



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Help save our rivers from being polluted

16 July 2018

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Water and Sanitation (KZN DWS) will embark on a campaign to clean several rivers within the province, commencing with Mzintlava River in Bhongweni in Kokstad on Wednesday 18 July 2018.

The campaign is part of the department's awareness programme called Clear Rivers Campaign aimed at creating awareness to communities about the need and importance of protecting water resources. The campaign also forms part of the Mandela Month to make a difference for 67 minutes (and beyond) to honour the life and legacy of the late president Nelson Mandela.

Rivers, lakes, streams, dams and wetlands contribute to drinking water and support a healthy habitat for fish and wildlife.

Water pollution is one of the main issues that affect humans. Through this campaign, the department hopes communities will become aware of the causes, effects and preventive measures of water pollution to make our lives better. With high polluted levels, the conditions of rivers across the country have deteriorated, and have become dumping areas for all types of waste. River pollution and mismanagement can damage the river and its wildlife for decades.

The department would like to remind communities to stop polluting rivers. Communities are reminded to clean polluted rivers within their areas; rehabilitate water sources and keep on educating fellow community members about the importance of looking after rivers. KZN DWS will also be visiting areas within district municipalities of Harry Gwala DM, UGu DM, UMkhanyakude DM, King Cetshwayo DM and eThekweni Metro.

Rivers are essential to the well-being of both humans and wildlife. All of us can all play a role in caring for our rivers.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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