



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

WATER CONSERVATION AWARENESS CRUCIAL FOR THEMBISILE HANI

08 June 2016

The Department of Water and Sanitation embarked on an intensive water conservation awareness campaign in Thembisile Hani Local Municipality on 08 June 2016. The aim of the campaign was to educate the community about the importance of water conservation, especially as ours is a water scarce country and one of the 30 driest countries in the world. The awareness campaign also highlighted the importance of water use efficiency.

Thembisile Hani Local Municipality is one of the municipalities experiencing water challenges as it does not have a dedicated source. The municipality also experiences high water losses which makes the water conservation awareness crucial.

The awareness campaign took the form of a puppet show dramatizing the importance of water conservation and the negative effects of water wastage. It was performed in three primary schools and in the local shopping complex in the Kwaggafontein area within the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality. The schools visited are Sesifikile Primary, Somtshongweni Primary and Magadulela Primary.

It is crucial to create awareness among and educate young kids to ensure that they grow up as responsible citizens as they are the future. Water conservation is crucial for the sustainability and survival of the current and future generations.

The puppet show awareness campaign aims to create water superheroes that will spread the water conservation message within communities. The active participation and enthusiasm of the learners showed that the message of water conservation and water use efficiency will reach even the furthest corners of the community. The superheroes in the visited schools committed themselves to sharing the message with their families and friends and to ensure that not a single drop of water will be lost under their watchful eyes.

The department then engaged the public in an awareness campaign in a shopping complex in the area. Community members were engaged and encouraged to be water ambassadors and



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practice water use efficiency and water conservation. The public was also encouraged to protect water infrastructure against vandalism and report all water related challenges to the municipality and through the department's toll free number: 0800 200 200. The community was also encouraged to share the water conservation messages with their family members, friends and community.

Through this awareness campaign, the department is assisting the municipality to reduce the high volume of water losses. All the residents of the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality are encouraged to play their role and assist the municipality in reducing the high level of water losses.

Themba Khoza