



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Hennops River gets spruced**

05 April 2016

The Department of Water and Sanitation in collaboration with the City of Tshwane embarked on a “Hennops River cleanup Joint Operation campaign” to raise awareness around river pollution.

One of the worst populated rivers in Gauteng, Hennops River was targeted for the campaign. The River is constantly polluted by the residents leaving upstream through illegal dumping and littering just to name a few unlawful acts.

The four days campaign started on Tuesday, 03 May 2016 and will run until Friday, 06 May 2016. Hennops River cleanup Joint Operation campaign is meant to intensify the river pollution awareness by keeping the river clean at all times.

The team of officials from DWS, City of Tshwane, Adopt a river and Region4 Tshepo 10000 cooperatives members are on the ground over this period removing solid waste from the river, cutting grass and tree scrubs that are interrupting the natural flow of the river.

Sibusiso Mabase, Project Manager for the Hennops River cleanup campaign admits that the levels of pollution at the Hennops River are very high and calls for change in the perceptions and attitudes of people residing upstream.

“The river was very bed when we started on Tuesday, it is not yet at the state we want to see it , but with constant cleaning programmes and public awareness campaigns we are confident that it will get to the desired state”, Said Mabase.

River pollution in South Africa remains a huge challenge that needs a collective efforts and as strong interventions from all spheres of the society. If not properly addressed river pollution has the potential of causing serious health problems and impacts negatively on aquatic animals and the environment as a whole.

The Department of Water and Sanitation is appealing to everyone to protect and respect our water resources, and report all pollution incidences such as dumping waste into the river to the nearest South African Police Services, local municipalities or contact the department’s toll free number: 0800 200 200.

**Lucky Makgarengi**