

WELCOME TO THE COASTAL CONSERVANCY VILLAGES OF THE KOGELBERG BIOSPHERE RESERVE BETTY'S BAY, PRINGLE BAY AND ROOIELS

What probably drew you here was the peace and quiet, the beautiful beaches, lakes, mountains, starry skies and the privilege of living amongst nature and wildlife. Living here is not the same as living in a town or city. Here, you are:

- Away from it all with fewer conveniences
- Away from street lights and bright night lighting in general, so that you can see our beautiful stars more clearly
- Driving on gravel roads, with muddy puddles in winter and dust in summer
- Co-existing with wildlife of all kinds – marine and terrestrial
- Fortunate to live in the **Transition Zone** of the **Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve**. This forms part of the world-wide network of **UNESCO Biosphere Reserves**, where humans and wildlife can co-exist
- Required to be fire wise, BUT this does not mean clearing your erf of all vegetation. You can "firescape" your garden without destroying the rich biodiversity.



When preparing your erf for building, do not bulldoze all of it. Only clear the building and driveway footprint, leaving the rest as nature intended it to be. Many plants can be rescued and transplanted back into your garden.

The **Kogelberg fynbos** contains a treasure of beautiful plants endemic to this area. By being a responsible property owner, **YOU** can help to protect them for future generations.

Overstrand Municipality information leaflet 'Building in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve - The Do's, the Don'ts, the Tips':

"Once the building footprint has been pegged out, please do not clear the erf in its totality. Simply stake off a working margin of 1 to 1.5 m around the area and leave the rest undisturbed. This is not only for the sake of the fauna and flora, but to prevent precious topsoil from being carried off by the wind."



Gardening – Contact groups such as the Kogelberg Botanical Society and Kogelberg Garden Circle for advice on gardening in the fynbos biome and identification of plants.

Fire wise – Clear away invasive vegetation and dead wood. You don't have to cut down trees (other than aliens) - only remove the low-growing and dead branches, thereby reducing the fire load underneath them.

Fencing – Solid boundary walls severely restrict the natural movement of wildlife, so only fence where absolutely needed. Leave the rest of your garden unfenced as a wildlife corridor.

Wetlands – First check if your erf is in a wetland, as building in wetlands and floodplains requires the completion of an additional **risk matrix**. Dumping rubble in wetlands increases the risk of localised flooding during the rainy season, on both your erf and that of your neighbours'. Draining them also destroys critical habitat for amphibians, thereby degrading a very important part of our ecosystem.

Outdoor lighting – Install motion-detector down-lights to reduce the impact on our skies, our wildlife, and your neighbours.

Future information sheets will provide more details on these topics.





RESOURCES

'Your Place in the Kogelberg' by Tim Attwell	Purchase book at the Botanical Society Shop, Harold Porter Gardens - 079 657 2385
Building in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve	www.bettysbayconservancy.co.za/building-in-the-kogelberg-biosphere-reserve/ Overstrand Municipality - 028 271 8400
'Be Wild Fire Ready' booklet	Download here from the BBRA website
Invasive Alien Plants	www.invasives.org.za / 'Top 8 aliens' leaflet
Wetlands information	Learn more about wetlands here - https://www.ramsar.org/resources/ Liezel Bohdanowicz - 079 194 0163 / Joan Isham - 082 376 3646

CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

Betty's Bay Conservancy	bettysbayconservancy@gmail.com / www.bettysbayconservancy.co.za  Betty's Bay Conservancy
Pringle Bay Rewilding	www.pringlebayrewilding.co.za / Cornelia Stoop - 079 515 0553 /  PringleBayRewilding
Rooiels Conservancy	www.rooiels.org / rec@rooiels.org
Kogelberg Branch of the Botanical Society (Botsoc)	 Kogelberg Branch of the Botanical Society of SA / Leonie McAlpine - 083 380 7892
Kogelberg Garden Circle Advice on fynbos gardening and plant rescue	galia.manicom@gmail.com / Galia Manicom - 082 963 3804  Kogelberg Garden Circle
CREW (Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers, Kogelberg)	jennyparsons63@gmail.com / Jenny Parsons - 083 448 2467  CREW
The Hackers of the Kogelberg	christiaan4rg@gmail.com / Chris - 082 900 8299 /  The Hackers of the Kogelberg Betty's Bay Hackers: Dave Mourant - 082 923 5366
Betty's Bay Baboon Action Group	Renee Bish - 060 656 7341 /  BBBAG
Volunteer Community Fire Fighters	Betty's Bay: Liz Buncker - 074 141 7600 / Jorika Rabie - 072 616 8418 Pringle Bay, Rooiels: Clayton Francis - 072 129 9788
CapeNature	www.capenature.co.za / CapeNature Duty cell number - 082 783 8585 (wildlife)
Harold Porter National Botanical Gardens	www.sanbi.org/gardens/harold-porter / 028 272 9311 /  HPNBG
Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve Company	www.kogelbergbiosphere.org.za/biosphere-living /  KBRC

RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATIONS

Betty's Bay Ratepayers Association	bettysbayratepayers@gmail.com /  BBRA
Pringle Bay Ratepayers Association	www.pringlebayratepayers.co.za/biosphere /  PBRA
Rooiels Ratepayers Association	www.rooiels.org / rera@rooiels.org