

## LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTICE 213

**LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BY-LAWS**

The Municipal Manager of Lephalale Local Municipality hereby in terms of section 13(a) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) publishes Stormwater Management By-law for the municipality as approved by its council, as set out hereunder.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. Definitions
2. Purpose
3. Prohibited conduct
4. Application and conditions which municipality may impose
5. Stormwater systems on private land
6. Powers of municipality
7. Authentication and service of notices and other documents
8. Exemptions
9. Offences and Penalties
10. Repeal of by-law
11. Short title and commencement

**1. Definitions**

In this by-law, unless the context otherwise indicates –

“**floodplain**” means land adjoining a watercourse which is predisposed to flooding up to the 100 year recurrence interval;

“**municipality**” means the municipal council of Lephalale Local Municipality, or any political structure, political office bearer, committee, councilor, official or employee of the municipality, delegated to exercise powers or perform duties in terms of this by-law;

“**private stormwater system**” means a stormwater system which is owned, operated or maintained by a person and not the municipality;

“**pollute**” bears the meaning assigned to it in the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998);

“**stormwater**” means water resulting from natural rainfall or the accumulation thereof and includes groundwater and spring water ordinarily conveyed by the stormwater system, but excludes water in a drinking water or waste water reticulation system;



**“stormwater system”** means both the constructed and natural facilities, including pipes, culverts, watercourses and their associated floodplains, whether over or under public or privately owned land, used or required for the management, collection, conveyance, temporary storage, control, monitoring, treatment, use or disposal of stormwater;

**“watercourse”** bears the meaning assigned to it in the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998);

**“organ of state”** bears the meaning assigned to it in the Constitution

## **2. Purpose**

The purpose of this by-law is to regulate stormwater management and activities which may have an adverse impact on the development, operation and maintenance of the stormwater system.

## **3. Prohibited conduct**

- (1) No person may, except with the written consent of the municipality first having been obtained –
  - (a) discharge, place or permit to enter into the stormwater system –
    - (i) anything other than stormwater;
    - (ii) anything likely to damage the stormwater system or interfere with the operation thereof; and
    - (iii) anything likely to pollute the water in the stormwater system;
  - (b) discharge from any place, or place onto any surface, any substance other than stormwater, where that substance could reasonably be expected to find its way into the stormwater system;
  - (c) undertake any action whatsoever that is likely to destroy, damage, endanger or interfere with the stormwater system or the operation thereof, which action includes, but is not limited to -
    - (i) obstructing or reducing the capacity of the stormwater system;
    - (ii) opening a pipe, culvert or canal which forms part of the stormwater system;

- (iii) constructing or erecting any structure or thing over or in such a position or in such a manner as to destroy, damage, endanger or interfere with the stormwater system or the operation thereof;
  - (iv) draining, abstracting or diverting any water directly from the stormwater system;
  - (v) filling, excavating, shaping, landscaping, opening up or removing the ground above, within, under or immediately next to any part of the stormwater system;
  - (vi) changing the design or the use of, or otherwise modify any feature of the stormwater system which alone or in combination with other existing or potential land uses, may cause an increase in flood levels or create a potential flood risk; or
  - (vii) any activity which alone or in combination with other existing or future activities, may cause an increase in flood levels or create a potential flood risk.
- (2) When an incident contemplated in subsection (1)(a) or (b) occurs without the consent of the municipality contemplated in subsection (1) –
- (a) if the incident is not the result of natural causes, the person responsible for the incident; or
  - (b) the owner of the property on which the event took place or is taking place,
- must immediately report the incident to the municipality and take, at own cost, all reasonable measures to contain and minimize the effects of the incident, which measure include, but are not limited to, the undertaking of cleaning up operations including the rehabilitation of the environment.

#### **4. Application and conditions which municipality may impose**

- (1) A person who wishes to obtain the consent of the municipality as contemplated in section 3, must submit an application to the municipality and the municipality may request from the applicant any further information which may assist the municipality in its decision.
- (2) Should the municipality grant consent, it may impose conditions as it may deem necessary, such as, but not limited to –

- (a) the undertaking of impact assessments, environmental impact studies or environmental impact investigations which are required by environmental legislation; and
- (b) the establishment of flood lines.

#### **5. Stormwater systems on private land**

- (1) An owner of property on which a private stormwater system is located –
  - (a) may not carry out any activity which may impair the effective functioning of the stormwater system or which could reasonably be expected to impair the effective functioning of the stormwater system; and
  - (b) must, at own cost, keep the stormwater system functioning effectively, including undertaking, on written instruction by the municipality, the refurbishment and reconstruction thereof if the municipality deems it necessary that the stormwater system be refurbished or reconstructed.
- (2) Subsection (1)(b) does not apply in the instance where the municipality has accepted responsibility for any of the duties contained in a maintenance agreement or in terms of a condition of a servitude.
- (3) Should an owner fail or refuse to comply with an instruction by the municipality made in terms of subsection (1)(b), the municipality may undertake measures to refurbish or reconstruct the stormwater system and the municipality may recover from the owner all reasonable costs incurred as a result of action taken.

#### **6. Powers of municipality**

- (1) An employee of the municipality or contractor acting on its behalf, authorized thereto in writing by the municipality, may at all reasonable times enter upon any premises or any portion thereof with the aim of carrying out any inspection or test which he or she deems necessary or expedient in order to determine the current status of a stormwater system.
- (2) The municipality may, for the purpose of providing the necessary infrastructure for the stormwater system and maintaining such infrastructure –
  - (a) construct, expand, alter, maintain or lay any drain, pipe or other structure related to the stormwater system on or under any immovable property and may do any other thing necessary or desirable for or incidental, supplementary or ancillary to such construction, expansion, alteration or maintenance and ownership of such drain, pipe or structure vests in the municipality;

- (b) drain stormwater or discharge water from any municipal service works into any watercourse;
  - (c) repair and make good any damage done in or damage resulting from a contravention of section 3(1)(a)(ii) or 3(1)(c), such as, but not limited to –
    - (i) demolishing, altering or otherwise dealing with any building, structure or other thing constructed, erected or laid in contravention of section 3(1)(c)(iii);
    - (ii) filling in, removing and making good any ground excavated, removed or placed in contravention of section 3(1)(c)(v);
  - (d) remove anything –
    - (i) discharged or permitted to enter into the stormwater system or watercourse in contravention of section 3(1)(a) or (b);
    - (ii) damaging, obstructing or endangering or likely to obstruct, endanger or destroy any part of the stormwater system;
  - (e) seal off or block any point of discharge from any premises, irrespective of whether the point is used for lawful purposes;
  - (f) cancel any consent granted in terms of section 4 if any condition under which the consent was granted is not complied with;
  - (g) by written notice, instruct any owner of property –
    - (i) to retain stormwater on such property or to lay, at the cost of such owner, a stormwater drain pipe or gutter to a suitable place indicated by the municipality, irrespective of whether the course of the pipe or gutter will run over private property or not; and
    - (ii) to allow the owner of a higher lying property to lay a stormwater drain pipe or gutter over his or her property for the draining of concentrated stormwater; and
  - (h) discharge stormwater into any watercourse, whether on private land or not.
- (3) Should an owner of property fail to comply with an instruction contemplated in subsection (2)(g)(i), the municipality may undertake measures to retain such stormwater or to lay such stormwater drain pipe or gutter.

- (4) Where it seems that any action or neglect by a person or owner of property may lead to a contravention of a provision of this by-law, the municipality may notify, in writing, such person or owner to comply with such requirement as the municipality may deem necessary to prevent the occurrence of such contravention.
- (5) The municipality may recover all reasonable costs incurred as a result of action taken –
- (a) in terms of subsection (2)(c) or (d), from the person who was responsible for a contravention of the provisions of this by-law or the owner of the property on which a contravention occurred; or
  - (b) in terms of subsection (3), from the owner of the property.

**7. Authentication and service of notices and other documents**

- (1) A notice or other document requiring authentication by the municipality must be signed by the municipal manager or by a duly authorised officer of the municipality, such authority being conferred by resolution of the municipality or by a by-law or regulation, and when issued by the municipality in terms of this by-law is deemed to be duly issued if it is signed by an officer authorised by the municipality.
- (2) Any notice or other document that is served on a person in terms of this by-law is regarded as having been served –
- (a) when it has been delivered to that person personally;
  - (b) when it has been left at that person's place of residence or business in the Republic with a person apparently over the age of 16 years;
  - (c) when it has been posted by registered or certified mail to that person's last known residential or business address in the Republic and an acknowledgment of the posting thereof from the postal service is obtained;
  - (d) if that person's address in the Republic is unknown, when it has been served on that person's agent or representative in the Republic in the manner provided by paragraphs (a), (b) or (c);
  - (e) if that person's address and agent or representative in the Republic is unknown, when it has been posted in a conspicuous place on the property or premises, if any, to which it relates;
  - (f) in the event of a body corporate, when it has been delivered at the registered office of the business premises of such body corporate; or

- (g) when it has been delivered, at the request of that person, to his or her e-mail address.
- (3) Service of a copy is deemed to be service of the original.
- (4) When any notice or other document must be authorised or served on the owner, occupier, or holder of any property, or right in any property, it is sufficient if that person is described in the notice or other document as the owner, occupier, or holder of the property or right in question and it is not necessary to name that person.
- (5) Any legal process is effectively and sufficiently served on the municipality when it is delivered to the municipal manager or a person in attendance at the municipal manager's office.

## **8. Exemptions**

- (1) Any person may by means of a written application, in which the reasons are given in full, apply to the municipality for exemption from any provision of this by-law.
- (2) The municipality may –
  - (a) grant an exemption in writing and the conditions in terms of which, if any, and the period for which such exemption is granted must be stipulated therein;
  - (b) alter or cancel any exemption or condition in an exemption; or
  - (c) refuse to grant an exemption.
- (3) An exemption does not take effect before the applicant has undertaken in writing to comply with all conditions imposed by the municipality under subsection (2), however, if an activity is commenced before such undertaking has been submitted to the municipality, the exemption lapses.
- (4) If any condition of an exemption is not complied with, the exemption lapses immediately.



**9. Offences and Penalties**

Any person who contravenes the provisions of this by-law shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine.

**10. Repeal of by-law**

By-laws on stormwater previously made by the municipality or its constituent predecessors in respect of any portion of the area of the Lephalale Local Municipality are hereby repealed in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this by-law.

**11. Short title and commencement**

This by-law is called Lephalale Local Municipality Stormwater Management By-law and commence on the date of publication thereof in the Provincial Gazette.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTICE 214

## LEPHALALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY FENCES AND FENCING BY-LAWS

The Municipal Manager of Lephale Local Municipality hereby in terms of section 13(a) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) publishes Fences and Fencing by-law for the municipality as approved by its council as set out hereunder:

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Definitions
2. Purpose
3. Fences
4. Notice of compliance and representations
5. Costs
6. Demolition order
7. Authentication and service of notices and other documents
8. Implementation and enforcement
9. Transitional provisions
10. Exemptions
11. Offences and Penalties
12. Repeal of by-laws
13. Short title and commencement

#### Schedule

### 1. Definitions

In this by-law, unless the context otherwise indicates –

"**boundary**" means the real or notional line marking the limits of premises;

"**Council**" means the council of the Lephale Local Municipality;

"**fence**" means any fence, together with any necessary gate or any contrivance forming part or serving the purpose of such a gate, erected as a boundary between any erven, lots or stands within the municipal area, and includes a fence which is not erected on a boundary, such as a garden fence or a free-standing wall on an erf, lot or stand;

"**ground level**" means the natural level of the ground, except where such level has been disturbed, in which case the street level is to be regarded as the ground level;

"**municipality**" means the Municipality of Lephale and includes any political structure, political office bearer, municipality or duly authorised agent thereof or any employee thereof acting in connection with this by-law by virtue of a power vested in the municipality and delegated or sub-delegated to such political structure, political office bearer, municipality or, agent or employee;

"**public land**" means land of which the ownership is vested in an organ of state;

"**repair**" means putting and maintaining fence in good order by trimming, cutting or any other means;

"**the act**" means Fencing Act, 1963 (Act 31 of 1963)