



Klipriviersberg Conservancy logo

The Klipriviersberg Conservancy gave its new logo its first public airing at the tree planting ceremony held in Suideroord on Saturday, 5 September 2009.

In celebration of Arbour week, which runs from 1 to 6 September, the Klipriviersberg Conservancy hosted a tree planting event at which four indigenous *Celtis africana* (white stinkwood) trees donated by Johannesburg City Parks were planted along Columbine Avenue in Suideroord near Columbine Square and directly opposite the Sasol garage.

The planting of these trees is considered to be an important event at this stage in the life of the Klipriviersberg Conservancy as it signifies the beginning of a new life which needs to be cared for and nurtured, like our environment, for the sustainable benefit of future generations.

The logo has been carefully designed with only a few elements to create a feeling of openness and space – something which is being protected and promoted throughout the area of the conservancy.

The *brown wave* represents the Klipriviersberg and the specific tone of brown that fades from a dark to a lighter reddish brown to represent the typical rocks that are found in the Nature Reserve and surrounding areas. Furthermore it also represents the unique geological history and flow of lava which has become the foundation rocks of the Klipriviersberg Hills which were also used to build the many historical ruins found within the hills and area.

The *blue wave* is placed under the brown one and symbolizes the Klip River that flows through the Conservancy and also our interest to protect the river and its associated wetlands. The river rises in the heart of Johannesburg Central Area and passes through Soweto and along the southern boundary of the Conservancy to feed into the Vaal River to deliver drinking water to some of Gauteng's major municipalities and the economic heartland of the country.

The *green wave* on the edge of the blue wave signifies the wetlands and grasslands found throughout the area. The wetlands play a vital role in the creation of life supporting ecosystems which can be of great value to people and to wildlife. The biodiversity and associated ecosystems of the grassland biome needs to be sustained and secured for the benefit of current and future generations through the establishment of biodiversity corridors linking important facets of the natural environment together.

The *white spots* signify bubbles of air, dew drops and elements of life in the rocks and vegetation of the ridges, the grasses, shrubs and trees of the grasslands and the reeds and water of the rivers and wetlands.

The *letter "V" with the green leaf* attached to it represents the thorns and leaf of the *Ziziphus mucronata* commonly known as the "Blinkblaar Wag-n-Bietjie" or Buffalo Thorn tree. It symbolizes the commitment of the Conservancy to the protection of indigenous plants and trees, many of which have a special significance and play important roles in the social, medicinal, cultural and economic realms of local populations. The shape of the letter "V" made by the two thorns at the nodes also indicates appropriate value-adding development, growth and progression. The thorns are considered to be important in local culture because the one that faces backward represents where we have come from and the one facing forward denotes where we are going.