



EYE OF AFRICA LEADS THE WAY TO A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

Protecting its environment and establishing an energy efficient community is a task not taken lightly by the Developers of Eye of Africa's Golf & Residential Estate, located south of Johannesburg.

Various measures have been put in place and continue to be implemented, ensuring that Eye of Africa gives back to its environment and that its homeowners are well aware of their responsibilities to help maintain an eco-friendly lifestyle.

Speaking to Brad Tindale, COO of Medallist Developments, it soon becomes clear that nature is not taken for granted on the Estate.

"All homeowners receive an Energy Efficiency Checklist and it is mandatory to achieve a 25 point or greater score to meet the minimum standard of energy efficiency required. Some of the items on the measure weight rating include use of skylights, shade trees in landscape, double-glazed windows, insulation walls, solar geysers, gas-operated hobs and ovens, flow restricted plumbing fittings and rainwater collection." In addition, all home owners have indigenous zones specified on their properties.

The landscape design for the gardens, parks and streetscapes are modern, contemporary and elegant with emphasis on indigenous trees, grasses and flower meadows. The ridges, crests and rocky outcrops together with a moist grassland area are some of the most sensitive parts of the area. The Estate layout has ensured that these parts have been retained in their natural condition as open spaces that will serve as safe havens for small mammals, birds and insects. Approximately 50 per cent of the 667-hectare area has been retained as open space.

Eye of Africa is also home to the first Greg Norman designed championship golf course to open in Africa. According to Brad, all grasses planted on the golf course, with the exception of the greens, are indigenous, thus requiring much less water for irrigation. "It is also important to note that all lawns at Eye of Africa are cynodon, an indigenous grass which requires little water and is dormant in winter."

The sewerage treatment plant takes all sewerage from site and via a biodigester process converts it to grey water which is then used for irrigation throughout Eye of Africa.

Nothing goes to waste on this Estate. During the construction phase all exotic trees that were cut down were mulched and used as ground cover and compost. All indigenous trees and plants are transplanted in the parks.

"In tending to our parks and golf course, we also ensure that all grass cuttings are composted on site, creating fantastic organics for use when required. This alleviates the need to purchase and transport compost." Brad explains.

"In the design of our roads, it was also taken into account that storm water needs to be concentrated only where critically important, so that sheet flow across site is as nature intended. To prevent flooding downstream, attenuation has been created."

About Eye of Africa

Eye of Africa is Medallist's first private lifestyle golf estate to be developed in the South of Johannesburg. The developers are Medallist Developments – a joint venture between Greg Norman's Great White Shark Enterprises and Macquarie Group Limited – and local players, Pixley World Investments. Eye of Africa is conveniently located 17km south of the Johannesburg CBD and comprises 667ha of land. The estate is home to approximately 1 200 freehold stands (Res 1) and 900 sectional title units (Res 3).

Eye of Africa incorporates hiking and bicycle trails among other healthy lifestyle amenities, within a secured estate environment. The golf course, expertly designed by Greg Norman Golf Course Design, has minimal impact on the natural environment, by utilising and enhancing the natural landscape features into the shape of the course.

Homes display a distinct character that complements the site. The architectural vision incorporates the use of simple raw materials gleaned from the surrounding Highveld earth fused with European and African designs – all combining into a unique "Afropean" style.