



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEDIA STATEMENT

DWS calls for wise water use as Grootdraai Dam drops below 80%.

11 September 2024

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) calls on the public to intensify water conservation efforts and use the available water wisely and sparingly. This comes as dam levels continue to drop, with the Grootdraai Dam in Standerton recording below 80% in the current week.

This week's state of reservoirs report by the Department shows that the Grootdraai Dam continues to drop and has recorded 78.9% from last week's 80.0%.

In terms of the other listed dams in the Gert Sibande District, only Jericho Dam recorded an improvement from 73.6% to 73.9% with Vygeboom and Morgenstond dams remained unchanged at 99.3% and 74.5% respectively, while the rest continue to record declines in water volumes.

The other listed dams that recorded declines in water levels include Nooitgedacht from 81.0% to 79.9%, Westoe from 40.1% to 38.2%, and Heyshope from 97.5% to 97.4%.

Water levels also continue to drop in the Mpumalanga Province as a whole with the average dam levels recording a further drop from last week's 88.0% to 87.0%. In the Water Management Areas (WMA), the Olifants WMA dropped from 79.3% to 78.4% and the Inkomati-Usuthu WMA dropped from 89.0% to 88.3%.

The DWS report further shows that water levels also dropped on the three districts of the Mpumalanga Province with Ehlanzeni dropping from 89.6% to 88.0%, Gert Sibande dropping from 85.2% to 84.6%, and Nkangala dropping from 91.1% to 90.1%.

In light of the continuous drop in water levels, the Department reminds the public that South Africa is a water-scarce country, and that water should be used wisely as it has no substitute. Water use efficiency, and the protection of water resources are critical for sustainable water supply for the current and future generations.

END

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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