply for the Burn Permits via CWDM's website, www.capewinelands.gov.za. This includes FPA members.

The following costs are applicable:

1. Non- member R632.50 excluding VAT
2. FPA Members R316.25

For more information and assistance please contact the Winelands FPA on 079 6564 673 or Fire Officer, **Jaco Thuynsma** on **021 888 5824** or drop him an email at jst@capewinelands.gov.za

You need to apply for the permit 10 – 14 days before you plan to burn, this is to allow time for the visit by the fire officer. Step one is getting your burn site ready, then you apply for a permit, once the fire officer has visited, a permit will be issued that will allow you to set fire to the burn site under certain conditions.

🔥 BURN PERMITS 🔥

July 17

1 JULY 2026

July 17

www.capewinelands.gov.za

Call: 021 888 5824

⚠️ Please ensure you have a valid burn permit **BEFORE** starting the fire.

🔥 Safety first! 🧯

World Environment Day celebrated in Langeberg

The Environmental Health Officers (EHP) of Robertson visited Robertson High School on World Environment Day on 5 June 2026. The initiative was undertaken to commemorate and celebrate this crucial observational day.

According to CWDM EHP, Barbara McLeod, 'The day proved to be a resounding success, filled with joy and laughter as the learners were allowed to engage and interact with Environmental Health Practitioners (EHPs) from MHS. The primary aim of this day was to sensitize the learners on the positive impact of a clean environment.'



Fire Services Passing Out Parade Celebrates Autumn Class of 2026

CWDM Fire Services held a Passing Out Parade on 8 May 2026 at its Stellenbosch academy, celebrating 29 NFPA 1001 Firefighter II graduates. Leaders praised discipline and commitment, while Jaco Thuynsma

was honoured for 40 years' service. Awards of Excellence recognised top performers, marking the graduates' entry into professional firefighting.



CWDM showcases Cape Winelands at the Africa's Travel Indaba 2026

The Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM), alongside local tourism associations, showcased the region at Africa's Travel Indaba 2026 held in Durban on 9 May 2026. This prominent three-day trade show provides a platform for African tourism exhibitors to present their offerings to international and local buyers, destination marketers, and industry partners. It offers valuable opportunities for networking, strengthening partnerships, and promoting destinations on a global stage.

Africa's Travel Indaba serves as a strategic platform for positioning the Cape Winelands as a must-visit destination while connecting the region to key international markets. It also enables the promotion of local tourism products and experiences.

CWDM participated as a co-exhibitor with WESGRO on the Cape Town and Western Cape stand. The shared exhibition space included representatives from Drakenstein LTA, Visit Stellenbosch, Franschhoek Wine Valley, Tulbagh Tourism, as well as Drakenstein and Breede Valley Municipalities, highlighting strong regional collaboration.



CWDM equips local youth with skills for real opportunities

The Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM), through its Division: Rural and Social Development, continued investing in youth skills development by offering SETA-accredited training programmes. A total of 29 young people from across the district received certificates, with 12 completing hairdressing

training in Ceres and 17 graduating from a Basic Baking Skills programme in Paarl.

Participants gained practical, hands-on experience aligned with industry needs. Baking students learned how to prepare dough, pastries, hot and cold

desserts, and cake decorating, while also focusing on food safety and proper protective clothing. Hairdressing trainees developed skills in hair therapy, cutting, and the use and maintenance of styling tools, and each received a basic equipment kit. In addition, all participants were introduced to

essential life skills such as financial management and communication. Deputy Executive Mayor Ald. Margie Sampson highlighted that these programmes responded directly to community needs, creating opportunities for young people to access employment or start their own businesses.



Community Safety Awareness at Identified School Hotspots

As part of its Community Safety Project, the Cape Winelands District Municipality's Disaster Management Unit identified five schools across the district as hotspots for bullying and substance abuse, requiring targeted intervention. The project brought together key stakeholders to engage learners on critical social issues, with a strong focus on promoting safe behaviour and raising awareness about the dangers of substance use.

Dalweide Primary School in the Drakenstein area to hand over awareness materials to reinforce key safety messages. This visit followed an earlier awareness session held on 2 March 2026, where learners received guidance on personal safety, respectful conduct, and substance abuse risks. The initiative aimed to sustain awareness and support schools in fostering safer environments.

It reflected the ongoing commitment of Disaster Management and its partners to building safer, more supportive school communities.

On 22 April 2026, Community Safety Officer Lee Meisenheimer and Councillor Clara Meyer visited



Helping Our Children Get to School Safely

The Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM) strengthened efforts to ensure safer journeys to school for learners across the region through its Safer Journey to School Strategy. Recognising the risks children face when walking or using public transport, the initiative focused on improving road safety, transport systems, law enforcement, and ongoing monitoring. A key priority was increasing visibility and awareness, with learners provided with bright safety bibs, caps, and beanies to help them stand out to drivers, especially during early mornings and late afternoons.

Special attention was given to vulnerable learners in rural areas, including farm communities, with outreach initiatives in places like Montagu. CWDM also collaborated with local law enforcement and the Provincial Department of Mobility to deliver road safety education in schools. Through shared responsibility among drivers, parents, and learners, the municipality aimed to create safer daily journeys so that children could travel to and from school securely.



'n Makietie, a Jol, a fantastic time was had by all

A jol, a makietie, a Celebration to Remember!





WINELANDS
AUTUMN EXPO
29 - 30 MAY 2026
Taste • Experience • Explore • Celebrate



The 3rd Winelands Autumn Expo, held in Worcester on 29 and 30 May 2026, has once again proven why it is fast becoming one of Cape Winelands' favourite annual events. Building on the success of the inaugural Expo in 2024, this year's event welcomed more than 5 000 visitors who came together to celebrate the very best of the Cape Winelands.

"Everywhere one looked there were people smiling, enjoying the perfect autumn weather, dancing to the music, chatting to exhibitors about their products and, most importantly, connecting with friends and family. It was a wonderful reflection of Winelands innovation, creativity and hospitality," said the Executive Mayor of the Cape Winelands District Municipality, Ald (Dr) Elna von Schlicht.

With 146 indoor exhibitors, outdoor displays and food vendors, there truly was something for everyone.

Inside the bustling exhibition tent, visitors could browse an incredible variety of products and experiences. One could get a tattoo, buy a vinyl record, sift through racks of new and second-hand clothing, find the perfect pair of shoes, a unique piece of jewellery or a brand-new handbag. Others stocked up on gifts, from handmade crocheted toys and luxury bath products to handcrafted pans and handmade décor. Food lovers were spoiled for choice with biltong, preserves, artisan breads, pancakes and other sweet treats around every corner. Pet owners could find products and treats for their four-legged family members. And of course, there were award-winning wines, craft gins, brandies and whiskies, proudly produced right here in the Cape Winelands.

Outside, the Expo offered a completely different adventure. Visitors explored campers, trailers, tractors, outdoor equipment and the latest innovations in agriculture and recreation. Many appreciated the opportunity to engage directly with manufacturers and suppliers, asking questions and comparing products in a relaxed environment.

The food court was a destination on its own. From gourmet burgers, corn dogs and Asian-inspired cuisine to freshly prepared yellowtail,

pancakes, doughnuts, samosas and other local favourites, there was no shortage of delicious options to enjoy while soaking up the atmosphere.

Families and kids of all ages embraced the dedicated children's area, where young visitors enjoyed, glitter tattoos and a host of supervised activities. The sound of laughter carried across the grounds as children played while parents explored the Expo at their leisure. Kids entertainment also included, stilt walkers, Mungo the Clown and Regardt the Magician.

Meanwhile, the entertainment programme kept the energy high throughout the weekend. From local favourites to nationally acclaimed performers, the stage delivered one memorable performance after another, with visitors singing along, dancing and celebrating long into the evening.

Social media platforms have been flooded with positive comments from visitors, many describing the Expo as "well organised", "excellent value for money", "family friendly" and "one of the best events in the region". Others praised the friendly atmosphere, diverse exhibits and quality entertainment, with many already asking about dates for next year's event.

Beyond the vibrant atmosphere and entertainment, the Winelands Autumn Expo continues to fulfil its primary objective of promoting tourism and economic development throughout the Cape Winelands region.

The Expo is subsidised by the Cape Winelands District Municipality as part of its mandate to promote tourism, support local economic development and create opportunities for businesses across the district. One of the other ways in which this objective is achieved is through the participation of Local Tourism Associations (LTAs), which are provided with complimentary exhibition space. This allows tourism organisations from across the district to showcase their destinations while also creating opportunities for smaller, emerging and home-based businesses to introduce their products and services to a wider audience.

Supporting local remains a cornerstone of the Expo. The majority of exhibitors, entertainers and service providers were sourced from within the Cape Winelands region, ensuring that the economic benefits of the event remain within local communities. From musicians and performers to crafters, food producers and entrepreneurs, the Expo provided a platform for local talent and businesses to shine.

The economic impact extended far beyond the exhibition floor. Local companies were appointed to provide a wide range of services, including security, emergency medical care, cleaning services, mobile toilets, infrastructure support and event logistics. Local caterers supplied meals for event staff, the Hospitality Centre and the Artists' Lounge, creating additional opportunities for businesses and workers throughout the district.

"What began as an ambitious vision in 2024 has grown into a signature event for the Cape Winelands, showcasing not only our products and talent, but the warmth, resilience and spirit of our people. The Winelands Autumn Expo demonstrates what can be achieved when municipalities, tourism partners, local businesses, artists and communities work together towards a shared vision. We are incredibly proud of what has been built and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead." Stated Cllr Koos Steyn (CWDM Portfolio Holder, Economic Development).

By investing in local suppliers and creating opportunities for tourism promotion, entrepreneurship and job creation, the Winelands Autumn Expo continues to generate a positive ripple effect that is felt long after the final performance has ended and the last visitor has gone home.

For more photographs and videos, visit Winelands Autumn Expo on Facebook and Instagram.

The Winelands Autumn Expo — where people came to taste, experience, explore and celebrate the extraordinary together.



#SafeintheCapeWinelands