



MEDIA RELEASE

Start collecting bottle caps for a good cause

Immediate Release

23 November 2015



Caption: [Left image] Prof Margaret Cullen and Prof Kobus Jonker with staff and students from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) Business School, Melinda Labuscagne from the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) and Linda Heymans from Timber Solutions with the handover of 25kg bottle caps during Clean-up and Recycling Week in September 2015. [Right image] Part of the 400kg of plastic bottle caps received to date.

Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality in partnership with Timber Solutions, the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) Business School are encouraging residents to divert plastic from landfill sites. With their innovative 'Love Earth Bottle Cap' project, over 400kg of plastic bottle caps have been collected so far – and this is only the start.

Residents of Eastern Cape are motivated to 'go green' this festive season by collecting all plastic bottle caps. With various drop-off points in Nelson Mandela Bay, this project aims to empower and instil a sense of environmental responsibility in residents. Timber Solutions, a local green manufacturer specialising in recycled plastic furniture and applications, receives all the collected plastic caps and transforms them into beautiful furniture and planks. For each 2litre bottle filled with caps, the green recycler donates R1 to help shelter women and children affected by domestic violence.

Melinda Labuscagne, Committee member of the IWMSA Eastern Cape Branch says, "To date, over 400kg of plastic bottles caps have been delivered to Timber Solutions, which amounts to approximately 1000 2litre bottles."

NMMU Business School is actively part of this project. With their new 'green' building – the first of its kind in South Africa, the school advocates sustainable practices. There are drop-off points for the students at the Business School and the University's South Campus.

Other drop-off points for the Nelson Mandela Bay residents include:

- Lilian Diedericks Building – Govan Mbeki Ave, Ground floor and 13th floor
- All Nelson Mandela Bay Libraries
- Richmond Hill SRA – 15 Stanley Street, Richmond Hill
- Timber Solutions – 134 Kempston Road, B & E Business Centre
- Walmer West Primary - William Moffet Expressway, Walmer
- Levyvale Spar – Channer Street, Uitenhage
- Fairbridge Pharmacy – Aalwyn Drive, Fairbridge Heights Ext, Uitenhage
- Huis Tevrede – Wernich Street 9, Despatch

The final weigh-in for 2015 will be on 30 November 2015 where Timber Solutions will make the first donation of R1 for each 2litre bottle filled with plastic bottle caps. The project will continue during the festive season into 2016.

“We encourage all residents to be part of this project and help be the change in our community,” concludes Labuscagne.

For more information on the IWMSA, visit www.iwmsa.co.za. The IWMSA is also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/iwmsa>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/IWMSA>).

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