



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **Ndungunya Village community urged to take care of their toilets**

19 May 2021

Government officials representing the Department of Water and Sanitation as well as Joe Gqabi District Municipality called on Ndunyana Village residents to keep their toilets clean while also saving water.

This was during one of the several activities that the Department and various municipalities held throughout the province to educate the public about the importance of hygiene and toilets in their lives. This was held under the umbrella “Sanitation Week” that is commemorated annually in an attempt for people to change their behavior when it comes to matters of sanitation.

The South African constitution states that people have the right to a clean environment and they must have a toilet.

Ms Khodani Munyai from the Sanitation Unit in the Department said even though everyone has a right, that right comes with responsibility and community members need to take full responsibility and ownership of their toilets

“Government gives you toilets and you must be educated on the use to ensure sustainability. If that does not happen, it does not serve the purpose of having a toilet. We must take good care of our toilets. If we don’t look after them they will break or collapse”, she said..

She emphasised that community members must refrain from using foreign objects while utilizing toilets and said the only thing that should enter a toilet is faeces, urine and toilet paper, nothing else. Munyai added that toilet seats lids must be kept closed at all times to avoid the spread of diseases.

Iviwe Dambuza, Environmental Health Practitioner at Joe Gqabi District presented COVID-19 protocols especially during public gatherings.

“We plead with you to keep social distance, sanitize or wash hands with soap and running water. No more than 50 people at funerals. Only 50% of the venue capacity can attend a gathering in a public place”, said Dambuza.





## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
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Chief Mkwai welcomed the sanitation education and he applauded the Department for the effort it is making to empower communities especially during COVID-19.

“We are also grateful for the Personal Protective Equipment because these things are very expensive and our community is very poor”, said Mkwai.

**Thandile Ngcume**



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



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