



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Preaching Clear Rivers on a Daily Basis

15 July 2016

Mafambisa Pastors Organisation promised to preach about the importance of clean, clear and healthy rivers in all their interactions with members of the community.

The Department of Water and Sanitation Mpumalanga Provincial Office together with the Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Agency partnered with the Mafambisa Pastors Organisation, Siyathuthuka Home Based Care and Mbombela Local Municipality to clean the Mafambisa stream on 15 July 2016.

The stream is used by community members to do their washing and it also provides drinking water for the livestock in the area. The stream was identified for the clear river campaign as it was dirty and unhealthy, posing a serious health threat to community members in terms of contracting waterborne diseases.

The stream is basically used as a dumping site by the same community members who are also using the stream for their washing. The main source of pollution in the stream is human behaviour and actions. The major pollutants found in the stream are disposable nappies.

In appreciating the participation of the community members in the campaign, the Department of Water and Sanitation and Inkomati – Usuthu Catchment Management Agency encouraged the community to protect the resource and encouraged other members of the community not to dump waste in the stream. The community was encouraged to keep their streams and rivers clean throughout the year and not only during the Mandela Month. The community was also encouraged to keep the rivers around them clean at all times and conserve the little water available as ours is a water scarce country.

Pastor Mkhabela, representing the Mafambisa Pastors Organisation thanked the community members for their participation. He emphasized the message that water is life; that without water there is no life and that people must always take care of their water resources and prevent the pollution of their streams and rivers.



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He also stated that as pastors they will spread the message of the clear river campaign in the churches. He also stated that they will continue to engage the municipality to avail a waste container which can be used by the community to dump their waste so as to refrain from using the stream as their dumping site.

Themba Khoza