



INTERNET ARTICLE

Keeping the environment clean for water security

10 June 2019

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) joined the City of Mbombela and other environmental organisations in celebrating Environment Day in Mganduzweni in the City of Mbombela on Friday, 07 June 2019.

As part of the celebration, the streams and public spaces were cleaned and all pollutants were cleared bringing a healthy environment for the health of the streams, rivers and the community of the area. Illegal dumping is still a major challenge towards achieving a clean and healthy environment.

Water is life and pollution negatively affects the source of life. Water quality is the major victim of the pollution of the environment and water resources. Speaker after speaker highlighted the negative effects of pollution on water. The community was reminded of the diseases associated with water pollution and encouraged to keep the environment safe and healthy to prevent the spread of water borne diseases and keep the community healthy.

As we celebrate Youth Month, Ms Estelle Roe, an entrepreneur and environmental activist encouraged the youth to take care of the environment and urged them to form groups that will adopt the streams and rivers and keep the environment clean and healthy for the benefit of the community. She promised to assist such youth initiatives and to campaign for resources for them.

Mr Themba Khoza from DWS encouraged the community to take care of the water courses and ensure that they keep flowing freely with clean quality water for the benefit of all. He also reminded the audience that we live in a water scarce country with shrinking water resources as a result of climate change therefore we need to use the available water in a more efficient way and to consider alternative sources such as groundwater as water has no substitute.

Starting the awareness celebration was an eye-opener and encouraged the community to commit to playing an active role in safeguarding water resources and keeping the environment clean and healthy.





water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



“I was not aware of the damage caused by illegal dumping waste in the water resources and open spaces until I saw the waste with my own eyes. It is a bad situation and from now onwards I commit to engage and educate my fellow friends, neighbours and community members to take care of the environment to prevent the spread of diseases and for water security”, said one of the youth attendees, Sibongile Shabangu.

Themba Khoza

