

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Definition:

According to WHO Environmental health addresses all the physical, chemical, and biological factors external to a person, and all the related factors impacting behaviours. It encompasses the assessment and control of those environmental factors that can potentially affect health. It is targeted towards preventing disease and creating health-supportive environments. This definition excludes behaviour not related to environment, as well as behaviour related to the social and cultural environment, and genetics.

Environmental health therefore comprises of the following activity areas



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WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Mapping of water resources in relation to point or diffuse pollution sources
- Protection of water resources & resources through enforcement of laws and regulations related to water quality management
- Monitoring of water reticulation systems
- Water sampling and testing on field and laboratory
- Implement health, hygiene awareness and education campaigns that relates to water supply and sanitation



- **Legislation applicable:**

- SANS 0241

- National Water Act

- **BYLAWS?**

- TO MONITOR AND REGISTER OTHER SOURCES THAN MUNICIPAL SOURCE
- USE OF TREATED SEWERAGE EFFLUENT



FOOD SAFETY & HYGIENE MONITORING

- * Food safety insurance and inspection at production, storage, distribution and consumption
- * Street vending monitoring and control
- * Food premises inspection and control of statutory nuisances
- * Enforcement of food legislation and Codex Alimentarius
- * Promote the safe handling, storage, transportation and preparation of foodstuffs used in government Institutions {NSNP – Primary School Nutrition Program}
- * Promote safe handling of meat and meat products, fish and fish products
- * Promote the safe handling of milk and milk products [including milk sheds]
- * Food quality monitoring (done by regular sampling programs)



- **Legislation applicable:**

- Foodstuffs Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act No 54 of 1972

- Regulations published in terms of the above mentioned act

- R 962 of 2012 R 328 of 2007 R 961 of 2012

- R 149 of 2010 R 246 of 1994 R 1047 of 2006

- R 1183 of 1990 R 2718 of 1990 R 1809 of 1992

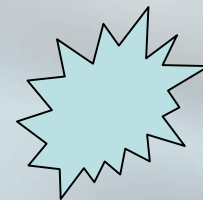
- R 246 of 1994 R 1008 of 1996 R 692 of 1997

- R 1555 of 1997 R 504 of 2003 R 908 of 2003

- R 718 of 2006

- SABS (SANS) Codes





DO WE NEED BYLAWS??

- TO FILL IN GAPS AND CLOSE OPEN DOORS
- FOR APPLICATION OF LEGISLATION AND TO ENSURE FOOD SAFETY
- ✓ MANAGING INFORMAL TRADERS
- ✓ REGISTRATION OTHER THAN PROVIDED FOR IN REGULATION

WASTE MANAGEMENT & GENERAL HYGIENE MONITORING

Ensuring proper refuse collection, storage and disposal

Liquid waste management including sewerage and industrial effluents

Ensuring proper storage, treatment, collection, handling and disposal of health care waste and hazardous waste

Sampling and analysis of any waste or -product (sewerage, refuse or other waste)

Investigation and inspection of any activity relating to the waste stream or any product resulting there-from:

Advocacy on appropriate sanitation (must be understood to have an element of motivating for program, projects and funding)

Control of the handling and disposal of diseased animal tissues





- **Legislation applicable:**
- National Environmental Management Waste Act
- Hazardous Substances Act
- National Environmental Management Act
- National Environmental Management Air Quality Act
- Regulations promulgated in terms of these Acts
- Various SANS codes

- Municipal By-laws relating to waste, pollution and sewerage



HEALTH SURVEILLANCE OF PREMISES

- Environmental health Impact Assessment including Housing projects and indoor air quality monitoring
- Assess factors like ventilation, lightning, moisture proofing, thermal quality structural safety and floor space (inclusive of inner city decay)
- Assessment of any over crowding, dirt or unsanitary conditions in any residential, commercial or other occupied premises including child care centers
- Prevention of unhygienic conditions or overcrowding of caravan parks, camping sites and holiday resorts
- Prevention and abatement of any condition on any premises which is likely to constitute a danger to health, including sick building syndrome [all permanent and temporary physical structures]



- **Legislation applicable:**
- National Building Control Act and Regulations
- National Environmental Management Act
- National Health Act
- SANS 10400

- MUNICIPAL BYLAWS IN THIS REGARD IS REQUIRED FOR:
 - OVERCROWDING
 - CARAVAN PARKS
 - IDENTIFYING AND MINIMIZING HEALTH RISKS

SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED CONTROL & MONITORING) EXCLUDING IMMUIZATIONS

- Health and hygiene promotion aimed at prevention of environmentally induced diseases and related communicable diseases
- Collection, analysis and dissemination of epidemiological data and information
- Use of Participatory Hygiene and Transformation Training (PHAST) approaches for effective control measures at community level
- Epidemiological surveillance of diseases
- Establishment of effective Environmental Health Surveillance and Information system.

Develop environmental health measures with protocols reference to epidemics emergencies, diseases and migrations of population



VECTOR CONTROL

- Application of measures under WHO (International Health Regulations Act 1974)
- Identification of vectors, and their habits and breeding places
- Removal of remedying of conditions permitting or favouring the prevalence or increase of rodents, insect, disease carriers or pests.
- Residual spraying of premises.
- Investigate the prevalence of zoonotic diseases and other vector borne diseases in the working and living environment
- Surveillance of important cargo and livestock for the prevalence of disease vectors
- Serological tests of rodents, dogs and other pests
- Community awareness campaign on zoonotic disease & control thereof by education and training



ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION CONTROL

- Promote hygiene working, living and recreational environments.
- Identification of polluting agents and their sources.
- Conducting of environmental health impact assessments.
- Conducting of environmental health hazard and risk mapping.
- Approval of environmental impact reports.
- Promote clean and safe air.
- Control and prevention of vibration and noise pollution.
- Prevention and control of land pollution detrimental to human, animal or plant life.
- Occupational Health and Safety

Prevention measures required to ensure that the general environment is free from risk health



Legislation applicable:

National Environmental Management Act

National Environmental Management Air
Quality Act

Environment Conservation Act & Regulations

Occupational Health and Safety Act

Municipal By-laws

- ✓ NOISE CONTROL
- ✓ ILLEGAL DUMPING
- ✓ FOSSIL FUEL BURNING, BURNING OF WASTE
- ✓ WATER, AIR and SURFACE POLLUTION



DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

- Control, restriction or prohibition of:
 - ✓ The business of a funeral undertaker or embalmer
 - ✓ Mortuaries and other places
 - ✓ Facilities for the storage of dead bodies
 - ✓ Treatment, removal and transport of dead bodies
- Regulating, control and prohibition of graves, cemeteries, crematoria and other facilities for the disposal of dead bodies.

Manage, control and monitor exhumation and reburial or disposal of human remains



- **Legislation applicable:**
- National Health Act and Regulations
- Registration of Births and Deaths Act
- Cemeteries Ordinance of the Free State
- Municipal By-laws
 - MANAGING OF CEMETERIES

CHEMICAL SAFETY

- Listing of all operators, fumigation firms, formal and informal retail premises which deal with the manufacturing, application, transportation or sale or storage of chemicals
- Permitting and auditing of premises e.g. Schedule Trade Permit
- Facilitating pesticides and/or chemicals safety advice and education and training



- **Legislation applicable:**
- Hazardous Substances Act
- National Building Control Act & Regulations
- Act 36 of 1947

- **BYLAWS REGARDING**
 - MONITORING AND PERMITTING OF THESE INDUSTRIES

NOISE CONTROL

- Assessment of the extent of noise pollution and its effect on human health
- Facilitate noise control measures.



EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC MUNICIPAL HEALTH RELATED BY-LAWS

- PUBLIC HEALTH INCLUDING HEALTH HAZARDS AND HEALTH NUISANCES
- SANITARY SERVICES
- PRIVATE SEWERAGE WORKS
- WATER
 - POLLUTION SOURCES
 - DANGEROUS WELLS, BOREHOLES
 - ADQUATE WATER SUPPLY
 - USE OF OTHER SOURCES
 - STORM WATER RUN OFF
 - CONTAINMENT OF WASTE WATER



FOOD CONTROL

- R962 incorporated into a bylaw
- Meat safety act included
- Requirements of street trading included
- Transportation of food
- Requirements of vending carts and vending machines
- Milking sheds, milk containers and milking machines
- Offences and penalties included in bylaws



HEALTH CARE WASTE

- SEPARATION AT SOURCE
- DUTY OF TRANSPORTERS and DISPOSAL OF WASTE
- REGISTRATION



OFFENSIVE TRADES

- DEFINES TYPES OF OFFENSIVE TRADERS
- PERMITS NEEDED
- PREMISE REQUIREMENTS
- DUTY OF OFFENSIVE TRADER



HAIRDRESSING, BEAUTY AND COSMOTOLOGY SERVICES

- REGISTRATION REQUIRMENTS
- PREMISE REQUIREMENTS
- MINIMUM HEALTH STANDARDS



ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS

- REGISTRATION
- PREMISE REQUIREMENTS
- CHILD CARE FACILITIES
 - SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PREMISE
 - SAFETY MEASURES



KEEPING OF ANIMALS

- TYPES OF ANIMALS ADDRESSED DIFFERENTLY
- NUMBER OF KEPT ANIMALS LIMITED
- PREMISE REQUIRMENTS
- PET SHOPS ADDRESSED
 - PREMISE REQUIREMENTS
 - DUTY OF THE OWNER



RITUAL SLAUGHTERING

- ALL REQUIREMENTS SPELLED OUT



DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

- ?? DOES THIS BYLAW OR R 363 SUPERSEEDS
 - REFERENCE TO EXEMPTIONS
 - REGULATION REQUIRES APPROVAL FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL Section 2(2)





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