

Rynfield Dam Water Quality

Estate Manager, Stephan Vorster, gives Benonians an official update on the water quality of Rynfield Dam. “Ebotse Golf & Country Estate, in conjunction with Dr. Louis De Wet of *The Waterlab* in Pretoria, conduct regular water tests on the Rynfield Dam, the Ebotse Driving Range dam and Victor Penning Bird Sanctuary to ensure we constantly know what the water quality of all water related resources in and around the Estate are as well as ensuring that the water is of an acceptable standard, as its used by skiers, swimmers and canoeist for recreational purposes. Taking all of this into consideration, we’ve decided to additionally conduct monthly bacteriological tests of the dam to test the levels of *Faecal Coliform Bacteria* and *E.Coli* to ensure levels are acceptable for recreational use. This is obviously done to ensure we constantly know the dam is safe and to close the dam should any bacteria levels be too high. Over and above this, The Homeowners Association conducts broad spectrum analysis every three months of all the dams as previously mentioned, which entails a full chemical and micro-biological analysis of the said dams. This provides us with the bigger picture water quality of all dams and tells us if we have a healthy aquatic eco system.”

Mike Mearns, Ebotse’s Environmental Officer adds to this, “the water is monitored at various sites around the dam including the dam inlet and outlet. In this way if any pollution did occur the problem can be identified. We have been monitoring the water quality for the last few years and the water quality has improved over time. Since Ebotse has been monitoring the pump house, when problems occur it is picked up speedily and attended to timeously. This is definitely one of the main reasons for the improved water quality. The watchdog role of Ebotse is probably the main reason for the improved water quality.