

Jinja town chokes on garbage

By Doreen Musingo

The rate of increase in garbage in the Jinja central divisions has reached alarming levels.

According to Peter Mawerere, the division town clerk, the municipality has only one garbage collection truck, which is currently under repair. He said Bisons, the company that was contracted to dispose of garbage, has its contract ending next financial year after a period of three years.

He explained that garbage has accumulated in Jinja town because of the breakdown of the truck. However, he said, they have started a cleanup project, by using services of prisoners to do the job.

Mawerere said they plan to employ scouts to arrest people who litter the town

Mawerere explained that as they do this, they also have to massively sensitise the public to put garbage in the collection bins, so as to prevent the wind spreading it around.

The town clerk said they also have a proposal of coming up with a polluter pay collection fee, which should be affordable to the communities, to ensure proper garbage disposal.

He said they hope to employ day and night scouts to monitor and arrest people who litter the town.

Dr Tom Odoi, the municipal health inspector, said once scouts arrest people who litter the town, they would be charged in court under the solid waste management by-law of Jinja municipality.

Odoi highlighted the most affected places as Main Street opposite Barclays Bank, the crossroads of Main Street and Clive Road, Nizam behind St James Church and Gokhale Road next to Main Street Primary School.