



WORLD TOILET DAY

NOVEMBER 19th



Toilets are very important to human life because human waste spreads killer diseases. World Toilet Day is about inspiring action to tackle the global sanitation crisis.

The theme of the day is “**When nature calls**”.

World Toilet Day was established by the World Toilet Organization in 2001. Twelve years later, the UN General Assembly declared World Toilet Day an official UN day in 2013.

Access to a safe functioning toilet has a positive impact on public health, human dignity, and personal safety, especially for women. Sanitation systems that do not safely treat excreta allow the spread of disease. Serious soil-transmitted diseases and waterborne diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, typhoid, dysentery and schistosomiasis can result.

Kenya lags behind her neighbours in the number of people defecating in the open, with 5.6 million people not using toilets, according to a Unicef report. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), most open defecation takes place among the rural population. This stands at 15 per cent, compared to three per cent for the urban population. In rural areas, these people defecate in the bushes, while in urban areas, open defecation is a burden in the slums

Ways of ending open defeacation include:

1 Make toilets a status symbol.

2 Do not count the toilets, build as many.

3 Encourage hand washing.

4 Change the vocabulary to using words like wash room, clock room etc.