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Save every precious drop of water

THE festive season is in full swing, even though some holiday goers received undesirable news from President Cyril Ramaphosa, regarding the closure of beaches in some parts of the country.

Large bodies of water normally mean fun. Some might now not enjoy the sights and sounds of the beach but may find themselves near a pool or river.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) implores citizens once again to be safe when near water.

Alcoholic beverages are consumed more during this period. It is never a good idea to mix alcohol and water.

When intoxicated many individuals can make life threatening decisions that jeopardise their lives or those of their loved ones.

If you or your children are going to be near a swimming pool or rivers it is advisable to wear protective gear. Someone who can swim should be near the pool area at all times and supervise the children.

We have only one life and the ideal scenario would see us all cross

into 2021 without any drownings.

DWS also pleads with all residents to keep conserving water by reporting leaks to the main pipes outside their yard to the municipality. Leaks on the property (taps and toilets) should be fixed by the property owner.

Many times it is not an expensive exercise - it just requires the changing of the rubber inside the tap or toilet pipe.

Some other water saving tips:

- Take a shower instead of a bath.
- Always use a bucket instead of a hose to water the garden or wash the car.
- Reuse grey water in the garden instead of fresh treated water.
- Do not fill swimming pools.
- Where possible harvest rain water for use in the garden.

Bear in mind that every drop counts. If everyone works together a lot of water can be saved. During spring and summer water in dams and reservoirs evaporates at a much higher rate than in winter times.

Residents should also pay for the very important services that they receive; we have at some stage all felt the void of water in our lives.

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