



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **DWS takes the water conservation messages to the people of Alexandra**

17 March 2016

Alexandra is one of the oldest townships in Gauteng, with high water losses and the Jukskei River being constantly polluted by the residents and nearby industries leading to the loss of aquatic livestock.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Gauteng Provincial Office in partnership with Rand Water Services Forum yesterday visited the community of Alexandra for a public education awareness campaign as part of the National Water Week celebrations.

A group of about 200 people from Rand Water Services Forum members, local councillors, DWS officials and volunteers from Shomang Sebenzani Development Initiative took water conservation messages to the community, doing door to door distributions of leaflets and educating residents about keeping the Jukskei River and riverbanks free of litter.

Over 1 500 households were visited during the campaign. Residents were also advised to report water leaks and water pipe bursts in their areas timeously.

The group also visited the Jukskei River to clean up the site which had been adopted by Shomang Sebenzani Development Initiative in 2011, following the launch of the Jukskei Adopt-a-River Programme by the former Deputy Minister Rejoice Mabudafhasi.

The local ward councillor, Chris Mabunda, commended the initiative and urged the team to do more of these activities during the year within the community of Alexandra.

“We are very excited to see this delegation today in our backyard. The issues of water wastage are a very serious concern in our community and we hope that initiatives like these will make people realise the importance of water conservation”, said Councillor Mabunda.

The Shomang Sebenzani Development Initiative cleans the river Monday to Friday, collecting waste from the river and river banks for recycling and gardening purposes. They also do on-going door-to-door awareness programmes aimed at educating residents located next to the river.

**Lucky Makgarengi**