

KIMBERLEY MINES CELEBRATES WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2 FEBRUARY

World Wetlands Day was celebrated at Kimberley Mines. Awareness articles and information brochures were distributed and a competition on World Wetlands Day was drawn up.



First Prize – Weekend away at Rooifontein (The Nest) was won by Felicity Mayer.

WORLD WETLANDS DAY WINNERS



World Wetlands Day has sensitized the Kimberley Mines employees of the importance of wetlands and of our own wetland - **Paardebergvlei on Rooifontein.**



Winner and runner ups were drawn from all the correct entries.

19 World Wetlands Day Golf t-shirts were handed out on the basis of a lucky draw.

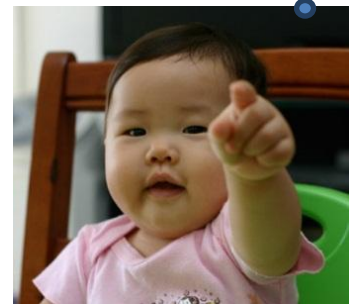


Environmental competition!!!!



You can't win
if you don't
know the
rules... he he

COMPETITION RULES



1. The Kimberley Mines Environmental Management Department **MAY NOT** enter the competition
2. One entry per person
3. There is 1 BIG prize and 20 prizes (Exclusive, limited edition prizes)
4. Prizes are individual and no group or team answers will be accepted
5. All Kimberley Mines employees and contractors including Setjhaba are welcome to participate in this competition
6. Judges decision is final
7. Winners will be contacted and announced after completion of audit process has been completed
8. Any entrant that requests the assistance of the Environmental Management Department **will be DISQUALIFIED IMMEDIATELY.** (all correct entries will be subject to internal audit process).

WETLANDS COMPETITION

1. What is a wetland? (3 marks)

2. Which continent **DOES NOT** have a wetland in it? (2 marks)

3. How do wetlands improve water quality? (5 marks)

4. What ecosystem service do wetlands provide (what is the importance of a wetland) (3 marks)

5. Name 1 of the wetlands in Kimberley? (2 marks)

6.	Every year, World Wetlands day is celebrated on the same day. What date is it? (2 marks)
5.	What types of animals are found in wetlands? (3 marks)
	Total: 20 marks

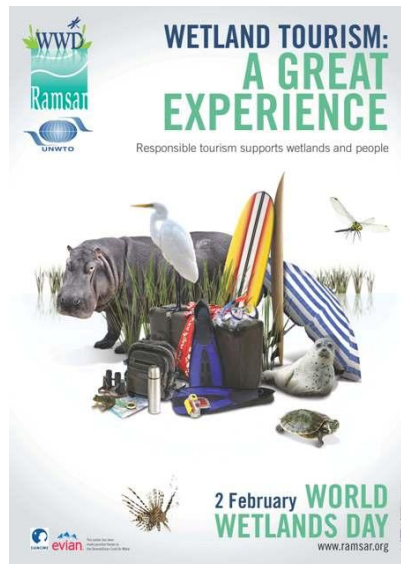
Environmental competition!!!!!!

Calling all winners, and **yebo yes** – you could be one of them

**great
prizes to be
won.....**

CLUE

**WORLD
WETLANDS
DAY**



Watch this space.....

WETLANDS

Environmental competition!!!!



**DO YOU WANT TO
WIN????**



Enter the Wetlands competition and WIN

PAARDEBERVLEI ON ROOIFONTEIN



DID YOU KNOW

- Antarctica is the only continent that does NOT have a Wetland in it
- In 1996 it was estimated that more than half of South Africa's wetlands had already disappeared.
- Wetlands improve the quality of water
- Paardebergvlei on Rooifontein Farm is a Wetland



What Is a Wetland?

Wetlands are habitats that fall somewhere on the environmental spectrum between land and water. Since wetlands lie at the interface of terrestrial and aquatic habitats, they possess a unique mixture of species, conditions, and interactions. As a result, wetlands are among our planet's most diverse and varied habitats.

Wetlands are defined by the soils, hydrology, and species that occur within them. Wetland soils, also known as hydric soils, are shaped by water. These soils are saturated or even submerged all or part of the year. Hydric soils vary depending on the composition of the soil and water in the area and therefore, wetlands vary greatly throughout the world.

Why are wetlands important?

Wetlands associated with streams and rivers slow floodwaters by acting as giant, shallow bowls. Water flowing into these bowls loses speed and spreads out. Wetland plants, particularly reeds and sedges, play an important role in holding back the water. The wetland acts as a sponge as much of the flood water is then stored in the wetland and is slowly released to downstream areas, instead of it all rushing to the sea within a few days. This greatly reduces flood damage, particularly erosion, and ensures a more steady supply of water throughout the year.

Wetlands improve water quality as they are very good natural filters, trapping sediments, nutrients (e.g. nitrogen and phosphorus), and even pathogenic (disease- causing) bacteria. In addition, pollutants such as heavy metals (e.g. mercury, lead) and pesticides may be trapped by chemical and biological processes. In other words, the water leaving the wetland is cleaner than the water entering it.

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Wetlands occur in all ecological regions throughout the world except Antarctica. There are wetlands in the Arctic (which include fens, swamps, marshes, and bogs), wetlands along coastlines (such as mangrove forests, coastal swamps, and tidal marshes), and wetlands throughout inland regions (ponds, marshes, swamps, vernal pools, and riparian systems).

REMEMBER: You can't win if you don't enter..... so make sure you enter the competition.

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WETLANDS

Environmental competition!!!!

**DO YOU WANT
TO WIN???**



Enter the Wetlands competition and WIN

People and wetlands:

Wetlands have been drained in attempts to control malaria. All wetlands in Southern Africa are threatened. Botswana's magnificent Okavango Delta is threatened by the possible canalization of the Boro river to supply South Africa with water for both domestic and industrial use. Throughout the region, smaller seasonal wetlands in urban areas have virtually disappeared, while riverine wetlands are constantly under threat of being turned into agricultural land.



Did you know?

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance recognizes important wetlands and works to conserve them. World Wetlands Day is celebrated on 2 February each year.

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Hippopotamus



Cape River Frog



Common Platanna



Marsh Terrapin

What animals live in wetlands?

- Wetlands are home to a wide variety of both invertebrates and vertebrates, which depend on the water for all or part of their life cycles.
- Animal groups that are plentiful in wetland areas include insects (both larvae and adults), fish, amphibians, birds and mammals.
- Wetlands are not only important for local animals, but also for “international travellers”! Many water birds migrate from Europe and Asia to South Africa every year to avoid the northern winter and to feed. We therefore have an international duty to conserve our wetlands so that these birds can survive.
- Some animals that once lived in Cape Town's wetlands have become locally extinct. European settlers exterminated the hippopotamus from Cape Town's wetlands in the early eighteenth century. In the 1980s, hippos were reintroduced to Rondevlei, which is right next to [Zeekoevlei](#), which was named after these animals.

Conserving wetlands

- Wetlands are one of the most threatened ecosystems in the world.
- South Africa has already lost more than half its wetlands.
- A study in 2004 showed that *less than one percent* of seasonal wetlands are protected in South Africa.
- Because of the rapid loss and degradation of wetlands, South Africa signed the Ramsar Convention, an international agreement to protect wetlands.
- It is important to conserve wetlands because they benefit people and nature:
 - Wetlands improve the quality of water
 - Wetlands maintain a regular supply of water
 - Wetlands provide a habitat for plants and animals