



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **Mamelodi residents walk for water**

**23 March 2015**

*“Water has no substitute, every drop counts”, those were the shouts that echoed the streets of Mamelodi in Pretoria this morning. Residents and pupils around the area took to the streets to participate in the two kilometres “walk for water” awareness campaign.*

*This was an effort by the Department of Water and Sanitation’s Gauteng provincial office in partnership with the City of Tshwane Municipality and Rand Water to raise the awareness on the importance of using water wisely and sparingly, as well as to also engage communities in doing so.*

*The event was graced by the presence of the traditional representative and the City Manager. The community gathered at the Walter Sisulu Environmental Centre to advise one another on various ways they can participate in to play a role in saving water. Speaker after speaker shared their grim experiences of witnessing water wasting activities around Mamelodi and what they deemed was the perfect action to take to avoid such wastages.*

*Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) of Infrastructure, Water, Sanitation and Electricity in the City of Tshwane Municipality, Jacob Masango in his keynote address shared that the municipality has plans and programmes aimed at assisting community members in water conservation. He urged residents to work together with the municipality in utilising these plans. Sharing the same sentiments was acting Director for DWS’ Water Sector Support in Gauteng regional office, Thabisile Rakgotho, who said that spreading the message of saving water requires collective action. “We need everyone’s support”, she said.*



## water & sanitation

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*Other issues that took centre stage were those of water pollution and the pollution of water sources and resources. Chief Joseph Mabena of the Manala-Makerana Tribal Council urged community members to refrain from dumping pollutants into the rivers. “Dead animals and household wastes do not belong in our rivers, they belong on dumping sites.” Chief Mabena added that water pollution causes water-borne diseases and increases the costs incurred by the national waste water treatment works.*

*The event wrapped up the National Water Week campaign which started on Monday, 16 March 2015. The National Water Week is the Department of Water and Sanitation’s annual campaign aimed at bringing the nation’s attention to water issues and to encourage the appreciation of water as a scarce resource.*

**Maduvha Maseda**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

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