

GLOBAL AWARENESS FACT SHEET

All living creatures, including humans, need water to survive

Despite all the water in the world, only a small amount is available to humans and other creatures that depend on freshwater

Poor people often pay more for water than wealthy people living in the same city

Water can travel from one part of the world to another through the water cycle

Human activities affect water quality all over the world

Many people living in other countries die because the water they drink makes them sick

2.6 billion people in the world lack basic sanitation resources

A person needs 4 to 5 gallons of clean water per day to survive

More than 700 gallons of water are needed to grow the cotton for just one T-shirt!

People living in water-rich regions can affect how people use water in water-deprived areas

Conserving water helps to preserve the planet's natural resources

Protecting freshwater resources is difficult because many rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers cross national boundaries

Salt water accounts for more than 97 percent of the water on Earth.

Millions of women and children spend several hours a day collecting water

In many parts of the world, fresh water is being used faster than it can be replaced

Less than 1% of the world's fresh water is readily accessible for direct human use

The earth has a limited amount of water. The same water keeps going around and around the planet in a process called the water cycle

A person can live weeks without food, but only about three days without water

All people need access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation conditions

Many people in the world suffer from health problems caused by drinking dirty water

Sources: (<http://www.amnh.org>) (<http://water.org>) (<http://news.nationalgeographic.com>)