



water & sanitation

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INTERNET ARTICLE

Water conservation education and awareness are much needed essentials for the people of Giyani

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Villages in and around Giyani in Limpopo province have for long been prone to severe water shortages as a result of scorching hot conditions. A thorough tour around the villages surrounding Giyani town brings clarity that community members are in dire need of water conservation awareness and education, and especially how to protect and best utilise the water infrastructure afforded them.

Almost all efforts by the Department of Water and Sanitation through Lepelle Northern Water in the area are shadowed by illegal water connections which cause disruptions towards the intended water supply goals, resulting in extreme and saddening cases of water infrastructure vandalism or theft. With the current drought situation making secure water supply almost impossible, it is very important that community members develop the culture of ownership towards the critical water infrastructure under development. This will ensure that they value such infrastructure and thus ensure its sustainability.

The Department of Water and Sanitation's Limpopo regional Office highlighted that water conservation and demand management in the area require serious attention as this will ensure optimum operation of the intervention initiatives and sustainable water supply. Although there are currently awareness programmes being carried out; this is not enough to ensure that residents abide by the law. Yes, Illegal water connections remain a big act of criminality, as it explains itself. Vandalism and the theft of water infrastructure are all punishable by law.

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