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Rep Your Watershed

Did you know the boot-shaped county of Rockdale is situated in the Ocmulgee River Basin? With this fun fact, to include that Rockdale is the smallest county in the state of Georgia, let us shift our focus to learning why it's important to the community. Given the current environmental issues the world experiences, learning about our river basins is critical. Some of those critical issues are water pollution and water scarcity. So, before we “dive” more into this topic (pun intended), take into consideration how important your river basin is.

To start, I think our community must be well informed about the importance of our river basins. “Why is it so important?” you may ask. Well, because water is one of the most valuable resources that all living things need to survive. Also, to support the economy of the state. The quality of our water matters; we should encourage others to come together and figure out plans. Healthy rivers, streams, etc., keep us humans and wildlife safe.

Furthermore, the Ocmulgee River is one of the biggest river basins in Georgia, meeting with the Oconee and becomes the Altamaha River, this sequence of events, when two rivers meet, it is called confluence. If you put all those factors together, you can conclude that your water source is either one of those. So, how do you keep it clean and safe? And what part can you consider?

On June 20, 2019, there was an estimate made by ‘Water Science School’ showing how citizens use about 80-100 gallons of water per day. It might sound crazy, but it’s true! Using the restroom, showering, bathing, they all have something in common. They all require water! Now, imagine this, you’re

getting water from the faucet and notice a brown hue. I'd doubt you'd drink it; it's disgusting! The brown hue you saw in your water is probably contaminated. And that's where water pollution comes in. Water pollution is the contamination of water by harmful substances that makes water unsafe for human use and the environment. Water pollution can also lead to water scarcity; water scarcity is the lack of freshwater resources. We wouldn't want that, would we? Imagine living in a world where the thing we need most is unsafe.

Therefore, we humans should be stewards of the water and care for our water basins. We must encourage others and bring awareness to it, we don't want to be a part of the problem, but instead, the solution. Even a bit of help can bring us closer to having clean, fresh, and delicious water. The major things you can do to help are useless machines, soaps, and plastics that require or produce water waste, save water whenever possible, use less chemicals, and numerous other things.

Water is a source all humans need. To stay healthy, keep away water pollution, or water scarcity, we should learn how to keep our river basins clean. We should also bring awareness and encourage others to learn how to be stewards of the issue. We humans can do remarkable things before it's too late.