

Conserve Georgia's Water

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Benjamin Franklin once said, "When the well is dry, we know the worth of water." Benjamin Franklin's quote is becoming factual every day as statistics prove that our water usage is rising while our water supply is depleting. Visualize that you have a son. It's a scorching day, and your son has a football game. After a long day, he returns home and tells you he needs cool, fresh water to quench his thirst. You approach the sink with a cup. However, when you try to turn on the sink, not a single drop of water falls. You recalled your neighbor predicting that this would happen and advised you to conserve water, but you foolishly ignored it. Now your son is passed out in his chair; if only you had listened to your neighbor to conserve water.

Why do we have to worry about water scarcity? Even though there's plenty of water in this world, only 3% is fresh for human consumption, and 68% of that freshwater is locked up in ice, glaciers, and permafrost. Georgia uses $\frac{2}{3}$ of this freshwater in irrigated farming and the other $\frac{1}{3}$ for industrial uses. The Georgia home uses 79 gallons of water every day, and over 11 million people live in Georgia. We use so much water daily that we barely notice it ourselves.

Georgia's water is supplied by vast bodies such as the Chattahoochee River, Lake Lanier, Lake Altamaha, and more. Although you may think the water supply in Georgia is high, think about the future of Georgia. Statistics show that Georgia uses about 700 million gallons of water daily. This number will increase as there will be vast population growth in the future. States like California, Nevada, and Arizona have substantial population numbers and are currently going through a water shortage. According to thecentersquare.com, "Georgia's population is projected to expand by 19.5% by 2040". This population will be more than double Nevada's population.

The future is unknown, but we can change it by doing something about it today. Will our future generations worry about the need for clean water?

One way to solve the problem is to turn off the faucet whenever you aren't using it. The average person uses 8 gallons of water when they leave their water on. Turning the tap water off can save up to 200 gallons a month. This is vital and facile if you want to help conserve water but don't know where to start. Make sure to take showers instead of baths as showers. Showers use 10-25 gallons of water. On the other hand, baths take up to 70 gallons of water. You can help preserve water by spreading awareness to at least one neighbor or family member.

Ultimately, water conservation is essential for the future of Georgia. Water is used daily in your life, and you need it to survive. You can start conserving water today to change our generations for the greater. How will you help conserve water?