



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Senekal tanks deliver good quality water

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It is everybody's right to receive water but more importantly it is everyone's right to receive clean water that they can drink without falling ill. Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is on a mission to make sure this is the case for all residents especially those who temporarily receiving water from tankers due to the drought.

According to Mr Masia Ngwambani, Director of Water Regulation DWS, the department takes strides to make sure that communities consume clean drinkable water. DWS has enlisted the assistance of the University of the Free State (UFS) to test and clean the tanks used to supply water to communities of Senekal.

The Department will test water from the source where the water tankers are filled and the tankers themselves as well as the nozzles to ensure quality of water is safe for human consumption. Where necessary chemicals such as Sodium Hypochlorite are added to the water in the tank and circulated for a period of thirty minutes before the water can be distributed to consumers. These processes are followed routinely to avoid any outbreak of illness from consumption of unclean water. DWS will test and clean tanks in Senekal on 12 to 16 April 2016.

Mantsidi Nthako from Thabo section in Senekal said that they have not had water for a while but are very grateful for the water tankers. "We use to struggle and wait for a long time before we received water but since the DWS donated trucks, we do not wait long at all", said Nthako. She explained that not all parts of Senekal are affected but water is rationed so that the reservoirs have a chance to fill up to capacity.

Kanapies Sedikane who owns a carwash said that the water shortage has been tough on his business. "We have to fetch water from the river in order to carry on washing cars", he said.

Mr Sedikana Malefetsane, the Principal of Rehotse Intermediate School, in Dithepeng area in Senekal says that government is absolutely doing enough. "The water tankers fill the Jojo tanks at the school on daily basis, the water is clean and drinkable." said Sedikana.

The department is appealing to communities to clean the containers they use to collect water from the truck with a cleaning agent momentarily to ensure they drink clean water at all times.