



## South African Water Warriors

South African Water Warriors was established on 26 February 2018 by Deon Smit, to aid with water donations towards those in need during day zero.

We are a registered NPO 212-127 and PBO. We are a team of 6 volunteers Deon Smit ( Cape Town ), Magchel Pretorius-Albutt ( Southern Suburbs, Cape Town ), Gerda Pretorius ( Eastern Cape ), Tina Connaway ( Northern Suburbs, Cape Town ), Pieter Du Plessis ( Southern Cape ) and Shannon Michelle ( Pretoria and East Rand ).

In the beginning all water donations from the general public was distributed to retirement centres, orphanages and soup kitchens. Run-away fires in Betty's Bay, Wuppertal and Paarl resulted in calls for drinking water and same was distributed to these areas.

We also delivered and distributed water to the towns of Hopefield, Beaufort West and Patensie to name but a few.

### The need became bigger

Livestock and grain are the largest agriculture industry in South Africa and is one of the biggest job creators in the country. Drought in areas of SA is our farmer's worst nightmare come to life. Soon cries for help came from farming communities, the drought over the past 6-7 years are leaving devastation on so many levels for the farmers. Their livestock are dying every day, the farmers are in despair and financially strained. They are no longer able to produce anything in their lands, they are not able to feed their animals and great losses

also leaves farmers to do away with workers, some only have one worker family left, some none. It is so severe that farmers pantries are also empty.

Assistance soon expanded from water only to fodder also, non-perishable food, toiletries, fresh vegetables and pet food. Donations of all the above are still being distributed to our farmers families and worker families in drought on a continuous basis. More often than not, fodder will be donated from more fortunate farmers, however transport for these donations are not always sponsored.

Transport of fodder to the dying livestock costs roughly between R 24 000 to R 28 000 p/truck. Building up finances through monetary donations is very stressful at times. All donations are delivered free of charge to the farmers in need.

We as a team don't focus on one specific area of drought, with research and the list of calls for help we determine which farming community we will reach out to with a convoy. We receive a list of families in the area and those farmer families and worker families will be assisted equally.

Between convoys to a specific farming community, when and if possible we will deliver fodder to a much needed area.

Our volunteer members are building awareness, gathering donations to aid the farmer's animals, their families and their worker families. Support from the general public and businesses is needed daily, as the need is much bigger than help at this stage. In order to expand and keep on helping with drought succour, this is how you can support:

Monetary donation

Donate food for the animals and pets

Donate non-perishables / toiletries and cleaning chemicals for the families

Donate sealed water

Sponsor Transport / fuel

More info is available on our FB page (most updated), with pictures of each outreach and which farming community will be helped next.

Contact Deon Smit (Founder) on 082 738 2702 / [deon@sawaterwarriors.org](mailto:deon@sawaterwarriors.org) for more information.