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Conserving Water

Walking 2.5 kilometers everyday to the closest river from a homestead is not an easy task when you have to balance a large container on your head and carry a large bucket in each hand. Trying to get water from the river is hard on any day, but due to the drought, it is a very difficult assignment. This daily trip will only provide water for one day, for cooking two meals and light bathing for a family of seven. Having lived in a third world country and seeing the importance of water conservation first hand has opened my eyes. For four and a half years my family and I lived in Swaziland where water was considered something very precious and not something taken for granted. By living in Swaziland, I have taken many things away from that experience. I learned to be more grateful for the water around me because I know that there are many people who do not have the same water amount that I have.

In 1999, there was a study of 1200 houses in United States, and the average home consumed approximately 63.9 gallons of water, per person, everyday. Today, these numbers have reached about ninety to a hundred gallons, per person, everyday. Water conservation is the strategy, movement, and method that helps save money and our environment.

Water conservation can save energy, money, and protect our local ecosystem. If we conserve water, it would take less energy to get water to our houses and later save lots

of money. Lake Lanier is the drinking source for 1.2 million people of North Georgia. Since the South East is currently in a drought, water control is necessary. Such lake ecosystems include varieties of bass, alligators, bluegill, and crappie. Due to this drought, if we do not conserve water, it will affect the plants, animals, and our drinking water. We should conserve water by turning off the tap when brushing teeth, not washing our cars, fixing leaky faucets and buying a more efficient toilet. Taking showers and not baths and then taking shorter showers are two more ways to conserve water in a house. Buying a more water efficient toilet and fixing faucets might seem expensive, but in the long run, it will conserve more water and save money with the water bill for a long time. Water control will go a long way in protecting our local ecosystems.

Living in Swaziland changed my perspective of water conservation in the Southeast. The people of the Southeast take water for granted and think we will always have tons and tons of water. Even though I lived in a third world country, I still do not conserve as much water as I should. Conserving water is a big change for most people, but with everyone making conscious decisions to cut back on water usage, it could drastically change the world.

Work Cited

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