



water & sanitation

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Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Drop-the-Block Empowers Volunteers

07 October 2016

The Drop-The-Block awareness campaign that took place in Thulamahashe, Bushbuckridge, from 03 to 07 October 2016 not only left the community with innovative ways of saving precious water but also left the volunteers who were distributing the blocks with valuable skills and experience for the future.

The campaign left the volunteers with important marketing, negotiation and crucial interpersonal skills. The campaign also empowered them with knowledge regarding the water situation in the country and the need for everyone to practice water conservation. Furthermore, this campaign also offered a life time opportunity to those who seek work experience, which may come in handy as a break through into the job market.

One volunteer, Mr Edwin Khosa, lauded the opportunity to be part of this campaign and said it was a great and fruitful experience working on this awareness project as it gave them the opportunity to acquire important skills while working for the benefit of their community.

“I now understand the importance of water conservation and will continue spreading the message of saving water and encourage others to check the pipes and fix any leaks so as to save the precious water that is often lost through leaks and our actions and behavior”, said Khosa.

Another volunteer, Ms Joyce Ngobeni, stated that the campaign assisted her to understand her community better, as it gave her the opportunity to engage her neighbours.

“This basically shows that the campaign offers skills development, social and economic opportunities in ensuring that we conserve the most precious resource and source of life,” she added.

The Drop-the-Block campaign is an eco-friendly innovation initiated by DWS for saving water by dropping a block in the toilet cistern to reduce water used for flushing. The block reduces



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the water in the cistern by about two litres, which means that two litres of water is saved for each and every flush in a toilet.

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