



District 410A

"Green Living"

August 2013



We Need Vision

What does Green Living mean?

Each of us has an impact on the planet. The way we use the planet's resources makes up our environmental footprint. To live green means to be aware of and take responsibility for the environment and as a result change behavior patterns and reduce consumption of critical resources such as water, fossil fuel and trees.



Why should we go Green?

We currently consume 30% more natural resources than the earth's ecosystems can replenish.

If we continue living the way we do, we will need two planets to sustain us by 2030.

Even the simplest everyday activities can make a difference to the environment.

Our environment and all the creatures that live within it are dependent on our responsible development choices.



⇒ Considering the life cycle of the product from cradle to grave;

⇒ Considering endangered species and the biomes in which they live;

⇒ Being water-wise and energy efficient;

⇒ Managing waste—both at home and at the office;

⇒ Always remember the **4 R's** →

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink!

Being Green is...

Frightening Facts

- ◇ Recycling one ton of paper (400 reams) saves 15 trees; 2,5 barrels of oil; 4132 kWh of electricity; 2,26m³ of landfill space; 142,188 ℓ of water and prevents 26,8kg air pollutants from reaching the atmosphere.
- ◇ Leaving your computer on overnight wastes as much energy as you would use to make 800 A4 photocopies;
- ◇ Leaving the lights on in a conference/meeting room overnight wastes sufficient electricity to make 1000 cups of tea;
- ◇ TVs, DVD players, microwave ovens and cellphone chargers left on "stand-by" use at least a ¼ of the energy that is used when they are switched on;
- ◇ Overfilling the kettle can waste enough electricity to run a TV for 26 hours.

Switch off your geyser between 5pm & 9pm—here's why:

The reason is that the country uses more electricity during this time and supply is under severe pressure.

Switching off your geyser helps free up power for other things and relieves the pressure on the grid.

The huge demand for energy during 5pm & 9pm is the equivalent of one power station.

There is an estimated 5,4 million electric geysers in homes across South Africa.

Our combined contribution makes a significant difference—help us beat the peak to keep South Africa powered up. Visit www.eskom.co.za/idm for more information.



What to do in August

- ◆ Plan your summer plantings;
- ◆ Plant azaleas in pots for the patio;
- ◆ Repot container plants with fresh potting soil & compost;
- ◆ Finish pruning of roses, vines, fruit trees and shrubs;
- ◆ Feed trees, shrubs and climbers with an organic fertilizer and top dress with compost;
- ◆ Sow lettuce, tomatoes, Swiss chard and runner beans.

Coastal Cleanup Day—21/09:

Trash is a preventable, human-generated problem that affects our ocean. And while at times trash may seem like an insurmountable problem, incremental steps, when added collectively, make a huge difference for our ocean.

Our beaches and coasts need YOU. www.oceanconservancy.org and sign up to pledge to fight trash in our oceans.



Do the Maths:

- A low-flow shower head delivers 10ℓ of water per minute;
- Reduce your shower time from 10 to 7 minutes and you'll save 30% of water—about half the water used in an average dishwashing cycle;
- Rain tanks earn their keep! Just 20mm of rainfall can produce up to 1,200ℓ of runoff or collectable water off a roof covering 100m².

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