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Let's act against vandals

Vandalising water resources and infrastructure is a heinous act against other's human rights.

It's particularly bad during this difficult period when the world is faced with the deadly coronavirus.

Covid-19 has claimed almost a quarter of a million of lives across the globe.

In South Africa, the number of daily infections continues to rise amid government efforts to flatten the curve.

The government was recently commended by the World Health Organisation for its efforts and measures to contain the virus' spread.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has rolled out water tanks throughout the country to ensure rural areas and squatter camps have access to reliable water supply during this period.

This is to ensure people practise hygiene, including regularly washing hands with soap.

All these efforts might be wasted

as vandalism increases at an alarming rate. Infrastructure is being damaged by the same community that's meant to benefit.

It's community members' responsibility to report any acts of vandalism on water infrastructure and short-term interventions made possible by the department.

Political parties are united, so how come community members – the primary recipients of water as a basic need – are not united against this crime?

Refuse to be an accessory to those who vandalise water resources for selfish, personal gains.

Rather be an ambassador of water goodwill and be counted among the heroes and heroines who save the little water they have at their disposal.

As we don't know how long Covid-19 will last, and as dam levels keep dwindling in some parts of the country, we must do better as communities.

■ *Marcus Monyakeni*