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## SURVIVING VELD FIRES DURING WINDY SEASON



The Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA) is aware of the increasing numbers of road incidents and accidents caused by veld fires. Residents and road users are reminded about veld fires especially during this windy season.

Veld fires are caused naturally by lightning but most of the times are caused by human beings purposefully or accidentally. Left unchecked, veld fires can cause widespread destruction to property and road furniture. It also poses danger to human lives. These risks include not only the fire itself but also the road safety risks due to poor visibility caused by smoke and the health risks of smoke inhalation. For the safety of motorists, JRA shares tips on how to act when confronted with these dangers.

The JMPD, SAPS and EMS officials do their best to assist motorists who may find themselves in these situations. They also provide the most convenient detour for traffic when roads are closed. It is important that motorists obey and pay close attention to their advice.

### The following hints residents should be follow:

- If you cannot see – don't drive!
- Try to move away from the vicinity of veld fires
- Listen and obey guidance and advice by JMPD, EMS and SAPS officials
- Always avoid being a cause of this life threatening danger - Do not throw burning cigarette out the window!
- Do not leave an open fire unattended.
- If you see someone playing carelessly with fire, then tell them to stop.

The JRA is appealing to motorists to report all veld fires to the City's call centre at 086 Joburg or 0860 56 28 74

In line with the Joburg 2040 - Growth and Development Strategy (GDS), the City of Johannesburg and its entities seek to build a liveable, resilient and adaptive City.