

Sustainable Seas Trust



www.sst.org.za

info@sst.org.za

083 6401588

PO Box 77
Threeways Centre
Kenton Road
Kenton-on-Sea
6191 South Africa

PRESS RELEASE:

Kariega River bank Clean-Up

The Kariega River bank clean-up hosted by the Environmental Conservation Group (ESG) last Saturday (20 September) was a huge success with 21 full bags of rubbish weighing 80kgs being cleared off the river banks and a total of 1124 items collected.

The Kenton-on-Sea based ESG - – which includes the Sustainable Seas Trust; Ndlambe Municipality Environmental Office; Bushmans Kariega Estuary Care Forum; WESSA; Kariega Project; Rotary Conservation wing; and other conservation activists based in the area - took children, chosen from the SST schools programme and Ikamvalesizwe Rotary Interact group, and five adult volunteers up the river for the clean-up. While Sibuya Game Reserve helped make this wonderful initiative a reality by transporting the participants up river.

“I really believe that this should become an annual event as not only did the children do a brilliant job in cleaning up the estuary/river but it was a great experience for them which I'm sure most of them will treasure for a very long time. Thanks again to everyone for making it a success,” the Senior Environmental Conservationist at Ndlambe Municipality, William Bode said.

A river bank cleanup is appropriate as the problem of marine debris does not necessarily start in the ocean, but is dumped further inland and washed down rivers into the oceans. Statistics from the 1999 ICC showed that 59% of debris collected was from land sources. Each year there is a vast increase in the number of marine animals injured or entangled in debris found in the oceans.

Before the river cleanup all participants were briefed about the importance of river clean ups and coastal and estuary care and after the tiring work Kenton Rotary hosted a pleasant lunch braai.

ITEM	QTY
Paper bags	26
Plastic bags	225
Beverage bottles plastic	245
Beverage bottles glass	97
Beverage cans	23
Caps/Lids	75
Clothing/shoes	20
Cups,plates,cutlery	31

Trustees: Robert Lowe (Chairman), Frederick Krohnert (Nedbank Trust representative), Richard Laing, Baldwin Ngubane, Frederick Oosthuizen, Anthony Ribbink, Michael Rodel, Louis van Vuren

The Sustainable Seas Trust is registered as a charitable, non-profit, public benefit institution
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Food wrappers/containers	171
Pull tabs	5
Straws	15
Toys	2
Fishing nets	4
Light bulbs	1
Oil/lube bottles	3
Plastic sheeting	7
Rope	17
Bait containers	85
Bouys/floats	2
Crates	3
Fishing line	17
Cigarette filters	13
Tobacco packaging	5
Building materials	20
Car parts	7
Condom packaging	1
Wire	4
TOTAL ITEMS	1124

For more information contact Jo Wilmot (jo@route72.co.za) or Shane Kelly (shaneckelly8@gmail.com).

[Photos are available](#) as per the Dropbox invitation you received from maya@sst.org.za earlier this morning. You can also view them in the Sustainable Seas Trust's Facebook Album: [River Clean-Up](#)