

The annual Fire and Flood Awareness Campaign, an initiative of the Department of Local Government through its Disaster Management Centre, has just been launched in advance of the annual fire season.

Theatre skits, one aimed at children and the other at adults, will be performed in areas vulnerable to fires and floods. The campaign aims to inform communities on safety measures associated with fires and floods in an educational yet entertaining way.

Due to the effect that these disasters have on our communities and the environment in the Western Cape, the campaign, in its 5<sup>th</sup> year, has become a priority for the Department. The focus of the campaign is knowing how to prevent and respond to disasters and teaching both adults and children the emergency numbers.

The campaign will target communities in the highest risk areas for fires and floods throughout the province.

This year, two theatre skits are being used to communicate messages to both children and adults. The skits will be performed at primary schools with the popular mascot Gerry the Giraffe and in communities.