

Water Is Life

Water is life and ensuring all living things have access to clean water, which is essential for global sustainability. Access to clean and safe water is a basic human right, yet citizens of Atlanta and the state of Georgia still face inconsistencies in accessing clean water. This impacts the health and safety of our citizens, especially during the current global pandemic. It is essential for the everyday life of thousands, and it even impacts the air quality in our very congested city.

In February of 2020, the world stopped in its tracks due to COVID-19. The entire world shut down. Within a month, the entire world was stuck at home. When COVID-19 first erupted,

it showed the world how important water was. Hospitals became more full with patients by the minute. The CDC says that 6% of germs are eliminated when washing your hands. Without clean water, COVID-19 would have affected so many more people than it has already.

In Atlanta, there are 400,000 people. Every day, 560 million gallons of water are used. Each and every person in Atlanta washes their hands, does the laundry, cooks, bathes, and most importantly, drinks water. Without water to help do all of these things, people's lives would be much more difficult and unhealthy.

Not only is water keeping our state's people healthy, but it also keeps our state's environment clean. Rivers, lakes, and streams that are located in Georgia are very important when it comes to global climate, because they are the largest way carbon dioxide is captured from the atmosphere. Water bodies keep our state warm and cool so that it is easier to live in. Evaporation from warmer bodies of water creates rain and snow around the world, keeping everything on land alive.

Without accessible clean water, we cannot guarantee global sustainability. The people in the Atlanta Metro area deserve clean accessible water. After all, it is one of the simplest human rights. So what can we do? How can we make this happen? Initially, as a whole we need to bring awareness to the issue, creating organizations that focus on removing trash from all bodies of water, and help to reduce the chance of oil and debris that gets into the air. Individually, each household can also do their part by putting their trash in the trash can, stop pouring chemicals down the sink, only use the washing machine and dishwasher when the load is full, and several other basic acts. If we do these things, we're bound to make a difference in creating a more sustainable Atlanta.