



## **EMALAHLENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

### **WATER CONSERVATION AND WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT MEDIA STATEMENT**

Emalahleni Local Municipality (ELM) is an authorised Water Service Provider (WSP) and a Water Service Authority (WSA) under the area of its jurisdiction. As the Water Service Provider the municipality has a responsibility to provide basic water services efficiently, affordable economical and in a sustainable manner to its consumers. The municipality needs the community to play a role in ensuring that water is conserved and used sparingly to protect this scarce resource.

The Witbank Dam is currently sitting on an average level of 98.7% due to the plentiful of rainfalls this season. Sluice gates were opened in most times to control floods at the dam, however the municipality is restricted by the Water Use License to abstract a certain limit of raw water volumes daily, it is therefore very crucial to conserve the limited purified water to save Emalahleni not to face drought as we approach the dry season.

Ways to conserve water:-

- Contain the rain water as it rains through rooftop water harvesting
- Use the rain water, re-used water from bath and sinks to irrigate lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimise evaporation.
- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a bowl instead of running water from the tap
- Take a shower instead of bath

The community is urged to register their existing boreholes with the Water Department. The owner or occupier of any premises who intends to sink a borehole on a premise, to notify it on the prescribed form of such intention, before work in connection therewith is commenced. Boreholes are to be approved by the Water Department before they can be taken into consideration.

The Water and Sanitation By-laws were gazetted the community is also urged to familiarise themselves of the content thereof.