



agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries  
environmental affairs



27 August 2019

## MEDIA INVITE

### LAUNCH OF ARBOR MONTH AND THE ARBOR CITY AWARDS

The Deputy Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Ms Maggie Sotyu will lead the launch of the National Arbor Month campaign in Port Elizabeth on Sunday 1 September 2019.

National Arbor Month is an annual campaign coordinated by the national Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; and the Department of Environmental Affairs in partnership with Total South Africa. This year's campaign will be held under the theme: ***"Forests and Sustainable Cities"***.

The Arbor Month campaign affords the department and other stakeholders the opportunity to undertake a major national awareness programme emphasise the value of trees and creating awareness of trees species that are threatened by extinction. The campaign promotes awareness for the need to plant and maintain indigenous trees throughout South Africa, especially for the many disadvantaged communities who often live in barren and water stressed areas.

The Deputy Minister Ms Sotyu and other dignitaries will lead tree planting activities on the day of the launch in and around Port Elizabeth, including New Brighton, Walmer and KwaZakhele communities.

The launch will culminate in the Arbor City Awards ceremony where cities and towns that have embraced greening initiatives in their programmes will be recognised and rewarded. The competition is sponsored by Total SA, and promotes the greening of cities and towns in South Africa. These awards are given to cities and towns that go an extra mile to green their areas of jurisdiction.

Follow the conversation on **#ArborMonth** and **#SustainableCities**.

#### **Details of the launch:**

#### **First session (Tree planting)**

**Date:** Sunday, 1 September 2019

**Venue 1:** Ward 4 - Walmer RDP Houses

**Venue 2:** Ward 24 - KwaZakhele, Brazi Park

**Venue 3:** Ward 14 - New Brighton.

Media interviews will be conducted at venue number three.

**Time:** 10:00

**Second session (Awards Ceremony)**

**Date:** Sunday, 1 September 2019

**Venue:** Feather Market Centre (Next to City Hall), Port Elizabeth

**Time:** 18:00 for 18:30

**Please RSVP for accreditation to Jamela Nkanyane on 066 084 6355 or Ernest Mulibana on 082 263 7372 by 30 August.**

**For media enquiries, please contact:**

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**ISSUED JOINTLY BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**



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