



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### Information must be shared to us

10 December 2019

On 09 November 2019, the Department of Water and Sanitation officials shared information on water saving tips to the community of Graaf- Reinet during an extensive period of drought in the area. The community of Graaf Reinet depends on the Nqweba dam which is sitting at 0% in water levels.

The purpose of the awareness is to encourage communities to continue saving water, wash hands with soap regularly and recycle water for flushing and irrigation purposes. Officials spent more time explaining and outlining some of the interventions made by Government to ease the situation in Graaf- Reinet.

Marylin Peters, a ward councilor in the area, told community members that DWS is tirelessly working with Dr Beyer's Naude Local Municipality (DBNLM) to bring a relief to the community. "The Department of Water and Sanitation is committed to assist the community of Graaf-Reinet. The local municipality has also drilled boreholes to augment the remaining water. Dr Beyers Naude Local Municipality has also implemented water restrictions so that we can have water", she said.

A member of the community, Mr Robert Daniels encouraged the Department to constantly keep the community informed of government's plans. "It is important that people should be educated about water conservation and to recycle water for flushing and irrigation. We should also know how to treat our water by putting a teaspoon of bleach into a 20 litre of water. We should also ensure that we report all the water leakages in our yards to the municipality or to the DWS toll free number 0800 200 200", said Mr Daniels.

Mesuli Sitole, a ward councilor in the area encouraged the community to attend meetings called by government officials, and to also spread the messages they receive.

**Lameki Jumba**