



the premier

Department of  
the Premier  
FREE STATE PROVINCE

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Premier of the Free State Ace Magashule encourages communities to plant trees.**

**11 November 2013**

Twelve Free State towns received a massive greening boost on Friday, November 8, 2013. Led by Premier Ace Magashule, the Free State Provincial Government's Executive Council embarked on a greening exercise that saw a total of 15, 000 trees being planted.

The greening programme, titled "Ntlatfatso ya Metse ya Rona: Re jala Difate" was organized by the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, and has ensured the planting of more than 200 000 trees in various Free State townships since 2004.

Due to the historical past, black communities were left out when it comes to the planting of trees. Fortunately, the movement towards a deeper commitment to environmental protection through planting new trees and taking care of the existing ones in the townships is rapidly increasing in the province as well as all over the world.

On a global scale, trees and forests are closely linked to weather patterns and also the maintenance of a crucial balance in nature. "The task of environment protection is a universal responsibility of all of us", said Premier Magashule in Parys, where he was planting trees. "We are making an important gesture to the world in demonstrating our global concern and at the same time making our own little but significant contribution towards creating a beautiful, rich environment".

Premier Magashule emphasized that planting trees is very important because not only do they remove harmful chemicals from the soil, they also help reduce the risk of global warming.

Premier Magashule encourages Free State communities to plant trees and help create a rich, beautiful province that we can all be proud of.

**Issued by; Free State Provincial Government Communication Services.**

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