



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Gauteng DWS and stakeholders clean-up campaign brings life to Klipspruit River

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The Department of Water and Sanitation in Gauteng joined hands with various stakeholders to highlight the central role of fresh water resources when they cleaned up the Klipspruit River in Orlando East, Soweto, on Saturday, 26 October 2019.

The Department partnered with Pick n Pay, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA) and learners from Selelekela Secondary School to conduct the cleanup campaign.

The campaign was a response to the challenge posed by pollution to South Africa's rivers and other water courses.

Mr Donovan Fullard from WESSA, expressed concern at extent pollution in country and the manner in which pollution was taking over rivers, saying this must be prevented as it was taking life out of the country's water resources.

He said the pollution of rivers was a travesty given that many communities still struggle to access water in the country, adding that by not polluting people were helping to preserve the limited water resources.

Selelekela Secondary School learner, Lerato Chauke, said her participation in the cleanup campaign was to highlight the role that young people should play to make sure that rivers were protected all over the country.

"Daily we hear that our country does not have enough water to provide to the people. But the sad part is that polluting the water is our own doing. This must make us realise that we must rise up and do something to prevent polluting water resources," appealed Lerato.

Another learner at school, Moeketsi Moloi, said government should not be alone in ensuring that there is water available, noting that communities have a role to play to see to it that the limited water the country still has is shared.

A teacher at the school, Mr Mbongeni Mkhaza, welcomed the partnership between all stakeholders, saying that it was through initiatives such as the cleanup campaign that the country would be able to solve many of its challenges.

He said: "As communities we are confronted with a lot of challenges and we don't have to look anywhere else for solutions but ourselves. If you assess the challenge of the water situation in our country, you will see that it has to do with how we behave. So, find effective solutions to the challenge of water pollution, we have to change our behavior. Should we fail to do this, we are likely to face a more serious challenge than we have now," Mr Mkhaza advised.

Hosia Sithole