Uncollected waste a mounting problem in Stellenbosch

Domestic waste collection in Stellenbosch informal settlements has declined since the last round of Asivikelane Western Cape.

Almost a third of residents say their waste was not collected in the last seven days. Residents in Nkanini, Khayamandi and Khwezi say there are no skips (large waste collection containers) available, and they do not receive refuse bags.

In settlements with skips, these are often not emptied. Several residents have resorted to burning their waste, which is both hazardous to health and the environment — just one of the negative consequences of the municipality’s failure to collect waste.

In the last seven days in Stellenbosch:
- 71% of residents who said they had enough water.
- 71% of residents who said the municipality cleaned the communal toilets.
- 62% of residents who said the waste was collected.

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This is the situation at Klomputs Mandela City; waste has not been collected in weeks and it is overflowing.

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STELLENBOSCH CAN TAKE STEPS TO FIX THE PROBLEM:
- Provide wheelie bins or refuse bags to residents
- Collect waste at least once per week
- Place skips in safe areas
- Clear skips regularly
- Provide options for recycling

Absence of a municipal waste collection service
Littering
Dumping
Burning
Rise in air pollution
Increase in water and soil pollution
Higher risk of fire damage
Increase in respiratory illness
Increase in water-borne diseases
Unhealthy living environment

UNCOLLECTED WASTE LEADS TO POOR HEALTH AND SAFETY OUTCOMES

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