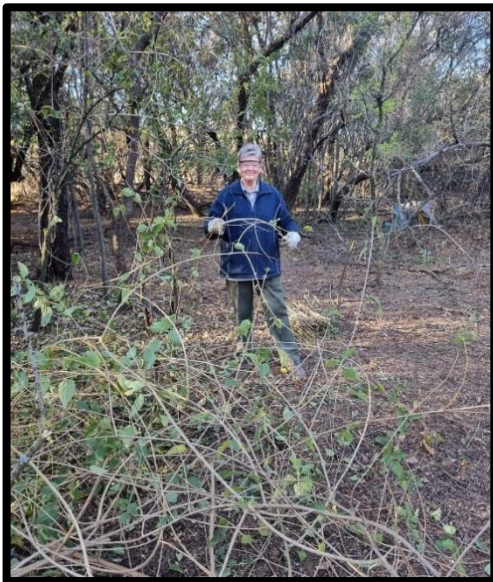




Newsletter 6, September 2023

Alien Hacks



Volunteers have been removing large areas of invasive plants in the reserve. Birds, wind or water spread the seeds all over the reserve. The problem plants have become well established and are crowding out the indigenous plants.

Please consider joining us to assist with removal of alien invasive plants. We get together every Wednesday morning and the second Saturday of every month. Look out for our posters on Facebook and in the reserve.

Our next Saturday Alien Hack is on 14 October and everyone is welcome to join us.

The River Starts Here!

As part of the WaterCAN Annual Water Testing week (17 – 24 September) we tested the water in the Rademeyerspruit where it enters the reserve. WaterCAN kindly supplied the testing kit that was used. Citizen scientists from all over South Africa participated in the Water Testing week. A map of the results is available on www.watercan.org.za/map/.

The results for the chemical tests looked good, but unfortunately the bacterial tests indicated that the water in the Rademeyerspruit is not safe to drink. We will continue to monitor the water quality with tests like this and the MiniSASS evaluations.



Maintenance



Volunteers are constantly hard at work with maintenance and repairs in the reserve with very limited resources. If you are in any way able to assist the Friends in this regard, please consider supporting us via SnapScan or contact us on the contact

details below. Tax certificates can be arranged for any donations over R1000 and paid through WESSA.



Snap here to pay

 SnapScan

Great Southern Bioblitz

The next Great Southern Bioblitz will take place from 24 - 27 November this year. These citizen scientist observations on iNaturalist are of great scientific importance and we urge you to become involved for the Tshwane region. We will be sending out information on how you can become involved by taking as many photos as possible of our biodiversity in Tshwane over this period.



Welcome Mr Ostrich!

We are very excited about the delivery of a male ostrich on 23 August. The male was captured in the Groenkloof Nature Reserve and transported to Moreleta Kloof by Nature Conservation. For a few years now we've only had three female ostriches and hopefully we will soon have a wobble of baby ostriches.



Upcoming Events

Please keep a look out on our Facebook page and notice boards for the following events;

- Saturday, 14 October Alien Hack
- Saturday, 21 October Rock Walk
- Saturday, 18 November Alien Hack
- Wednesday, 8 November AGM
- 24 – 27 November Great Southern Bioblitz
- Saturday, 25 November Bird Walk
- Saturday, 9 December Alien Hack

Friends' Membership

The annual Friends of Moreleta Kloof membership runs from 1 March to 28 February every year. If you want to join the Friends of Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve, please visit our website www.moreletakloof.co.za or contact us at info@moreletakloof.co.za.

The membership fee of R250 gives you, plus one other adult and two children under 18, two days free entry into the following reserves in Tshwane:

- Rietvlei Nature Reserve
- Groenkloof Nature Reserve
- Wonderboom Nature Reserve
- Rooihuiskraal
- Faerie Glen Nature Reserve

The entrance fees for all the city's nature reserves went up on 1 July in this new financial year. The value of the Friends Group membership card is now R1492, if it is fully utilised. Also, your membership fee and any donation you make, goes directly to the work that the Friends of Moreleta Kloof do in the reserve.

For more information please feel free to contact Faan at 083 325 1704 or Jeannie at 082 927 4673.

Happiness is not something readymade; it comes from your own actions.
– Dalai Lama