



It's Our Water!

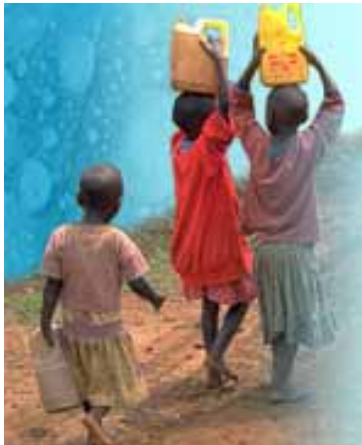
(Join us and schedule a workshop TODAY!)

N.C. Division of Water
Resources

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World Water Day is March 22



According to UNICEF, UNESCO, women and girls in developing countries walk an average 6 kilometers each day to get water.

The UN declared 2005—2015 the International Decade for Action: Water for Life, proclaiming that solving global water resources issues, such as providing adequate supplies of clean water and sanitation, are essential for overcoming poverty and conflict. In an effort to raise global awareness of this crisis, March 22 has been declared World Water Day.

This day was created to highlight the importance of freshwater and how to manage water sustainably. **It is a great opportunity to tie local issues into the greater global context.** Learn how wastewater

treatment and drinking water treatment plants work. Explore the history of the Clean Water Act at the EPA Web site: www.epa.gov/watertrain/cwa/. Discuss how North Carolina manages water supplies at the N.C. Division of Water Resources Web site: www.ncwater.org. Then compare how we manage our water resources with a developing nation in Africa.

If you are interested in having your class participate in World Water Day, there are additional educational resources on the UN Web site: www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/. Under the Resources link, there is a free downloadable video called *Water for Life*, a Web cast from Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and links to additional information on the global state of water resources.

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The Number 1 cause of illness worldwide is lack of safe drinking water and sanitation.





By the Numbers: World Water Resources

42%	households with no toilets in 2002.
1 in 6	people who had no access to safe water in 2002.
4,500	children who die each day from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation facilities
39%	diarrhea episodes that could be reduced by improving household drinking water in developing nations.
49%	percentage of freshwater used for agriculture in the U.S.
85% - 90%	percentage of freshwater used for agriculture in Africa and Asia.
20%	percentage of freshwater used globally by industry.
60 to 150	liters of water used per day by the average person in a developing country.
500 to 800	liters of water used per day by the average person in a developed country.
5 billion	By 2025, it is estimated that two-thirds of the world's population, about 5 billion people, will be living in areas facing moderate to severe water stress.



Sources: UNICEF, UNESCO



N.C. Division of Water Resources

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www.ncwater.org

It's Our Water!...

- Is a North Carolina-specific high school Earth/ Environmental Science curriculum and resource guide for North Carolina students and teachers. It covers the importance of water quality and quantity, monitoring and maintaining water quality, and the impacts individual choices and actions have on water quality.
- Centers around field activities in a local stream that leads to a final report and recommendations by the class, coordinated with a series of videos, demonstrations, classroom activities, homework and quizzes.
- Is aligned with the new (2004) North Carolina Standard Course of Study for **high school Earth/Environmental Science**.

Would You Like to Host an It's Our Water! Workshop?

All you need to do is...

- Gather up 10 high school science teachers from your school or district.
- Pick a workday or other day you can meet for 6 — 10 hours.
- Find a place to have this meeting.
- Ask the school district or another sponsor to pay \$25 each for your materials (Including: It's Our Water! DVD and Curriculum Guide, Project WET, Healthy Water Healthy People Testing Kit Manual, and NC River Basin Booklet with inserts and posters, and more).
- Contact Shelby Gull Laird <shelby.gull@ncmail.net>, who will arrange for another facilitator or herself to come to your facility and work with your group learning about It's Our Water!

