



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS calls on communities to be cautious of water losses

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The Department of Water and Sanitation has called on community members to be vigilant of leaking taps and intensify the fight against water losses through leaking taps and burst pipes.

According to the Departmental weekly reservoirs status, the Vaal Dam continued declined again this week, confirming that the recent downpours have not made a difference in the levels of the dam.

The dam dropped from last week's 29.1% to 28.1% this week. During the same time last year, it stood at 46.5%.

Departmental Spokesperson, Mr Sputnik Ratau, said the Department had noted the further decline in the levels of the Vaal Dam and attributed this to heatwave and lack of continuous rainfall.

Ratau said during the same time last year, the dam stood 46.5%.

On the other dams that form part of the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS), Ratau said the Department was satisfied that the Grootdraai and Sterkfontein were still firm.

"Hovering at 75.6%, the Grootdraai Dam is still in a good state. This is despite the fact that it fell from 76.0% last week. In the same week last year, its levels were lesser at 53.1%," said Ratau.

He added that the Sterkfontein Dam, which is a reserve dam located in the Free State, was one of the strongest dams up until now.

The dam has seen a minor upsurge this week from last week's 94.3% to the present 94.4%.

"The Sterkfontein Dam occupies a critical position as one of the 14 dams in the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS). From time to time, it is used to replenish the dwindling levels of the Vaal Dam," Ratau said.

He reiterated the message that even though the Sterkfontein stands ready to replenish the Vaal Dam, community members were central to ensuring that water was not needlessly lost.

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