



INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS shines the spotlight on water conservation during exhibition

27 March 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and various stakeholders took part in an exhibition in support of the National Water Week and to heighten awareness on conserving freshwater resources.

The Department partnered with the Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Jo'burg Water and other numerous stakeholders.

The event took place on 20 March 2018 at Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo facility, Thokoza Park in Soweto under the theme: **“Access to Safe Water by 2030 – Possible through nature”**.

The various institutions manned exhibition stands to raise awareness around water resource management. The overarching message was that water is central to all forms of life while urging the public to play a leading part in conserving it.

Over 150 beneficiaries including officials, community members and educators and learners from Phafogang Secondary and Hoernly Primary schools took part in the event to celebrate the water month.

Both learners and the community members took part in the activities such as Water Quality Testing, Water saving games, Water wise gardening as well as Water Purification processes.

Managing Director of the Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo, Mr Bryne Maduka, advised participants that despite the recent rains in most parts of the province, the country was still facing drought. He urged them to continue to use water sparingly.

“We urge you to respect and use water wisely. Water is a source of life without which life would be impossible,” added Mr Maduka.

Jabulani Msibi, a Grade 9 pupil from Phafogang Secondary School could not hide his jubilation as he moved from one stall to another. He described the experience as very insightful and eye opening.

“At first I didn't know anything about water conservation but after listening to various presenters, I now know how to save water in many different ways such as water recycling and simply turning off taps tightly after use,” said Msibi.

The Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo staff together with the community members ended the day cleaning the banks of the the Klip River and collecting waste at the landfill site.

Lucky Makgarengi