



INTERNET ARTICLE

Cosmo City residents benefit from DWS's vital water saving tips

18 March 2021

The Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS) Gauteng Provincial Office reiterated valuing water for the nation's survival when it kicked off its Water Month celebrations at Cosmo City Taxi Rank, City of Joburg, on Wednesday, 17 March 2021.

Attracting residents from all walks of life, the celebration was joined by other government entities that included SASSA, IEC and Joburg Disaster Management. The collaborative celebration provided a platform for providing government services to the local residents.

DWS's Ms Shoki Malepe said the significance of the day was to stress how profoundly they needed to value water in their everyday lives, saying this dovetailed with this year's theme of "Valuing Water".

While the Department will hold celebrations throughout the month, on 22 March the Department will join the world in celebrating the annual World Water Day. The theme for the annual celebration is aimed at encouraging people to value water in line with its multiple uses economically, socially, culturally and the role it plays in their lives.

Ms Malepe said despite the fact that communities were aware of water shortages facing the country, there was a need to go beyond merely noting the challenges to valuing the role of water.

"It is well and good that we acknowledge the magnitude of the challenge of water scarcity. But we need to do much more than that by valuing our water resources by displaying concrete actions to deal with water wastages where we live", said Ms Malepe.

"For starters", she said, "there is a need to ensure that communities deal decisively with the pollution of water resources as this costs a lot of money when we purify it". She added that efforts to stop pollution should go hand in hand with conserving water resources because wastages put the country in jeopardy.

Information on proper hygiene practices was given to the public with officials showing them the six steps of appropriate handwashing.

Speaking after interacting with officials of the Department, a local resident, Ms Balindile Ngobese, said observing the Water Month should remind every person that water was scarce and that taps could run dry if care was not taken to save it.

She said the water saving tips that she got from the officials of the Department were important because they would enlighten the public about the state of our water situation and to get them to act now rather than later.

She said: "The information that was being given to us today is not for the sake of it. It should jolt us to think seriously about the way we use water. Our present situation is such that we cannot afford to postpone action to save it. We must act now to ensure the survival our communities".





water & sanitation

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