



MARCHING FORWARD

Good day everyone,
As the manager of the Letaba FPA, I would like to wish all our members and landowners a prosperous and successful year ahead. Although we are currently in the rainy season, this period of good rainfall leads to significant vegetation growth and an increased fuel load, which can pose serious fire risks later in the season. We therefore urge landowners not to delay in preparing and maintaining their firebreaks. It is also essential that landowners and their staff undergo proper fire training—please contact the LFPA for more information on available training opportunities. Lastly, we encourage all members to motivate their neighbours to join the LFPA so that we can continue strengthening our collective fire prevention and protection efforts.

We once again look forward to our joint operations with the Tzaneen Emergency Support Team (TEST). The ongoing collaboration between the Letaba FPA and TEST has proven highly effective, particularly over weekends and during night-time operations when additional support is often required.

We want to thank everyone who assisted in 2025 and we are looking forward to working with everyone this year to make the Letaba FPA area a fire safe area!

**Please attend our AGM on
27 March 2026,**
at Letaba River Lodge,
RSVP via admin@letabafire.co.za
or contact the office: 0765502260

*Yours Sincerely
Rouan Snyman*



LETABA FPA

AGM

Inviting all landowners, members
& non-member landowners
* Only two delegates per company
Date: 27 March 2026
Time: 10h00
Venue: Letaba River Lodge

Light lunch will be served, teas coffee and
water are supplied. Other beverages are for
your own account

R.S.V.P. No later than 20 March 2026
admin@letabafire.co.za
Office: 076 550 2260
Anita: 076 286 5572



The course that teaches you everything! **FIRE BOSS 2026**

**FP & M
SETA
Accredited**

Unit standards
376900, 376883,
376881, 123231,
123232

**BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND**

**LIMITED SEATS
AVAILABLE**

FIRE BOSS LEVEL 1 TRAINING

4 DAY COURSE 18 - 21 MAY 2026

THE COURSE WILL COVER

- ✦ Understanding Fire: Properties, types, influence of weather & topography ✦ Map reading
- ✦ Communication ✦ Pre fire procedures
- ✦ Incident command systems ✦ Wildfire management plans
- ✦ Responding to fire call outs - size up, fire orders, strategies & tactics, types of attack, protection priorities, stages of suppression, LACES, watch outs, resource management, aerial fire fighting
- ✦ Post fire Procedures- Mop up, fatigue & other health issues, record keeping, post fire
- ✦ Post fire critique & autopsy ✦ Theoretical exam
- ✦ Practical simulation & assesment

Letaba FPA Members = R3906/p Non Members R4500/ p
Venue: LetabaFPA Waterfall Base, Politsi
Price includes tea time refreshments & lunch
Bookings: admin@letabafire.co.za / Office: 076 550 2260



LETABA FPA
Since 2007



LETABA FPA
Since 2007

BASIC FIRE FIGHTING 2 DAY COURSE

DATES

**11 & 12 May 2026
&
13 & 14 May 2026**

Members R800 p.p.
Non- members R950 p.p.

VENUE: LETABA FPA WATERFALL BASE

BOOKINGS

Office 0765502260 admin@letabafire.co.za



LETABA FPA
Since 2007

REFRESHER FIRE FIGHTING 1 DAY COURSE

DATE

15 May 2026

Members R435 p.p.
Non- members R500 p.p.

Group bookings 20 to 24 get a discounted price

VENUE: LETABA FPA WATERFALL BASE

BOOKINGS

Office 0765502260 admin@letabafire.co.za

Invest in your workers skills and protect your property, be prepared!

FIRE UP A CONVERSATION



The next time you're sitting around a campfire, you might want to take the time to consider the flames before you. Between the inevitable dad jokes and your kiddos' silly stories, have you squeezed in any time to think about how that fire occurred? There are no (more) dragons doing the fire-starting work for us. Instead, we rely on science to create the event. And, yes, fire is an event and not a thing. That's because fire is something that happens or is an outcome of wood, paper, or other resources (the "thing") becoming hot and releasing vapors. Those vapors become exposed to oxygen, which creates the event of a fire. Pretty incredible, right? Fire certainly qualifies as awe-inspiring.

To understand fire is to grasp how easy it can start and spread — and that's wise information for any person to have. Having a healthy respect for fire is part of appreciating it. Plus, it's worth noting that not all fires are bad. Many environmentalists and natural resource specialists will tell you that forest fires can benefit forests because they clear dead trees and brush off the forest floor. This allows water, air, and sunlight to reach the soil. That, in turn, helps the forest grow new life and replenish itself.

The color of a flame is influenced by the oxygen supply. Low-oxygen flames give off a yellow glow while high-oxygen flames burn blue. The more oxygen, the hotter the flame. An oxyacetylene welding torch, which is pure oxygen plus acetylene, burns at over 5,500 degrees Fahrenheit.

The 30-30-30 rule for fire is a guideline for extreme wildfire conditions: when the temperature is over 30°C (86°F), humidity is 30% or lower, and wind speed is 30 km/h (19 mph) or higher, fires spread rapidly and are very dangerous. These conditions create a "crossover" where vegetation dries out, making it highly flammable, and strong winds carry embers, increasing fire risk significantly. This video explains how the 30-30-30 rule helps predict extreme fire behavior: <https://youtu.be/gTvPrW4EJ10?si=pFDe31JbqalEs8tY>

As we are all looking forward to winter and the cozy fires, whether in your home in front of the fire place, or out camping, hunting, enjoy the warmth! Do it responsibly, and roast another marshmallow!





Dad, why is it hot?

Why is the water hot at springs like Tshipise, Die Eiland, Bela-Bela, Ais Ais? The common folklore is that these hot water resorts are built on old volcanoes. But it is not.

Hot springs are caused from thermal energy trapped in Earth. This thermal energy is referred to as geothermal energy. Geothermal energy is heat within Earth and was generated during the formation of Earth. It is also constantly renewed as radioactive particles in Earth's core decay.

Hot springs in Limpopo, such as Siloam and Tshipise, are primarily caused by rainwater infiltrating deep into the earth's crust along faults, fractures, and fissures. There is no recent volcanic activity in the area (541 million years ago); instead, the water is heated by geothermal energy at great depths before returning to the surface.



The hot water returns to the surface through fractures and fault zones. Temperatures range from warm to scalding, with some, like Siloam, reaching up to ~71°C.

Bela-Bela means “boiling-boiling” in the Tswana language, and refers to the hot springs.



Riemvasmaak spring

