



RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



National Arbor Month 2024



**THEME :30 YEARS OF FREEDOM "PROMOTING
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT"**
TREES OF THE YEAR.

1. COMMON TREE OF THE YEAR 2024.

1.1 "SEARSIA LANCEA, KAREE/SEARSIA LEPTODICTYA, MOUNTAIN KAREE"
COMMON NAMES: MOSHABELE(TSWANA),MOKALABATA (N.SOTHO)

2. RARE(UNCOMMON) TREE OF THE YEAR 2024.

"APODYTES DIMIDIATE SUBSP.DIMIDIATA" COMMON NAMES: WHITE
PEAR(ENG),SEPHOPHA- MADI(N.SOTHO), UMDAKANE(XHOSA)



The History of Arbor Week.

The idea for Arbor Day originally came from Nebraska which was once a treeless plain. The drive for Arbor Day was meant to rehabilitate the area during the 1800s and it worked.

Arbor Day in South Africa.

Historically, South Africa did not have a culture of tree planting and it was in the 1970s that a real need to promote tree planting was recognised. The concept of National Arbor Day ensued from the 1973 Green Heritage Campaign. In 1996 the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry emphasised the importance of tree planting in South Africa and extended Arbor Day from one day to a week.

It has since been celebrated annually in South Africa from 1-7 September. In 2018 the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries took a resolution to extend arbor week to arbor month.

In response to the 2024 Theme: 30 Years of Freedom “Promoting Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management”. As the RLM community member, you are urged to invest in green spaces to help transform our city, townships, and villages into a more sustainable, resilient, healthy, equitable, and pleasant living place.

Let’s protect our indigenous forests; help prevent veld and forest fires, plant a tree to green our municipality, mitigate against climate change, plant indigenous trees that save water, use water conserving methods when planting trees, and integrate fruit trees into your food gardens. Utilise the expertise of our Parks, Integrated Environmental, and Waste Management Units of Directorate: Community Development for more information.

Important to note: Carbon sequestration: The capture of carbon in trees:
One tree can capture approximately 500kg of CO₂ over a period of 15 years
Three trees can capture 1500kg of CO₂ over a period of 30 years.

The Directorate will commemorate National Arbor Month 2024 by engaging in the following activities:



| ACTIVITY DATE | ACTIVITY | TOPIC | AREA | WARD | DATE COMPLETED |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------|----------------|
| 02/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree.. | Bana Pele P.S Sondela | 37 | |
| 05/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree. Clean up activity at Fapha P.S | Lethabong: B.Tause Hall. Lethabong Clinic. Library Fapha P.S 12h00 Noka Ya Lorato P.S | 27 28 | |
| 06/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree.. | Phepafatso NPO Sondela | 37 | |
| 09/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree.. | Bobuanja P.S Kutlwanong School for the Deaf | 7 38 | |
| 16/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree.. | Photsaneng P.S | 45 | |
| 17/09/2024 | Arbor Awareness and tree planting | The historical background of arbor, the importance of Trees and the technical aspect of how to plant a tree... | Kanana Clinic | 23 | |

The 2024 Arbor activity plan stated above will be implemented with the support of BPDM, NW DEDECT, DFFE, Brand S.A., and RLM Directorates.

The RLM communities are encouraged to participate in the various greening activities within their surroundings:

ENQUIRIES: Lillian Sefike: Manager: IEM, Directorate: DCD 060 543 6696
Reuben Moatshe: Environmental Officer: IEM, Directorate: DCD 078 601 9370
Mthokozisi Mabuza: Waste Education Officer, Waste Management, Directorate: DCD: 073 996 8132
Lenong Mokotedi: Section Manager: Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces: Directorate: DCD:083 316 9214