

Welcome spring in a responsible manner

SPRING marks the beginning of warm weather and we get excited and celebrate in different ways. On September 1, as we celebrate Spring Day, it is important we do so in a responsible manner and desist from wasting precious water, especially as water levels continue to drop in the watercourses.

South Africa is a dry and water-scarce country, where every drop counts.

Water has no substitute and this makes it critical that we always practise water conservation and use available water wisely and sparingly in everything we do. Playing with water in the name of welcoming spring defeats the water conservation cause and leads to water losses and shortages.

It has been seen in the past that one of the ways people celebrate the advent of spring is playing with water, and thereby wasting water. Playing with water is like throwing precious litres of clean and purified water down the drain.

Pouring water over each other in the name of welcoming spring might look cool, but it adds to water wastage and contributes to the loss of precious water, which we cannot afford as one of the thirty driest countries in the world. Let us be responsible and not waste water.

Spring is a time for strengthening water conservation initiatives, as the season comes with high temperatures associated with high evaporation leading to less water availability.

With climate change upon us, it is everyone's responsibility to prevent water losses and contribute to sustainable water supply.

Everyone can play a part in water

security by using water wisely and sparingly, through fixing leaks and reporting bulk pipeline leaks to the relevant authorities; not leaving the tap running while washing your face or brushing teeth; filling kettles with just enough water for the specific need; and using a bucket rather than a hose-pipe to wash a car.

The most critical element of preventing water wastage is to understand the value of water. Water is central to life and a catalyst for socio-economic development.

Without water, there is no life as water has no substitute. It is therefore critical that we all understand the value of each and every drop of water and strengthen water conservation in everything we do.

Always remember that the future and water security is in everyone's hands and therefore it is crucial to always act and behave in a responsible manner to ensure sustainable water supply for the current and future generations.

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