



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- **Compressed Gas Cylinders**
The Service provider immediately removes redundant gas cylinders from the precinct and ensures that the cylinders are disposed of as per legal requirement, to prevent accidental re-use.

Future initiatives

- **Disposal of Cooking Oil**
Parliament is in the process of procuring recycling containers for used cooking oil that can convert the disposed cooking oil into diesel. The practice of disposing cooking oil into storm water drains is discouraged.
- **Waste paper removal and recycling**
Parliament is procuring a new service provider to remove waste paper for recycling. All offices in Parliament will be supplied with cardboard waste paper boxes for the collection of waste paper. These boxes will be emptied on a weekly basis.

Every action to safeguard our environment, conserve energy and reduce waste counts. It is the social responsibility of all South African citizens, including all Members and staff of Parliament to preserve our environment for future generations and to promote a culture of sustainable development.



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INSPIRED BY PEOPLE

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Parliament
gives the green light ...



Parliament of the Republic of South Africa has developed a Waste Management Policy, as part of a coherent plan to manage a safe and efficient work environment.

The Constitution states that the people of South Africa have the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or wellbeing. This includes the protection of the environment through reasonable legislative and other measures to prevent pollution and ecological degradation, to promote conservation, and to secure ecologically sustainable development. We can reverse some of the harm our planet has suffered if we all take action to make a difference.

Parliament is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all Members and staff of Parliament and all persons lawfully working in or entering its precincts. The Institution is dedicated to keeping the precincts of Parliament in a good state to provide a safe and healthy work environment, and proactively manage environmental risk in the workplace.

Parliament's role and responsibilities in greening the environment

Legislation, such as the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) obliges Parliament to provide and maintain as far as is reasonable practicable, a working environment that is safe and without hazards and risks to the health of its employees. There is an expectation that employees co-operate with the employer to ensure that requirements of Act are met. Parliament has the responsibility to create awareness amongst all its employees about the importance of preserving the environment and the attendant roles and responsibilities.

Measures and procedures

Parliament has created a coherent plan to manage a safe and efficient work environment, including the development of a Waste Management Policy.

The purpose of the policy is to provide a framework for the equitable, affordable and sustainable service delivery to employees and public persons within the precincts of Parliament. The policy aims to ensure the safe disposal of waste materials to reduce pollution, to maximize recycling and to ensure that waste generated in Parliament is handled in accordance with the guidelines contained therein.



Saving energy

Parliament promotes the use of energy-saving bulbs in order to reduce pollution, save energy and cost. Energy-saving bulbs are used for lighting in most public areas and passages in Parliament.

Waste Management

"Waste" means any matter, whether gaseous, liquid or solid or any combination thereof, which is from time to time designated by the National Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism by notice in the Government Gazette.

Solid Waste Management

- **Dry Waste**
Dry Waste is collected on a daily basis in clear plastic bags and in containers from all areas and delivered to the authorized waste holding site.
- **Medical Waste**
Medical waste is placed in standard (yellow) plastic containers and removed by a contracted service provider on a regular basis, or when required
- **Electrical Waste**
All redundant florescent tubes are taken to a crushing facility to be safely destroyed.
- **Wet waste**
Wet Waste is placed in the marked standard waste containers/ bins and removed on a regular basis
- **Chemical Waste**
Chemicals are placed in a locked chemical store to prevent unauthorized use. All chemicals must be placed in identified containers, and small quantities of hazardous chemicals must be labeled correctly.