



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
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Use the available water wisely

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The community of Schoemansdal in Nkomazi Local Municipality was encouraged to use water sparingly and in a wise manner to ensure that everyone has access to the source of life, especially during this devastating drought in the country.

Water conservation and demand management was the main message from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) during the community awareness meeting and exhibition held at the Matsamo Thusong Service Centre as part of the Annual Thusong Service Week.

In my address to the audience, I reminded the community about the effects of the drought on the dwindling water resources and the importance of water conservation to ensure the impact of the drought is not that destructive to their livelihood. The audience was also reminded that ours is a water scarce country ranking amongst the 30 driest countries in the world therefore it is crucial for water security for the current and future generations that we use water wisely.

The community members in attendance were also encouraged to prevent the pollution of water resources as pollution impacts negatively on water quality. Pollution also impacts negatively on the available water in our rivers as it makes less water available for human and animal needs. Pollution also makes our rivers dangerous for humans, animals and the environment. The audience was also discouraged from dumping waste, especially disposable nappies in the water resources and to also protect the resources from any form of pollution.

The awareness campaign was a success as the community was exposed to the operations of quite a number of government departments and agencies. The departments and agencies that provided presentations, services and exhibited included the COGTA, DWS, GCIS, Health, Home Affairs, Labour, SAPS, ICASA, SASSA and NPA.

Water saving tips were distributed and the importance of water conservation was emphasised to both young and old. The audience was encouraged to use the department's call centre to report water and sanitation related issues.

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