

TELL US YOUR STORY...

Amanda Smit, Assistant Foreman at
LAINGSBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



Amanda is an ambitious woman who believes, "Where there is a will, there is a way" and "It is never too late."

From street sweeper to Assistant Foreman there is no stopping this go-getter.

Here is her story.

Amanda was born in Laingsburg and grew up on Floriskraal Dam with her Grandparents. She is the eldest of three children. Amanda experienced a difficult childhood and not having a father figure in her life did not make it any easier. This is why she is so driven to be successful.

Amanda started her school career at Floriskraal Dam Primary School and then attended Laingsburg High School but did not complete her Grade 10. After doing a few odd jobs she joined the Laingsburg Municipality as a street sweeper between 2003 and 2008. During this period she had the urge to learn to drive a tractor. The foreman taught her and within a day she was the first woman in Laingsburg Municipality to drive a tractor for the Waste Management Department.

In 2010 Laingsburg Municipality offered Amanda training in Sewage Ponds. Her first reaction was, "how am I going to smell?" but then with her attitude of 'nothing to lose if you don't try' she completed multiple training courses. She matriculated in 2012 after which she started her career at Water and Sanitation Department at the Municipality. In 2016 Amanda told herself 'she

can do better than this' and was offered the post of Assistant Foreman in the same department. She has a lot of respect for her male colleagues. They taught her and also gave her and are still giving her ongoing advice. Together they focus on a problem and find a solution.

Amanda is a very proud woman knowing that her and her team are responsible for providing water to each household.

When asked who her rolemodels were she replied, "all people are my rolemodels. You must allow circumstances to help you and not hold you back".

Amanda is very thankful for the opportunity Laingsburg Municipality and the staff provided for her growth.

"Ek moet iets doen om myself te kan help"



Today she is happily married for 11 years with her husband who is also from Laingsburg and are very proud parents of three children. One of her reasons behind her motivation is to be an example for her children and prove to them that anything is possible if you apply your mind. "With the

help of the Lord you must be willing to work hard and communicate because when you keep quiet nobody will help you".

Laingsburg Local Municipality is one of the smallest, but most beautiful, dynamic and friendly municipalities in South Africa, which is at the heart of the Great Karoo. Laingsburg Local Municipality always strive to provide proper service delivery to their communities in Laingsburg and Matjiesfontein and values 'team effort'.
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