**EVERGREEN RESCOM PORTFOLIO REPORT 2016/17**

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

**By Portfolio leader Hennie du Preez**

1. **Arbor Day:**  There were clear signs of “donor fatigue” and much less money was collected from the residents. This is reflected in the declining number of trees and shrubs planted each year. Despite that another successful day was enjoyed by many residents. Looking back over 4 Arbor Days, residents have funded and planted:
* 2013 62 trees;
* 2014 31 trees, 75 shrubs;
* 2015 18 trees, 20 shrubs;
* 2016 15 trees, 10 shrubs
* **Totals 126 trees, 105 shrubs!**

Evergreen added R8 000. This money wasn’t spent in 2016, but will be spent in 2017.

1. **Frederick Road pavements:** In the winter of 2016, the pavement to the top of Phase 3 was re-developed and now, in the winter of 2017, work is in progress on the pavement in the opposite direction.
2. **Ponds and water features:** The water feature above the top pond, and the wall of the bottom pond were repaired. Still in progress is control of the bulrushes and the algae blooms. 375 Tilapia mozambique fingerlings were introduced but these are either hiding through the winter, or have succumbed to the birds and monitor lizards. .
3. **Flowering annuals:** The common gardens have been brightened by Namaqualand daisies in the winter and spring and Marigold flowers in the summer and autumn. This practice will continue.
4. **Borehole:** In October we received the happy tidings that a borehole was to be drilled and equipped as a priority. As per the Special Projects report, we are still waiting.
5. **Composting station:** The station is complete, but we are waiting for the power supply to, and the water from the borehole to start using it.
6. **Landscape development:** In October we received the good news that funds would be available from April 2017 for the development of the landscape and walkways. In April we were told that there were only sufficient funds for the development of the gardens immediately around the new clubhouse. We await confirmation of that.
7. **Four Seasons gardeners:** For most of this year we’ve been much more closely involved with the Four Seasons gardening team. Without their enthusiastic cooperation and support, very little of the successfully completed projects would have been possible.