



INTERNET ARTICLE

North West DWS collaborates with other government departments to commemorate Global Hand Washing, and Food Safety Day

30 October 2023

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in North West together with Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti District Municipality, Departments of Agriculture, Social Development and Health commemorated the Global Hand wash and Food safety Day at Ipelegeng township in Mamusa local Municipality last week Friday 27 October 2023.

These important international days are commemorated annually on 15 and 16 October respectively in a bid to raise awareness to the public about the importance of washing hands with soap and water, and to store food properly. The practices are effective in preventing diseases and to save lives.

The first activity on the day included searching food delivery vehicles and shops for expired food items in Ipelegeng township.

The campaign targeted food handlers of the National School Nutrition Program (NSNP) in schools, pre-schools. General caterer and informal food sellers were also targeted and were given demonstrations of proper handwashing using water and soap. They were also taught how to store food safely to ensure that they remain in a good state until they are prepared.

Mr. Tieho Ntja from the Department of Water and Sanitation demonstrated seven steps of washing hands with running water and soap. He encouraged participants to adopt a habit of frequently washing hands, especially after touching any object.

“You touch, you wash. Most surfaces are dirty in different ways and our eyes cannot see some of the dirt. As a result, we must wash our hands after touching any object especially if we are going to touch food”, reiterated Mr Ntja.

The Global Handwashing Day provides an opportunity to put the spotlight on the importance of good handwashing and hygiene practices and it is also the most effective and inexpensive way to reduce the spread of diseases.

Katlego Maponya

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