



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Barkley Wes Community Members roll up their Sleeves to Clean Vaal River

31 July 2017

Used nappies, bottles, plastic and used toilet papers were some of the solid waste removed from along the Vaal River in Barkley West today 31 July 2017. The cleaning of the area is part of the Clear Rivers Campaign initiated by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) to ensure clean rivers. The DWS partnered with the community of Pniel and Sedibeng Water to clean the area.

Earlier this month, the DWS partnered with the community of Douglas to clean the Bosman canals next to the Orange River.

The Clear Rivers Campaign seeks to create environmentally conscious communities by partnering with them in promoting awareness against water pollution and in protecting our water resources. Volunteerism is actively encouraged as part of a proactive approach to protect our water resources

The DWS has embarked on a National Clear Rivers Campaign as part of its Mandela Month activities for the month of July. This annual campaign has seen DWS in various parts of the country cleaning freshwater ecosystems in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and especially communities residing in close proximity to water sources.

Given that the country is currently recovering from one of the worst droughts in decades, the threat of water pollution by communities, mining, agriculture and industry cannot be tolerated, therefore the DWS in cooperation with all these stakeholders are working together to ensure clean rivers to benefit both current and future generations.

The DWS encourages communities to stop littering our precious water resources.

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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