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CITY OF CAPE TOWN

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MEDIA RELEASE

Cape Town taking up the winter water-saving challenge

Cape Town has again shown why it has become internationally recognised for its water-saving efforts. The average water consumption for the previous week was 505 million litres per day, which is 20 million litres per day down from the preceding week. Dam levels have increased by 2,9% to 24% due to the good rains of the past week. Read more below:

While we may be tempted to relax our guard as the weather cools and more rain falls, winter water saving remains vital. The less we use, the longer we can stretch the water supply in our dams in case we again receive below average rainfall.

The City is encouraged by the downward trend in water usage and urges Capetonians to continue using as little water as possible.

'It is important that we carry on saving, irrespective of the weather, and continue to live the 50-litre life until the dams fill up sufficiently. The National Department of Water and Sanitation requires that we reduce our water usage to 450 million litres per day. There is a real threat that if we cannot lower usage further, then even tougher restrictions could be imposed by the national department,' said the City's Executive Deputy Mayor, Alderman Ian Neilson.

The monthly update of the water map for April shows that 211 000 households have achieved the dark green water-saving dot for their water saving efforts. This marks a slight decrease but it is heartening to see that a large number of households are still going green.

The dark green dot for water saving is awarded to households who are using 6 000 litres or less per month.

Water map data since December 2017 shows the following trend:

Month	Number of dark green dots
December	150 000
January	154 000
February	203 000
March	219 000
April	211 000

Visit www.capetown.gov.za/watermap to view the latest map.

Consumption is indicated on the map as follows:

- Dark green dot: household using less than 6 000 litres per month
- Light green dot: household using between 6 000 and 10 500 litres per month
- Grey dot with small dark green centre: estimated water meter reading of less than 6 000 litres per month
- Grey dot with small light green centre: estimated water meter reading of less than 10 500 litres per month
- Solid grey dot: excluded property (including: sectional title property or group housing / undeveloped property / water use is zero / no available information for the property / estimated water meter reading of more than 10 500 litres per month)

Please note: The map simply indicates water consumption for free-standing houses, not compliance with water restriction limits. Households with higher consumption may have many people living on the property, or may have an undetected water leak.

The map shows consumption information from meters read in the previous month, and may include a portion of consumption from the preceding month. This information is updated from the third week of the following month.

Households using more than 10 500 litres per month are not shown on the map. Remember that consumption higher than 10 500 litres per month (no green dot) does not necessarily indicate water abuse.

End

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