



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Working together to make every drop count

19 March 2018

In celebrating National Water Week 2018, the Department of Water and Sanitation is calling on South Africans to increase their care and respect for water as a scarce resource. March is the month of water in South Africa with the celebrations of National Water Week whilst the international community celebrates World Water Day on 22 March.

South Africans will be celebrating National Water Week 2018 from 18 – 24 March 2018 under the theme “**Access to safe water by 2030 – possible through nature**”. The aim of having a week dedicated to water issues is to educate South Africans to become aware of the challenges and to change habits and decisions they make today as they will impact on our water cycle tomorrow.

Everyone can make a difference; it doesn't matter how big or small. A few examples on how to save water every day is simply by closing the tap while brushing your teeth, when you bath don't fill the tub to the top, and take shorter showers. One can also use a small amount of water to rinse a razor instead of underneath a running tap; when washing dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing.

It is everyone's responsibility to report problems with water quality, burst pipes and to fix household leaks. A slow dripping tap can waste 20 litres or more a day.

The National Water Week is an awareness campaign by the DWS that serves as a powerful mechanism reiterating the value of water, the need for sustainable management of this scarce resource, and the role water plays in eradicating poverty and underdevelopment in South Africa.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

For more information contact: Departmental Spokesperson: Media Liaison Sputnik Ratau on 082 874 2942 / rataus@dws.gov.za

Communication Services: Mbali Mahaye at 082 601 5674/ mahayem@dws.gov.za

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