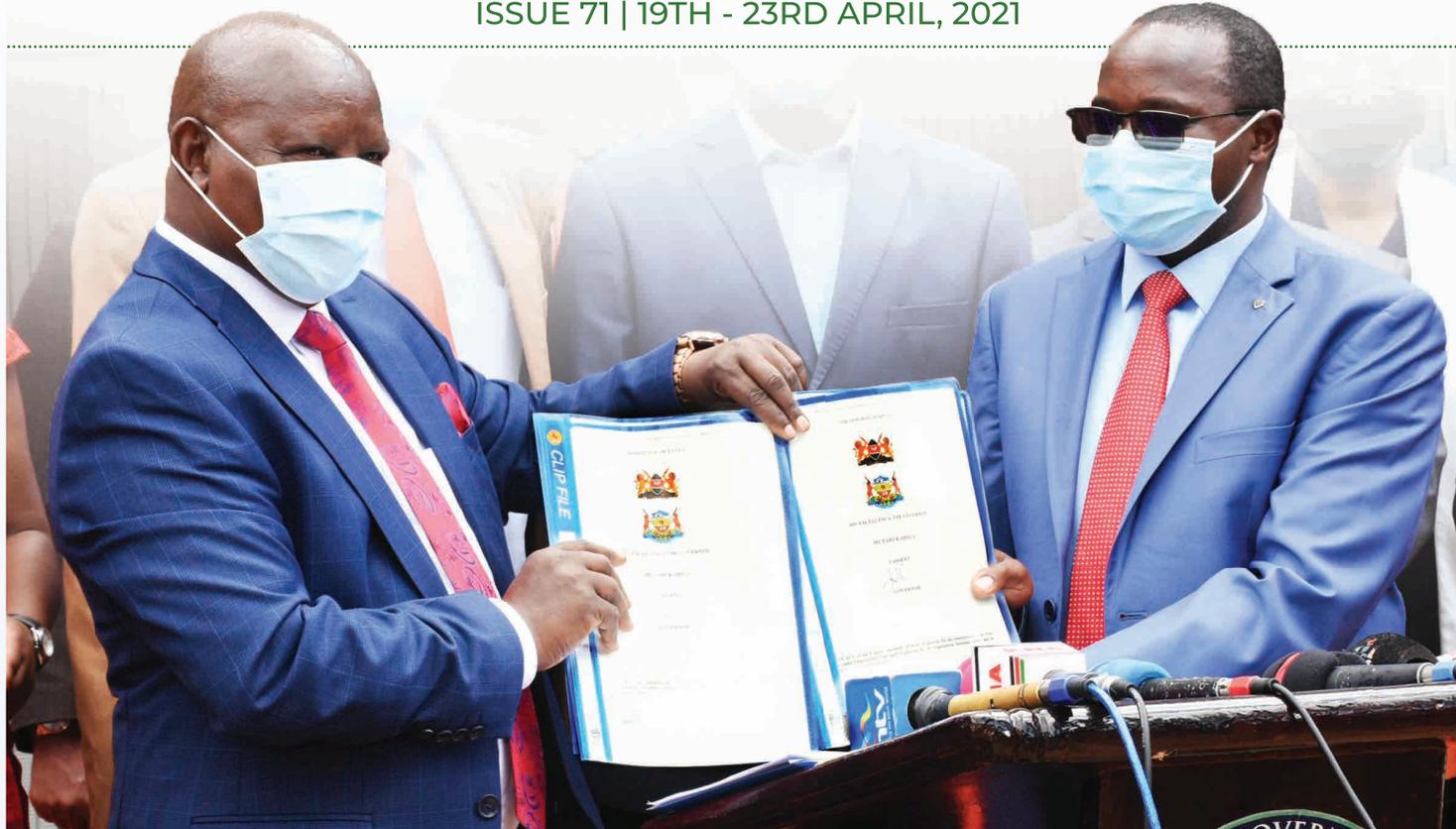




WEEKLY REVIEW



ISSUE 71 | 19TH - 23RD APRIL, 2021



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Nyeri County Assembly Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia just after assenting one of the four vital Bills earlier this week at TownHall Grounds, Nyeri town. The four new Bill are set to benefit Nyeri citizenry immensely.

How the four new Nyeri Bills will benefit locals

By Governor's Press Unit

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga has assented into law four vital Bills which are set to benefit Nyeri citizenry immensely.

The Bills which include the Nyeri County Health Services Fund Bill, 2021, the Nyeri County Forest Management and Conservation Bill, 2021, the Nyeri County Climate Change Bill, 2021 and the Nyeri Coun-

ty Inspectorate Bill, 2021 whose speedy implementation by the concerned departments will see the lives of the people of Nyeri transformed positively.

This is the highest number of Bills to be assented by the governor in the recent past since he took over office more than three years ago.

The Bills have been drafted in close collaboration

between the County Executive and the County Assembly of Nyeri. While assenting to the Bills into law, governor Kahiga lauded the assembly committees for their focus, patriotism and the dedication they have showed towards achieving their mandate as a county assembly.

County Assembly of Nyeri Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia lauded the executive

for its continued support through the process of coming up with these bills that will be of great benefit to Nyeri citizens.

The Speaker further noted that the county assembly will continue upholding this trend to ensure to ensure that Nyeri citizens continue to access proper services as they deserve.

Continued on page 2&3

The four bills assented to laws are:

Nyeri County Health Services Fund Bill, 2021

Under the Big 4 Agenda, the national government has remained focused on improving access to quality healthcare services for all citizens. This is a need that has trickled down to the devolved governments, which has seen the County Government of Nyeri establish a Health Services Fund Bill to address the various challenges in the health sector.

“The adoption of this bill is expected to revolutionize the health sector and enhance the efficacy in service delivery,” noted governor Kahiga.

Through this bill, the county government has established the Nyeri County Health Services Fund whose main purpose will be to improve health care service delivery in health facilities across the county. Subsequently, the Fund will ensure facilities have better access to financial resources as well as ensure health facilities are more responsive to medical and public health emergencies.

The Fund, provides that the sources of the Fund shall be: such monies re-

ceived as user fees payable or insurance payments collectable under the Act; any income generated by a health facility from any project initiated by the health facility; or any other monies received from a lawful source.

According to governor Kahiga, 80% of all monies collected within a health facility will be retained to run operations such as buying of drugs while 20% of the revenue will be disbursed to other satellite facilities for running primary health services.

Further, the Nyeri County Health Services Fund Board, comprising of all chairmen from Level 4 hospitals has been formed, whose functions will be to:

- Provide oversight of the administration of the moneys drawn from the Fund.
- Mobilize resources for the fund.
- Provide guidance to hospital management boards on proposals on user fees where the Hospital Board seeks to propose new user fees or changes to the old fees structure, approve primary health services expenditure plans and receive reports from the Hospital Management Boards for its consideration and adoption.



The Nyeri County Forest Management and Conservation Bill, 2021

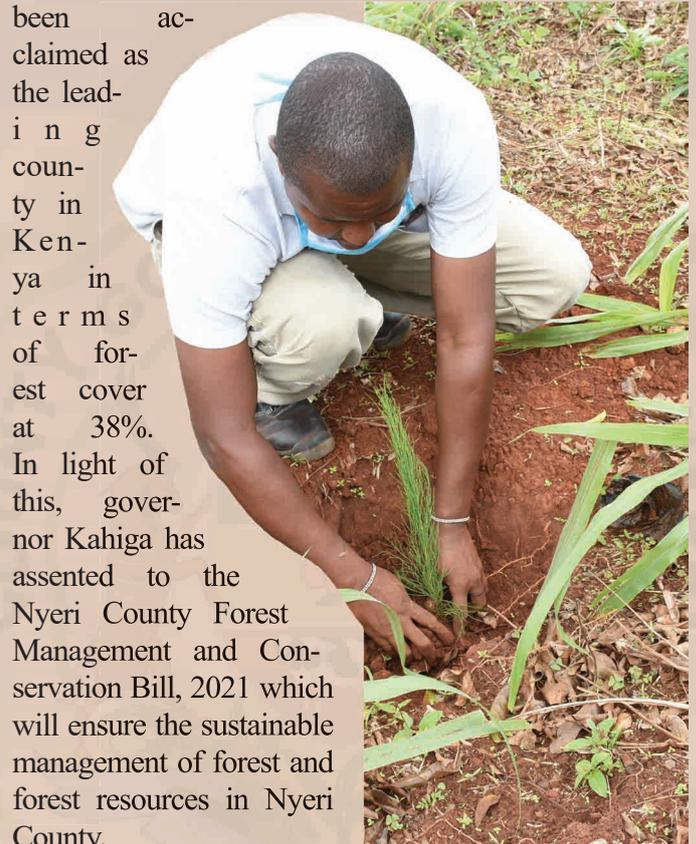
Nyeri County has been acclaimed as the leading county in Kenya in terms of forest cover at 38%.

In light of this, governor Kahiga has assented to the Nyeri County Forest Management and Conservation Bill, 2021 which will ensure the sustainable management of forest and forest resources in Nyeri County.

The bill purposes to come up with incentives geared towards forest conservation as well as engage relevant stakeholders and the community at large in realization of the same. The measures will seek to increase forest and tree cover, encourage stakeholders' participation and encourage operation of payment for ecosystem service mechanisms. In addition, the bill has provided for the creation of a county greening programme which will not only pro-

vide grants to community forest organizations but also smallholder farmers in support of afforestation and reforestation.

The formulation of the Forest Management and Conservation Bill was supported by the Unit-



ed Nations Development Agency (UNDP) REDD+ programme beginning November 2020. UNDP facilitated all public participation and technical meetings.

Previously, the county government has collaborated with other stakeholders including the Kenya Forest Service, Falcon network, Kieni Climate Initiative and the Akurinu Church in tree planting campaigns across the county.

The Nyeri County Climate Change Bill, 2021

Over the recent years, the world has experienced adverse effects on the environment due to climate change. In Kenya, climate change has resulted in more frequent extreme weather events such as droughts and unpredictable rainfall and flooding. Following this, it has necessitated for the creation of mitigation measures to tackle the same, as key drivers of the economy are vulnerable to climate changes. Nyeri County has been largely affected, as its economy is largely dependent on Agricultural production.

The Nyeri County Climate Change Bill, 2021 envisions putting in place a framework and mechanisms for mobilization and facilitation of the county government, communities and other stakeholders to respond effectively to climate change through appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures and actions.

Some of the measures will include facilitating the creation of a Nyeri County Climate Change Fund for the purpose of funding climate change projects, programs and activities provided for in the climate

finance framework established. The various activities will be spearheaded by the following committees: the County Climate Change Steering Committee, the Nyeri County Climate Change Planning Committee and the Ward Climate Change Planning Committee.

Nyeri citizens will also have the platform to participate in the climate change process, as the bills provide for public participation and access to information to members of the public.

Governor Kahiga commended the County Assembly of Nyeri for the role they played in the passing of these bills that will see the forest cover in Nyeri County protected and utilized properly, as mitigation measures are taken towards climate change.

“An established Climate Change Fund will enhance the effectiveness of the operations. This actualization will also pave way for a more participatory public participation process that will rope in ‘Wanjiku’ who will also own the process of environmental conservation,” noted the governor.

Both the Climate Change and Forest Management and Conservation Bill, push Nyeri forward in being REDD+ ready i.e. reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, an effective climate change mitigation strategy.

The Nyeri County Inspectorate Bill, 2021

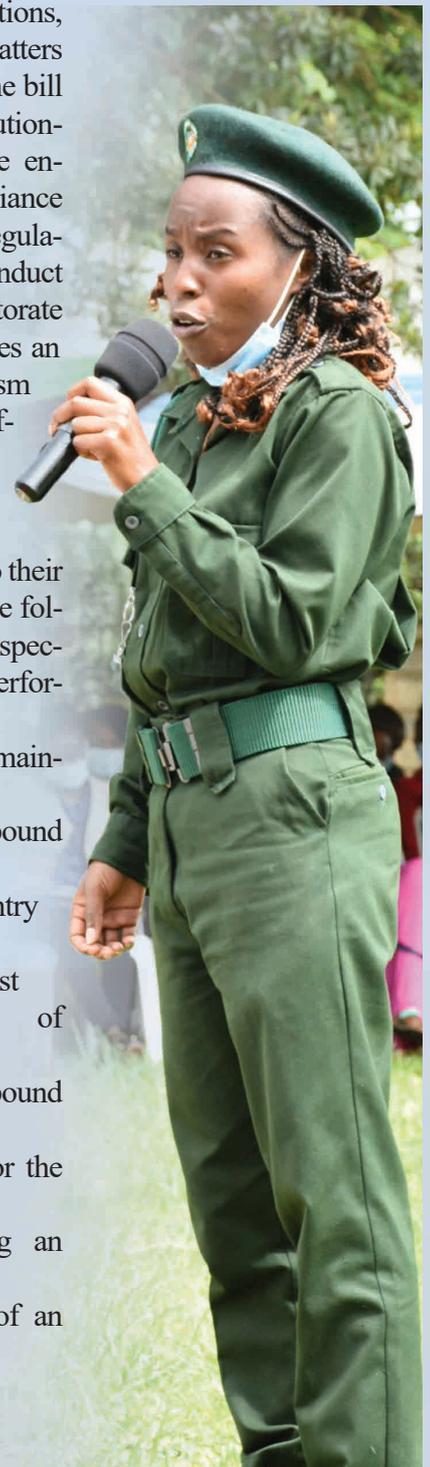
The Bill seeks to provide for the establishment of the Nyeri County Inspectorate Unit and to provide for its’ organization, functions, powers and for matters connected thereto. The bill provides for the institutional framework for the enforcement of compliance of County laws and regulations, regulates the conduct of the County Inspectorate officers and establishes an inspection mechanism so as to ensure the effective performance and exercise of the powers conferred to the unit. In addition to their roles, the bill gives the following powers to Inspectorate Officers in performance of their duties:

- Powers to maintain law and order
- Power to impound goods
- Power of entry by authorized officer
- Power to arrest
- Impounding of vessels
- Power to impound animals

It further provides for the following offences:

- Impersonating an officer
- Obstruction of an officer

- Destruction of county property
- The execution of their mandate will now have a proper legal backing as they carry on with the discharge of their duties as enforcement officers.



Covid-19 status update

So far, the County Government of Nyeri has vaccinated over 26,000 residents. The governor also called upon the various multiagencies to enhance the enforcement of laid down Covid protocols.



Nyeri County so far has a positivity rate of 17% with 1,779 cases with 114 patients in isolation and a 5.3% fatality rate with 95 confirmed deaths.

1,779

No. of confirmed cases as of Thursday, 22nd April

114

Patients in isolation

95

Confirmed deaths

17%

Positivity rate

Following the rising number of Covid-19 cases in Nyeri County, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga called upon the residents to remain vigilant in the fight against the pandemic.

26,000

No. of vaccinated residents in Nyeri

Governor Kahiga lauded the Nyeri Health Department and the health care workers for their hard work and dedication during this pandemic period including in the vaccination process. So far, the County Government of Nyeri has vaccinated over 26,000 residents. In addition, the governor noted that Wamagana, Bellevue, Mweru and Nyeri Town Health Centres have been added as vaccination centres to ease the accessibility

of AstraZeneca Vaccine to Nyeri residents.

The governor also called upon the various multi-agencies to enhance the enforcement of laid down Covid protocols, in a bid to curb the further spread of Coronavirus.

He also cautioned Nyeri residents against breaking the regulations especially when attending burials and closing of bars, to which he noted the owners risk getting suspended or losing their license.

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Nyewasco explains about the water tariffs adjustment



Nyeri Water and Sanitation Company Limited (NYEWASCO) has explained to its customers on the recent water tariff adjustments saying the new charges are set to benefit over 70 % of its customers.

Nyewasco acting MD Eng. Peter Kahuthu said the tariffs of those who are domestic consumers without sewer from one to six units have been reduced from Kshs. 368.40 to Kshs. 332.00.

“Nyewasco which is one of the Water Service Providers (WSPs) is required by the Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB) to review their Tariffs every five years. The last tariff expired in year 2013. NYEWASCO started off the process in January 2019, as guided by the Public Consultation for Regular Tariff Review Guidelines

issued by WASREB. A survey done by WASREB on the company’s service area showed that 72% of the consumers are poor and consumed a maximum of six units per month. As such there was need to review the tariff and come up with a structure which subsidised the rates for this group of customers,” he explained.

He added that the company later engaged a consultant to carry out Economic Survey within its service area which showed that the customers were desirous of better services. However, it was also observed that the tariff that was in place was non-cost recovery and therefore could not support the same.

“WASREB being the regulator mandated to safeguard the interests of the consumers, reviewed the application

and offered guidance on the content and areas that required review or adjustment. These discussions yielded a suitable application which was further reviewed by WASREB. NYEWASCO was given a go ahead to conduct a public consultation in its service area via a letter dated 4th March 2020,” he added.

NYEWASCO has reduced the tariffs by an average of 10% for the interests of the poor who are the majority. Meanwhile some of the rates have increased especially for the government, institutions and other large consumers.

The MD emphasized that the company engaged the public and stakeholders to deliberate on the proposed tariff changes and incorporated their views before presenting the proposed tariff in

a public consultation meeting held on 9/10/2020. The views gathered during this meeting and throughout the public consultation period were considered by WASREB and the final approved tariff structure published in the Kenya Gazette.

A successful implementation of this tariff will help the company to dispense its mandate effectively while taking care of the people living in the Low Income areas. The following are the benefits of the proposed tariff to the customers:

In case of no consumption, one will pay a small standing fees of Ksh. 50 only and not the current Ksh. 368.40 or Ksh. 686.80 equivalent of 10 units.

The water tariff for water kiosks will remain the same i.e. Ksh. 1 for 10 litres.

Sewer charges will be reduced for domestic users by charging 75% of the quantity of water consumed. This has been reduced from 100%.

The current tariff charges the same price for sewer and water. The proposed tariff will charge a separate rate for sewer which is lower than that of water for all the categories. It is 20% lower on average for the domestic customers.



CASE FOR THE TARIFF

Changes for consumers of up to 6 units.

CATEGORY (1-6 UNITS CONSUMPTION)	OLD TARIFF CHARGES	NEW TARIFF CHARGES	NEW/OLD
DOMESTIC WITHOUT SEWER	368.40	332.00	90%
DOMESTIC WITH SEWER	686.80	534.50	78%
BUSINESSES WITHOUT SEWER	527.70	500.00	95%
BUSINESSES WITH SEWER	1005.40	812.00	81%
Zero consumption will not be charged.			

The projected average costs per unit are as follows.

	Cost Per Unit	Charge for Domestic Customers (1-6 units category)	Amount Subsidized
Water	66.08	47	19.08
Sewer	52.12	45	7.12

The proposed tariff will make it possible for the company to upgrade the pipeline to improve water supply to the residents of Kihuyo, Mweiga, Ikumari and Nganarithi among others.

It will enable the company to reduce water losses further to 12%.

It will assist the company in putting in place measures to maintain 100% drinking water quality that Nyewasco is known for.

This will also enable the company to implement automation of its systems to assure its customers of accurate, timely and consistent billings.

This proposed tariff will enable the company to increase its sewer coverage from 28% to 40%.

Therefore, sewer charges for domestic customers will be reduced to an average 60% of water charges. Minimum charges for low consumption of up to 6 units is Ksh. 332 for unsewered connections and Sh.534.50 for sewer connections down from the current Sh.368.40 and Sh.686.80 respectively.

For business accounts, minimum charges for low consumption of up to 6 units is Ksh. 500 for unsewered connections and Sh.812 for sewer connections down from the current Sh. 527.70 and Sh.1,005.40 respectively.

Key expected Impacts on Service Delivery:

The cost recovery tariff will enable the company to sustain the achieved service delivery levels in terms of efficiencies and effectiveness across board.

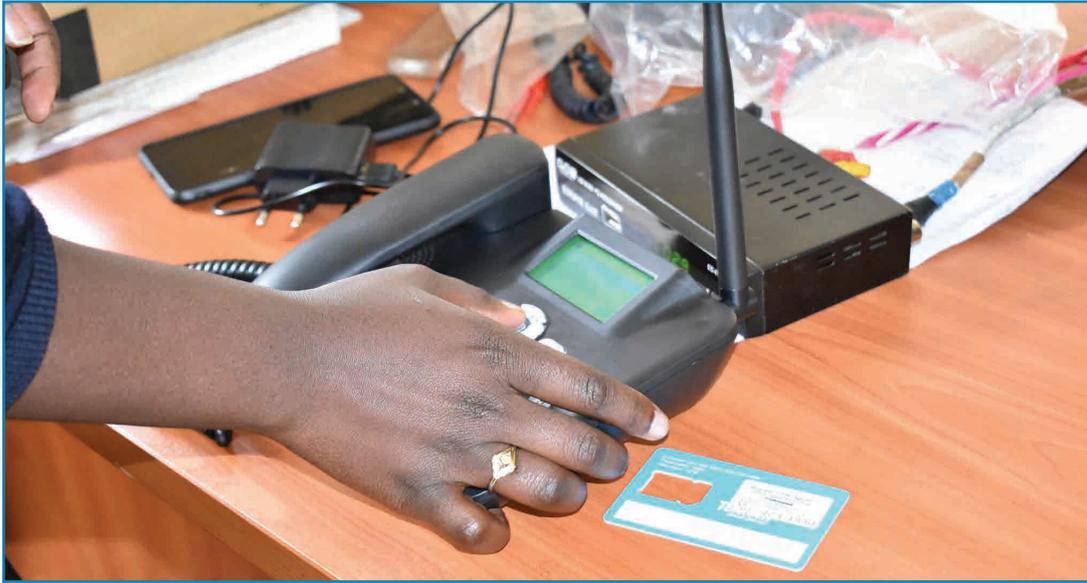
The charges have reduced for some categories in keeping with WASREB's safeguard for the interests of the poor as categorized by the level of consumption, who are the majority.

However, the rest of the costs are structured to be borne by the other categories and therefore their rates have increased especially for the government institutions and large consumers.

"The average projected revenue under the new tariff for the 5 years is Ksh. 629 million. Current prices projecting a growth rate of 7.5% per annum over the same period of time would generate an average revenue of Ksh. 553.9 million reflecting an increment of 13.56% overall," noted the MD.

Wireless technology for disaster preparedness

By Faith Hiuhu



Being on the frontline, wireless connectivity to firemen is a lifeline. They rely on fast and always on access to critical applications and data to perform their mission, whether in a vehicle, station, or on-scene.

For many years, the Nyeri Fire station has been rely-

ing on fixed copper landlines in receiving distress calls. This type of technology is prone to many disruptions from weather, to vandalism and the archaic telephone infrastructure, thus exposing the public to danger due to delayed response.

To address this challenge,

the County Government of Nyeri, through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services recently acquired new wireless landlines for both Nyeri and Karatina Fire Stations. With wireless systems, firefighters will no longer be tethered to fire equipment and apparatus as in

wired system configurations. They are guaranteed to get real time reports on disasters as well as identify callers to deal with false alarms which were a hard to identify and trace with the old fixed lines.

Modern mobile phones have also been ordered for both stations, and will be delivered soon to enable the firemen capture the scenes of disaster which will come in handy in reporting, thus leading to possible investigations. The added freedom and mobility will dramatically improve safety, response time, and situational awareness-both en route to an incident and at the scene.

“One small step for our fire-stations, one giant step for our county and country!”

CoG Covid-19 extraordinary meeting

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga joined his colleague governors albeit virtually, for an extra ordinary CoG meeting held on 20th April. They discussed the extent to which counties have been affected by Covid-19 and the progress made in the vaccinations exercise as well as the

need to increase testing. In attendance was the Auditor General, Nancy Gathungu who met the CoG for the first time to discuss on areas of mutual understanding.



Raising public awareness on the use of antimicrobial drugs

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a natural occurrence exhibited by organisms/microbes namely; bacteria, viruses, fungi and protozoa. The emergence of AMR is accelerated by misuse, overuse and underuse of antimicrobial drugs. As a result, the microbes no longer respond to antimicrobial drugs they were previously sensitive to thus increasing the burden of disease, longer hospital stays, increased cost of treatment and death. Studies have shown that, globally, approximately 700,000 people have died from infections that were previously treatable by existing antimicrobial drugs. If antimicrobial drugs are not used rationally, approximately 10 million people could die from drug resistant infections by the year 2050.

Antimicrobial drugs are used to treat diseases/infections caused by organisms mentioned above and are further classified as below:

- Antibiotics – are drugs used to treat infections caused by bacteria e.g., TB.
- Antivirals – are drugs used to treat infections caused by viruses e.g. HIV, COVID 19 and Hepatitis B.
- Antifungals - are drugs used to treat infections caused by fungi e.g. ring worms
- Antiparasitics - are drugs used to treat infections caused by parasites e.g., malaria





Do's and Don'ts of using antimicrobial drugs:

- **Do not take antimicrobial drugs without the advice of a qualified medical professional.**

Self-medication is not safe as it increases chances of inappropriate self-diagnosis, incorrect choice of antimicrobial drugs, inadequate dosage, potential for developing allergic reactions and the likelihood of increased resistance to microbes. Diseases caused by resistant microbes usually costs more treat, increases hospital stay and can cause death.

- **Get your antimicrobial drugs using a valid prescription ONLY from registered pharmacies/chemists, clinics and hospitals.**

Accessing antimicrobial drugs using a valid prescription allows you to receive the right antimicrobial, for the right diagnosis and at the recommended dosages considering any allergies associated with the choice of the antimicrobial.

- **Ensure you complete the full dose of antimicrobial drugs prescribed to you.**

Completing a full dose of antimicrobials prescribed ensures that disease causing microbes are cleared off your body. Do not stop taking medicines prescribed for you when dis-

ease symptoms improve.

- **Return unused antimicrobial drugs to the pharmacy/chemist where it was obtained from or take them to the nearest clinic/hospital.**

Incorrectly disposed antimicrobial drugs can find their way into human bodies through contaminated water bodies, plants, livestock and fish. This promotes the emergence of more resistant microbes that are difficult and expensive to treat.

- **Do not keep antimicrobial drugs at home for purposes of future use.**

Storing antimicrobial drugs at home for future use may promote inappropriate storage, self-medication, poor compliance and use of antimicrobial drugs that have been stored past their expiry date.

- **Do not share antimicrobial drugs with friends or relatives.**

Do not share antimicrobial drugs with friends and families as this may worsen the condition of the other person. Reason being the other person may receive an underdose, overdose or inappropriate antimicrobial drugs for their infection. This also contributes to emergence of resistant microbes whose consequences are described above.



Treasury CAS courtesy call



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga was delighted to host Treasury CAS Hon Eric Wafukho Simiyu in his office.

They discussed a number of issues including: the disbursement of monies to the county governments, Medium Term Plans geared towards achievement of the Vision 2030, collaboration between the ministry and county government in particular the education sector and payment of pending bills.

Governor Kahiga noted that he's ready to collaborate with the ministry in the transformation of the education sector. He added that he has hired over 800 ECDE teachers, improved infrastructure in the centres and provided learning materials. He also appealed to the ministry to remit the pending monies which help in the payment of pending bills. Previously, the County Government of Nyeri has been hailed for timely payment of pending bills.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI WAMBUGU AGRICULTURAL TRAINING CENTRE

A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR TRAINING FARMERS & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Welcome to our scheduled Theory & Practical Training as per indicated dates and time.

WAMBUGU A.T.C. SCHEDULED TRAININGS MARCH-JUNE, 2021

Day / Date	TOPIC	TIME	AREA TO ADDRESS
THURSDAY 25/03/2021	Coffee husbandry	10:00am - 1:00pm	Coffee Establishment Coffee Nutrition
THURSDAY 15/04/2021	Milk Processing	10:00am - 1:00pm	Yoghurt and Mala Processing
THURSDAY 20/05/2021	Poultry husbandry	10:00am - 1:00pm	Chick rearing
THURSDAY 17/06/2021	Urban and peri-Urban Agriculture	10:00am - 1:00pm	Types of Farming technologies: Multi-story, Conical, Piped, Sunken bed, keyhole, oasis bed, and terrace farming.

All training will take Place at

WAMBUGU AGRICULTURAL TRAINING CENTRE-NYERI
(Wambugu Farm along Nyeri-Karatina Highway)

Contact: D.K. Kariuki The Principal W.A.T.C. Tel: 0722 698 352



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
P.O. BOX 90 - 10100
Telephone 0612030700



COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

ADVERTISEMENT OF VACANT POSITIONS

The County Government of Nyeri wishes to recruit competent and qualified persons to fill the following positions in the Department of Health Services:

1. Registered Nurse I (Renal), Job Group 'K' - 2 posts
2. Registered Nurse I (Critical Care), Job Group 'K' - 12 posts
3. Registered Nurse I (Oncology), Job Group 'K' - 1 post
4. Registered Nurse III, Job Group 'H' - 50 Posts
5. Enrolled Nurse III, Job Group 'G' - 5 Posts

The full details of the job descriptions, requirements for appointment and the Employment Form can be accessed in the website www.nyeri.go.ke and in the County Government Headquarters.

How to Apply

Duly filled Employment Form together with the required documents should be sent or hand delivered to:

THE SECRETARY,
COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD OFFICES,
P.O.BOX 90 - 10100, NYERI
CELL: 0745 342 000 / 0733 977 003

All applications (hand delivered or through post office) should be received on or before 26th April, 2021 at 5.00pm.

Note:

1. Any communication from the County Public Service Board SHALL be through the above address and cellphone.
2. The County Public Service Board does not charge for any of the recruitment process, including shortlisting and appointment. Any request for payment or favor should be reported to the police or to the County Public Service Board. You can use our cellphone numbers: 0745 342 000 / 0733 977 003.
3. Any canvassing will lead to disqualification.

Roads upgrade program

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, PUBLIC WORKS, INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY



Murraming of Matir-ini – Dispensary road in in Kabendera, Naromoru/Kiamathaga ward, Kieni East sub-county.



Ongoing upgrading of feeder roads within Ngangarithi area, Kamakwa ward near Nyeri town.



Recently rehabilitated Kwa Gate - Kwa Mwai road in Mweiga ward, Kieni West sub-county.



Recently murramed Mahuruko - Manoro - PCEA Gakan-ga Road and Kamaru-Kagongo Road in Gatarakwa ward, Kieni West sub-county.



Ongoing upgrading of Gichira Kwa Ritho road in Aguthi-Gaaki ward, Tetu sub-county.



A section of the constructed youth empowerment project near Mweiga Bus Park in Mweiga ward, Kieni West.