



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

The KZN drought awareness campaign in top form

25 February 2015

The community members of Nyezane in the Umlalazi Local Municipality in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) flooded the Nyezane sports ground to attend the launch of the KZN Drought Awareness Campaign which was held yesterday, 24 February 2015.

The campaign is an initiative by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in partnership with the uThungulu District Municipality to highlight to the community the importance of water conservation and better water management around the KZN province during this period of drought. There will be door to door visits to the communities' households and also distribution of water canisters, tanks and other materials to assist during this time.

During the launch, uThungulu District Municipality's speaker, Alice Mthembu, said that the community is the eyes and ears of government hence it is of vital importance that they be included in the battle to ensure that residents have access to clean water. "It is very crucial that we involve residents on such campaigns as they are the ones who witness continuous loss of water through negligence and vandalism of water infrastructure".

Mthembu further stated that she trusts community members will report water wastages and any criminal activities associated with such wastages.

During the launch, speaker after speaker emphasized the use of water sparingly as one of the most effective weapons to use against water scarcity.

DWS and uThungulu officials provided residents with tips on how to save water. Some residents expressed that they weren't aware of the effects of drought and now that they know they are willing to work collectively with the department to alleviate this tragedy.

The campaign is aimed at educating communities in KZN on how to best deal with the situation at hand and hopefully ensure that residents still practice water saving activities even after the period of drought has passed on.



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South Africa is a water scarce country and the lack of decent rainfall in most parts of KZN has put great pressure on the province's water supply. Since the beginning of the drought the department has been working hard at aiding the 10 affected municipalities in the area.

Maduvha Maseda

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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