



co-operative governance
& traditional affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEC MTSHWENI CONVEYS HER CONDOLENCES TO THE FLOODS VICTIMS IN KWAGGAFONTEIN

Mpumalanga MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has expressed sadness to the deaths of two people, one a taxi passenger (woman) and an emergency rescue worker who drowned in heavy floods. "The deaths are a great loss not only to their families but to the entire community. We are working with various stakeholders and closely monitoring the situation" said Mtshweni.

In the past week the province received more than 60% of rain leading to quick rise in water levels in streams and rivers that led to localized and flash flooding in some areas. Allegedly the emergency rescue worker drowned while attempting to save a trapped passenger in a taxi which was trapped in the heavy flooded low bridge in Kwaagafontein, at Thembisile Hani Local Municipality.

Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has cautioned all communities to take precautions during wet weather conditions and warned communities about the following:

- Avoid crossing over flooded rivers
- Be careful not to stand on an overhanging bank
- In rural areas, animals should be moved to safe place on higher ground
- Ensure children are kept away from flooded streams and rivers during stormy conditions.

MEC Mtshweni says all emergency units are on high alert in the province to deal with any potential flooding. Provincial Disaster Toll free number for emergencies is **0800 202 507**.

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