



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS takes sanitation education to the Breede Valley Municipality

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The sanitation, health and hygiene door to door campaign by the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in the Breede Valley Municipality was an eye opener to many community members. The region took the campaign to this municipality over two days, to educate the public about the importance of sanitation.

The main objective of the celebration of Sanitation and Hygiene Month is to raise the profile of sanitation and encourage local government and communities to prioritize sanitation, health and hygiene and further to highlight the work that the Department is doing to ensure that:

- All South Africans have access to adequate sanitation,
- The critical importance of looking after sanitation facilities is advocated ,
- Communities are well informed to practice safe hygiene.
- Communities and stakeholders are well informed and updated of the progress made in sanitation provision and health & hygiene promotion programmes.

Jacob Ngo, from Sanitation in the department says the department chose these areas as there was a need to raise the profile of the campaign.

“In De Doorns, we targeted new low cost housing. We went there to ensure that we teach them how to look after the sanitation facilities, safe washing of hands, water conservation as well as the importance of health and hygiene. In Worcester, the department visited informal settlements as well as low cost housing” said Ngo.

The campaign also celebrates the sanitation improvements done by government (National, Provincial and Local) in making in ensuring that people have access to adequate sanitation. Adequate sanitation services refers to services that are easily accessible to household members, have the necessary operational support for the safe removal of human waste and black and or grey water from the premises where this is appropriate and necessary, and promotes the communication of good sanitation, hygiene and related practices.

Some of the challenges the community faced with is the issue of vandalism of sanitation infrastructure and leaks.

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