



For Immediate Release

28 February 2023

It sometimes happens that refuse does not get collected on days which have been scheduled by BVM. In recent months this was the case on more than one occasion. Usually, those areas which have not been serviced on a scheduled day, then get done on the next working day. Either way, this delay in refuse removal is a source of great irritation to residents.

However, as much as BVM does our best to deliver excellent service to our communities, we have to deal with challenges which are sometimes out of our control or at least extremely difficult to control.

A major factor contributing to a delay of refuse removal are mechanical breakdown of refuse compactors and the subsequent processes to initiate and complete repair works. Last week's delay was caused by exactly this. We had four municipal refuse compactors running, and one hired vehicle for the collection of refuse whilst five were out of service. On a Monday and Thursday we need six refuse compactors for effective service delivery and scheduled refuse collection.

Longer term plans/actions which are in place to provide a more permanent solution to delays within refuse removal are to conduct proper maintenance of refuse compactors and training for employees.

Apart from the usual mechanical failure which happens to most vehicles, our trucks also get damaged by waste such as builders' rubble, stones, sand, wooden planks, steel and tree branches. Citizens should therefore refrain from disposing of waste in their wheelie bin that could damage the refuse compactors. Bins which are too heavy for the bin lifters to lift also cause damage. Compactor attendants have been instructed not to empty wheelie bins that feel too heavy.

So, what should citizens do in instances of delay regarding refuse removal?

- Citizens should not resort to illegal dumping and
- where possible practice recycling to allow for further space in the bin. By recycling we can do many things, like creating jobs (in the recycling business) and helping the planet breathe again. Visit our website (www.bvm.gov.za) to learn more about recycling and waste management in BVM.
- Composting is another way of reducing waste in wheelie bins and creating good nourishment for your garden.

Reduce, re-use, recycle

Recycling collection is done on the same day as refuse collection. Residents place their recycling next to the wheelie bin for collection. For every clear bag that is collected, the resident will receive a new clear bag to fill for the next week.

Some residents in our communities have offered to assist with the distribution of clear bags in their communities. One such person is Mrs. Tiana Botes of Eikelaan 58 who is passionate about recycling and contributes positively towards the cause. People can collect recycling bags at her residence if they were skipped or somehow run out of clear bags. Clear bags can also be collected from the Stores in Fairbairn Street as well as from the third floor reception of the main building in Baring Street. Residents must sign the register to ensure accurate information regarding the distribution of bags.





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Items which can be recycled in your clear recycle bag:

- Paper: office paper, magazines, newspapers and junk mail.
- Cardboard.
- Green, clear and brown glass bottles and jars.
- Juice and milk cartons.
- All hard plastic bottles and containers.
- Steel (tin) and aluminum cans and empty aerosols.

These are just to name a few of the common items that can be recycled.

Residents are also encouraged to log any complaints regarding waste management services at our call center (0860 12 12 12). They will receive a reference which they can use to follow up on the progress of their complaint. Complaints can range from not receiving a clear bag, to refuse not being collected etc.

END

PLEASE NOTE THAT, ON REQUEST, OUR PRESS RELEASES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN ISIXHOSA AND AFRIKAANS

Media Queries

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