



---

**HOA**

Dear Homeowner

### **HOMEOWNER INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE**

Should any homeowner require any information, or have any questions or concerns, whether it be an account or a general query, information, complaint, etc. to please either pop into the office or contact the office via email or by phone. We are always available to assist with anything that you may have on your mind.

### **CANOES**

We once again request homeowners to please identify their canoes so that a sticker with the house number can be stuck on as is the case with golf carts. This will also allow easy identification when needed. Please urgently contact the HOA office to have your canoe identified, we will then place the stickers on the relevant canoes.

### **HAZARDOUS WASTE**

We would like to advise homeowners that any hazardous materials including but not confined to the following must please be disposed of responsibly. If they are in a sealed container you can place the container next to your wheelie bin for removal. If you have a contractor using paints, etc. the leftovers must be removed by the contractor and the same goes for gardeners who may use any form of herbicide or insecticides. Always remember it is better to use environmentally friendly products whenever possible.

- Fuels (petrol, diesel, oils)
- Chemical cleaning materials
- Herbicides & Fertilisers
- Paints

## PARKING

We would like to remind homeowners to please park any vehicles in garages and driveways and not on pavements. Should you require a temporary solution for an additional vehicle, boat, trailer, caravan, etc. please contact the estate office for assistance.

## IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

As the winter rains have arrived, homeowners should consider adjusting irrigation timers or turning them off altogether to prevent excessive irrigation of gardens.

## ENVIRONMENTAL

### ESTUARY UPDATE

We have received the following information from Botfriends regarding the estuary:

“Dear Botfriends and other interested parties

You might know that the Bot estuary is very full, about 2.5 metres above mean sea level, and we could soon see a natural breach with some more heavy rains.

The Klein River (Hermanus) estuary was breached illegally on 29 April 2023 and caused some unwanted results. A full article, written by Sheraine van Wyk (Whale Coast Conservation) and Pierre de Villiers (Cape Nature) appeared in the recent Village News magazine. *See attached.*

Cape Nature and some estuarine scientists have compiled a policy with guidelines for artificial breachings along our coast, including the Bot River estuary. Unless there is a natural breach, it would seem as if the conditions for an artificial breach could be fulfilled soon.

PS: The last breach of the Bot estuary was natural, it took place on 3 September 2020 and closed again on 18 October 2021. The system remained open for over a year, a record in my data stretching back to 1981.

Frans Theunissen

Chairman: Friends of the Bot River Estuary and Environs”

### SAVE YOUR GARDEN WITHOUT KILLING THE EARTH

#### Treehugger : Sustainability for all

There's nothing like having a home garden to make you begin to appreciate the trials and tribulations of gardening. Between weather, weeds, and insects, not to mention the challenges of soil fertility, it can be an incredibly humbling experience to try to have the perfect home garden - especially when adhering to organic protocols that don't rely on quick, yet potentially harmful, solutions, such as herbicides, pesticides, and conventional fertilizers.

It's important to note that just because these are "natural" or homemade insecticides, that doesn't imply that they can't harm your soil, your garden, or your person. Also, remember that not all insects are harmful. Applying insecticides indiscriminately, especially harsh pesticides that affect even the beneficial insects can have a detrimental effect on your local garden ecosystem.

#### All-in-One Homemade Spray

This all-in-one DIY natural insecticide, which is said to be a combination of many different recipes.

To make it, puree one bulb of garlic and one small onion, add one teaspoon of cayenne pepper powder and let steep for an hour. Strain the mixture and add one tablespoon of liquid soap and mix well. To apply this homemade insecticide, spray it full-strength onto both the upper surface of the leaves, as well as the undersides, and store the remainder in the refrigerator for up to a week if desired.

Every organic gardener seems to have their particular blend and ratio of ingredients, so by paying close attention to the effects of a specific recipe, it's possible to modify it to best suit your insect battles.

Just remember, killing off all of the insects in your garden is not the desired result here, as any healthy ecosystem requires an abundance of beneficial insects, microbes, and fungi, both in the soil and on the plants themselves, so introducing other predatory insects (ladybugs, praying mantis, etc.) or creating good habitat for them, as well as building soil fertility, can also be an effective pest management approach.

Fine Living!

HOA

## REMINDER MAY EVENTS

Dear Neighbours,

For those of you who are interested, **Meet & Greet** will resume during winter time, every second Friday of the month from 17h00 on at Barnabas' Bar in the Hotel:

9<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
etc.

We also encourage the permanent residents to join the **Ladies' Tea** every third Tuesday of the month, 14h30 at the Hotel lobby:

13<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
etc.

**Special Residents Lunch** at the hotel. The Engagement Committee are working on a date and once this has been finalised, details will be added to the Arabella Community WhatsApp Group.

**Topics of Interest** will continue from **September** with an expert about wildlife rescue from Kogelberg Nature Reserve.

CONNECT will take a break in July and August.

Kind regards,  
Let's CONNECT ...

Engagement Committee

## APPEAL

Diane Nurse (Chair)  
Arabella Homeowner Community Trust

We are really anxious to proceed with new projects, particularly in the area of early childhood education - as this is where we can have an optimal impact.

Please do consider making a monthly contribution to the Trust – even R50 or R100 each month will buy essential foodstuffs, sanitary materials, educational equipment, etc.

Anyone willing to contribute can contact Lida Louw at [ace2@mweb.co.za](mailto:ace2@mweb.co.za) and ask that the agreed amount be included in the monthly levy invoice; this will then be passed to the Trust account.

Contributions can also be made directly to the Trust bank account:

Arabella Homeowners Community Trust,  
First National Bank,  
Swift Code FIRZAJJ,  
Account number 62903716019

Thank you!