



District 410A

"Green Living"

June 2014



We Need Vision

Are your old books spending their days unread?

If you no longer have use for your old books, why not share the joy of reading by donating them to the Cape of Good Hope SPCA? They have a second-hand book shop on site and hold a number of book sales each year. So by donating your books to them, you will not only help them raise much-needed funds and all the animals in their care, but you can also rest assured that your books will find new owners who will devour them from start to finish. Their next Book Sale is from **26 to 29 June**—9am to 9pm—at Canal Walk.



Glossary of green terms (part 1)

Biodegradable—a material that breaks down with the assistance of micro-organisms;

Biodiversity—the scope of different living things within an area—plants, animals, fungi & micro-organisms & their ecosystems;

Degradable—a material that breaks down through chemical reactions rather than through the activity of micro-organisms;

Zinc—a white metal insoluble in water, but soluble in acids. It is widely used as an astringent for mouth washes!

The ingestion of zinc salts can cause nausea and vomiting;

Zinc oxide—found in make-up and sunscreen!

This is the preferable ingredient when looking to choose the proper sun protection.



What is Eco-footprint?

One way of seeing how sustainable your activities are is to measure your ecological footprint. This is the number that tells you how much of the earth's resources you use. An ecological footprint is the amount of land that would be needed to grow all the food, fuel and materials you use and your eco-footprint is measured in hectares. The average global ecological footprint is 2.2 hectares per person which is higher than the sustainable level of 1.8 hectares per person.

Aluminium foil...

While foil makes up a small portion of a household's waste, recycling it reduces waste at landfill sites, saves energy and reduces carbon emissions.

Making aluminium requires vast amounts of energy but recycling it takes only 5% of the original energy required.

As aluminium is an element, used foil retains all its properties even after being re-melted to form a new product. So recycle your used foil...



Caring for your pets in winter

Temperatures are dropping and your pets need extra special care to keep them warm & happy.

- * Add a little extra food daily as the cold weather make them burn up more energy;
- * Continue taking your pets for a brisk walk;
- * Ensure that your animals have access to shelter & warm bedding at all times;
- * If your pets live outside, make sure that their kennels are waterproof & dry;
- * Keep puppies, kittens & other young animals indoors in a warm environment;
- * Fleas & ticks are present all year round, so continue with tick & flea control methods;
- * **Collect blankets & towels and donate them to various animal shelters in your area and SANCCOB.**

Why do lions have manes?



Manes convey a range of information about the owners' status. Long dark manes are signs of peak condition, attracting females and intimidating other males, whereas lions with shorter blonder manes are perceived as less threatening.

Dark-maned lions are winners. They tend to be well fed, have high testosterone, are more likely to survive wounds, last longer as pride males and father more cubs that survive to adulthood.

The downside is that having dark manes soaks up heat, raising body temperature and lowering sperm counts. So it is better for lions in hot regions to have short or no manes like the famous "Man-eaters of Tsavo" in Kenya.

DC Liz