AskAgent » Massively Intelligent

Q. Nearly 1.1 billion people, roughly 20% of the worlds population, lack access to safe drinking water. What are some simple things each of us can do to ensure more people have access to clean water?

Answers ranked in order of highest rating to lowest rating:

Ans: 1

Hi,
saving water is the only cause for this.
In addition to saving money on your utility bill, water conservation helps prevent water pollution in nearby lakes, rivers and local watersheds.
Conserving water can extend the life of your septic system by reducing soil saturation, and reducing any pollution due to leaks. Overloading municipal sewer systems can also cause untreated sewage to ow to lakes and rivers. The smaller the amount of water owing through these systems, the lower the likelihood of pollution. In some communities, costly sewage system expansion has been avoided by communitywide household water conservation.

1. Check for hidden water leaks
Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

2. Check your toilets for leaks
Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately. Most replacement parts are inexpensive and easy to install.

3. Don't use the toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket
Every time you flush a cigarette butt, facial tissue or other small bit of trash, five to seven gallons of water is wasted.

4. Put plastic bottles in your toilet tank
To cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand or pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles to weigh them down. Fill the bottles with water, screw the lids on, and put them in your toilet tank, safely away from the operating mechanisms. This may save ten or more gallons of water per day. Be sure at least 3 gallons of water remain in the tank so it will flush properly.

For new installations, consider buying "low flush" toilets, which use 1 to 2 gallons per flush instead of the usual 3 to 5 gallons.

Replacing an 18 liter per flush toilet with an ultra-low volume (ULV) 6 liter flush model represents a 70% savings in water flushed and will cut indoor water use by about 30%.

5. Insulate your water pipes.
It's easy and inexpensive to insulate your water pipes with pre-slit foam pipe insulation. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.

6. Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators
Inexpensive water-saving shower heads or restrictors are easy for the homeowner to install. Also, long, hot showers can use five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off

You can easily install a ShowerStart showerhead, or add a ShowerStart converter to existing showerheads, which automatically pauses a running shower once it gets warm.

Also, all household faucets should be _t with aerators. This single best home water conservation method is also the cheapest!

7. Take shorter showers.
One way to cut down on water use is to turn o_ the shower after soaping up, then turn it back on to rinse. A four-minute shower uses approximately 20 to 40 gallons of water.

8. Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush
There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.

9. Rinse your razor in the sink
Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water, with far less waste of water.

Most people in North America use 50 to 70 gallons of water indoors each day and about the same amount outdoors, depending on the season.

Indoors, 3/4 of all water is used in the bathroom

In the average home, the toilet accounts for 28% of water use.

Outdoors, lawn and garden watering and car washing account for most of the water used

Running a sprinkler for two hours can use up to 500 gallons.

As much as 150 gallons of water can be saved when washing a car by turning the hose off between rinses.

Washing a sidewalk or driveway with a hose uses about 50 gallons of water every 5 Minutes

Rain Catch System

Use natural rainwater for yard and garden, while saving on your water bill.

more info

10. Check faucets and pipes for leaks
A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.

11. Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads
Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation. With clothes washers, avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an added 20 liters (5 gallons) for the extra rinse. For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. Replace old clothes washers. New Energy Star rated washers use 35 - 50% less water and 50% less energy per load. If you're in the market for a new clothes washer, consider buying a water-saving frontload washer.

12. Minimize use of kitchen sink garbage disposal units
In sink 'garburators' require lots of water to operate properly, and also add considerably to the volume of solids in a septic tank which can lead to maintenance problems. Start a compost pile or use an indoor kitchen composter as alternate methods of disposing food waste.

13. When washing dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing
If your have a double-basin, fill one with soapy water and one with rinse water. If you have a single-basin sink, gather washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a spray device or a panful of hot water.

14. Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables
Just rinse them in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water.

15. Keep a bottle of drinking water in the fridge.
Running tap water to cool it o_ for drinking water is wasteful. in the yard and garden...

16. Water your lawn only when it needs it
A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on the grass. If it springs back up when you move, it doesn't need water. If it stays at, the lawn is ready for watering. Letting the grass grow taller (to 3") will promote water retention in the soil.

17. Deep-soak your lawn
When watering the lawn, do it long enough for the moisture to soak down to the roots where it will do the most good. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems. Put an empty tuna can on your lawn - when it's full, you've watered about the right amount. Visit our natural lawn care page for more information.

18. Water during the early parts of the day; avoid watering when it's windy
Early morning is generally better than dusk since it helps prevent the growth of fungus. Early watering, and late watering, also reduce water loss to evaporation. Watering early in the day is also the best defence against slugs and other garden pests. Try not to water when it's windy - wind can blow sprinklers o_ target and speed evaporation.

19. Use efficient watering systems for shrubs, flower beds and lawns

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Ans: 2

Those who know the value of water call its as jeevjal. It is one of the bases of life.
You can live for more than a month without food; but can not sustain even for more than ten days without water. Unfortunately, we do not realize the importance of this natural resource. It is being wasted everywhere-in houses, public places, gardens and industries. If

somebody were asked to point fingers at the major reason for the Water crisis, the finger would turn to each one of us. The root of the problem lies with each one of us disowning our responsibilities towards water.

As a result of poor water resource management, high population growth, rapid urbanization and increasing demand from competing uses for drinking, agriculture, industry and energy, the pressure on this finite resource is mounting every day. Climate change is also affecting the hydrological cycle, significantly affecting freshwater production and its distribution.

The provision of safe drinking water has important equity and development implications. On the one hand, unavailability of potable water in the desired quantities has implications for the quality of life in terms of the time spent in collecting water and the adverse impact of consuming contaminated water on health and productivity.

It essentially means that instead of allowing the rain to run away (also called run-off), it may be checked and stored for future use. Build community wells in a few places in the village. Within 10-20 feet from the well, construct a bore-well using a hand-operated pump. Educate the villagers to keep the area around the well and the bore well clean - no washing (human, cattle, motor cycles, clothing), no defecation. The gap between water supply and demands necessitates harvesting of available water resources with efficient water conservation and management techniques. While the development of sustainable and safe drinking water supplies is a global challenge, it is particularly acute in India, given its high population density, space and time variability of rainfall, and increasing depletion and contamination of its surface and ground water resource India, with a sixth of the world's population, faces a rapidly growing water crisis, both in the urban and rural areas. These include wasteful practices in the use of water, particularly for irrigation, water-logging and salinity, and inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation. In cities such as Chennai and Delhi, several localities rely on private water tankers for their daily water needs.

In India, the revival of traditional rainwater harvesting systems in various ecological zones in response to the groundwater crisis has demonstrated the potential to generate large returns on investment and at the same time to reduce risk and vulnerability.

Interlinking or networking of rivers entails the construction of a large number of dams and canals and connected hydraulic engineering works for mass transfer of water across river basins, another solution for water shortage.

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Ans: 3

Hello Anonymous,
It is a question to be asked to every person in this world. What u r doing and how much you know about this crisis. Really it is in our hand..

My know how thru web:

The world water crisis is one of the largest public health issues of our time. Nearly

1.1 billion people (roughly 20% of the worlds population) lack access to safe drinking water. The lack of clean, safe drinking water is estimated to kill almost 4,500 children per day.

In fact, out of the 2.2 million unsafe drinking water deaths in 2004, 90% were children under the age of five. Water is essential to the treatment of diseases, something especially critical for children.

This problem isn't confined to a particular region of the world. A third of the Earths population lives in water stressed countries and that number is expected to rise dramatically over the next two decades. The crisis is worst in developing countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

The world water crisis is created by a confluence of factors including climate and geography, lack of water systems and infrastructure, and inadequate sanitation, something that 2.6 billion people (40% of the worlds population) lack access to.
Some of these countries have additional problems, including high levels of arsenic and fluoride in drinking water.

Many women and young girls in rural areas in Sub-Saharan African and other parts of the world must trek as much as six miles everyday to retrieve water for their families. Due to this manual labor, such women and children are prevented from pursuing an education, maintaining their households or earning additional income. The world's supply of fresh water is running out. Already one person in five has no access to safe drinking water.

People lack drinking water and sanitation

Already there is more waste water generated and dispersed today than at any other time in the history of our planet: more than one out of six people lack access to safe drinking water, namely 1.1 billion people, and more than two out of six lack adequate sanitation, namely 2.6 billion people (Estimation for 2002, by the WHO/UNICEF JMP, 2004). 3900 children die every day from water borne diseases (WHO 2004).

One must know that these figures represent only people with very poor conditions.
In reality, these figures should be much higher.

Water resources are becoming scarce

Agricultural crisis

Although food security has been significantly increased in the past thirty years, water withdrawals for irrigation represent 66 % of the total withdrawals and up to 90 % in arid regions, the other 34 % being used by domestic households (10 %), industry (20 %), or evaporated from reservoirs (4 %). (Source: Shiklomanov, 1999)

Environmental crisis

As the per capita use increases due to changes in lifestyle and as population increases as well, the proportion of water for human use is increasing. This, coupled with spatial and temporal variations in water availability, means that the water to produce food for human consumption, industrial processes and all the other uses is becoming scarce.

It is all the more critical that increased water use by humans does not only reduce the amount of water available for industrial and agricultural development but has a profound effect on aquatic ecosystems and their dependent species. Environmental balances are disturbed and cannot play their regulating role anymore. (See Water and Nature)

The concept of Water Stress

Water stress results from an imbalance between water use and water resources. The water stress indicator in this map measures the proportion of water withdrawal with respect to total renewable resources. It is a criticality ratio, which implies that water stress depends on the variability of resources. Water stress causes deterioration of fresh water resources in terms of quantity (aquifer over-exploitation, dry rivers, etc.) and quality (eutrophication, organic matter pollution, saline intrusion, etc.) The value of this criticality ratio that indicates high water stress is based on expert judgment and experience (Alcamo and others, 1999). It ranges between 20 % for basins with highly variable runoff and 60 % for temperate zone basins. In this map, We take an overall value of 40 % to indicate high water stress. We see that the situation is heterogeneous over the world.

Towards a way to improve the situation

"There is a water crisis today. But the crisis is not about having too little water to satisfy our needs. It is a crisis of managing water so badly that billions of people and the environment - suffer badly." World Water Vision Report

With the current state of affairs, correcting measures still can be taken to avoid the crisis to be worsening. There is a increasing awareness that our freshwater resources are limited and need to be protected both in terms of quantity and quality. This water challenge affects not only the water community, but also decision-makers and every human being. "Water is everybody's business" was one the the key messages of the 2nd World Water Forum.

Saving water resources

Whatever the use of freshwater (agriculture, industry, domestic use), huge saving of water and improving of water management is possible. Almost everywhere, water is wasted, and as long as people are not facing water scarcity, they believe access to water is an obvious and natural thing. With urbanization and changes in lifestyle, water consumption is bound to increase. However, changes in food habits, for example, may reduce the problem, knowing that growing 1kg of potatoes requires only 100 litres of water, whereas 1 kg of beef requires 13 000 litres.

Improving drinking water supply

Water should be recognized as a great priority. One of the main objectives of the World Water Council is to increase awareness of the water issue. Decision-makers at all levels must be implicated. One of the Millenium Development Goals is to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation. To that aim, several measures should be taken:
* Guarantee the right to water;
* Decentralise the responsibility for water;
* Develop know-how at the local level;
* Increase and improve _nancing;
* Evaluate and monitor water resources.

So I would like to recommend to join this site and please help our children to have water
www.worldwaterday.net
Thanks for a nice question

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Ans: 4

Hi Anonymous,
Water Conservation is a first and foremost that we need to take care immediately. There are many simple ways which we can follow in our home, office ..to save water.

Saving Water Outdoors:
Don't over water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every 5 to 7 days in the summer and every 10 to 14 days in the winter.

Water lawns during the early morning hours which reduces losses from evaporation

Don't water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs & not the paved areas.

Regularly check sprinkler systems and timing devices to be sure they are operating properly.

Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.

Avoid the installation of ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless the water is recycled.

If you have a swimming pool, consider a new water-saving pool filter.

Saving Water Indoor:

Verify that your home is leak-free,

Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers.

Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear within 30 minutes.

Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

Take shorter showers. Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath by closing the drain first and filling the tub only 1/3 full.

Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face.

Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water level for the size of load you are using.

When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet.

Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run every time you want a cool glass of water.

Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave. Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly.

Consider installing an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up.

If the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it. Water in which the vegetables and fruits have been washed can be used to water the owners and ornamental potted plants.

At the end of the day if you have water left in your water bottle do not throw it away, pour it over some plants.

Use a rain barrel to collect water from your roof's downspout to irrigate your garden.

General Tips:

Create an awareness of the need for water conservation among your children.
Avoid the purchase of recreational water toys which require a constant stream of water.

Be aware of and follow all water conservation and water shortage rules and restrictions which may be in effect in your area.

Encourage your employer to promote water conservation at the workplace. Suggest that water conservation be put in the employee orientation manual and training program.

Patronize businesses which practice and promote water conservation.
Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers, abandoned free-owing wells, etc.) to the property owner

Encourage your school system and local government to help develop and promote a water conservation ethic among children and adults.

Support projects that will lead to an increased use of reclaimed waste water for irrigation and other uses.

Try to do one thing each day that will result in a savings of water. Don't worry if the savings is minimal. Every drop counts. And every person can make a difference.

Water Reuse and Recycling:

Water reuse is the use of wastewater or reclaimed water from one application such as municipal wastewater treatment for another application such as landscape watering. As the demand for water increases and new sources of supply become more expensive to develop, there is an increasing need to use water more than once during the hydrological cycle. Wastewater from point sources-such as sewage treatment plants, industries, and thermal power stations-can provide an excellent source of reusable water because this water is usually available on a reliable basis, can be accessed at a single point, and has a known quality. These sources scan be reused within the same industry or for completely different purposes. Wastewater reuse can not only help maintain upstream environmental quality by reducing the demand for new water sources, but can also offer communities an opportunity for pollution abatement by reducing effluent discharge to surface waters. In many parts of

the world, wastewater has long been used in an unplanned way for agriculture. The planned reuse of wastewater is less common but increasing, particularly in water-short regions.

Build dams across major rivers and do not allow excess water to flow into the seas.
Allow rain water to seep into the ground and build storage of under ground water.
Grow more trees to have good rain fall.

Water is a permanent chemical. Very little of it is broken down to hydrogen and oxygen. Likewise very little is created by combustion of hydrogen. When fuels burn some is produced along with carbon-di-oxide, again negligible globally. The earth needs little help on this count.

What changes is the amount and quality of fresh water. So what we save is ourselves and we better start doing it immediately

Lets try to follow all the simple steps & try to conserve & recycle water.

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Ans: 5
One of the problems that we face is that climate change is on the ascendant, and people are not always making the links to water as they perhaps should. I think that’s coming and over the next few years water will progressively build into a really central component of the country's agenda.

I read somewhere that due to lack of water in the Military campus the soldiers use to drink their own urine. Ofcourse it is also good for health, But why should we look for that in future?

Everybody should understand the importance of the water. WATER HARVESTING has become popular now a days only for its name not for anybody action. Everybody is talking about it. And no actions. The actions are sometimes very simple....

Yes ..I mean it...partly ,the solution is in our hands only.

Do you believe? Water covering 71% of earths crust. But still no safe drinking water. Over the past 70 years, human numbers have tripled but our thirst for water has surged six-fold

Build the Foundation for Success :
Understanding, analyzing and participating is much Important about this critical issue. It does not need much education. Everybody should treat this is their domestic problem.

So what should they do for avoiding it:

Think and reduce daily unnecessary water consumption.
Keep in touch with green forests/living places. Do not initiate to cut trees. If possible adapt one tree to increase the rains.

And then keep the rain water with you. I mean make some area like basin to hold the rain around your house are where ever you live. Do not allow the rain to flow away. This will increase the ground water levels, which is going to be vanishes in next few years.

Initiate some groups with some people to look the possibility of watersheds. Do not

look that government will help you. Your self can be a motivator for your generations to keep on going.

Some more can be done regarding the water management like this:

Basin management:

Water resource development is to be planned in an integrated manner at the river basin level & effective basinwise programs have to be evolved considering the inter-relationships of soil conservation, afforestation, land development, controlled grazing etc. careful selection of crops to be planned in water short basins. The development of forests in upland of the water basin where the slopes are high will help in minimizing the landslides, leading to lesser sediment transport. Environmental monitoring of the catchment area on continuous basis and soil conservation measures such as contour bundling, check dams, afforestation etc. to be practiced.

Water conservation measures:
Various water conservation measures suggested for adaptation are:

(i) Creation of low reservoirs for storing the water
(ii) Prevention of losses Through seepage and leaks
(iii) Improving usage efficiency through better usage practices
(iv) Educating the users, and
(v) Recycling and reuse of wastewater. For example, the last of the above measures, i.e., the recycling of wastewater is currently being practiced in few industries, where the treated liquid effluent is used for gardening purposes. It not only reduces the load on the water resources but also gives indirect financial benefit for its usage instead of fresh water. In addition, the percolated water will improve the ground water resources.

Similar kind of benefits can be expected and should be explored using the other above suggested measures as well.

Increased participation of the public:
The public can approach the SPCBs or Local Administration for taking necessary action against the polluters in their locale. Few State Governments, such as Andhra Pradesh, are encouraging people to take part in developmental programs. Isolated cases are reported in literature that people have taken initiative on their own and successfully solved their drinking water problems after not getting much encouragement from the local Governments or administration. Such successful cases may induce inspiration among the public in other parts of the country. This will help in spreading mass awareness about significance on usage of water resources. It leads to pride and satisfaction for being part of the Governance and sharing the responsibilities.

Enhanced co-ordination among Agencies:
The last, but not the least, of the strategies is the enhanced co-ordination among various Agencies such as SPCB, Industrial Development Corporation, State Finance Corporation, Irrigation Department, Panchayatraj Department, Ground Water Department, and some other Non-Governmental Agencies etc to name a few.

In fact, this is also one of the major aspects pointed out by the UNICEF-WWF study. Even though the regulations are very strong, the lack of co-ordination among the concerned Agencies will not produce the result (at a faster rate) with the same effect. As a result, the estimates of the developmental project cause rise so steeply that no more

economically viable. In fact, there are a few instances reported, where the absence of the co-ordination of among above-mentioned Agencies led to alarming and severe economic problems. Therefore, the concerned Agencies should co-ordinate among themselves to see that the developmental projects/programs reach the real public.

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Ans: 6

Hi,
Thanks for the query mainly cos u have asked it in a broader sense considering the whole world and its esp cos its the need of the hour.

How can everyone have sufficient clean water without conflict?
By 2025, 1.8 billion people could be living in water-scarce areas desperate enough for mass migrations, and another 3 billion could live in water-stressed areas. Today about 750 million people live below the water-stress threshold of 1,700 cubic meters per person per year and more than 1 billion people do not have access to safe drinking water.

Water tables are falling on every continent; 40% of humanity depends on inter-national watersheds; agricultural land is becoming brackish; groundwater aquifers are being polluted; and urbanization is increasing water demands faster than many systems can supply. Water withdrawals from lakes and rivers have doubled in the last 40 years. Agriculture accounts for 70% of human usage of fresh water, which needs even more to feed growing populations. Nature also needs sufficient water to be viable for all life support.

1. Hence, more fresh water is needed not just distribution agreements

-Breakthroughs in desalination like pressurization of seawater to produce vapor jets, filtration via carbon nanotubes, and reverse osmosis, are needed along with less costly pollution treatment.
-Seawater agriculture on desert coastlines would reduce freshwater agriculture demand.

2. We need an **integrated global water strategy**, plan, and management system to focus knowledge, finances, and political will to address this challenge. It should apply the lessons learned from producing more food with less water via
-Drip irrigation and precision agriculture
-Rain water collection and irrigation,
-Watershed management,
-Selective introduction of water pricing, and
-Replication of successful community-scale projects around the world.

3. The plan should also help
-Convert degraded or abandoned farmlands to forest or grasslands
-Invest in household sanitation,
-Reforestation & Water storage,
-Treatment of industrial e_uents in multipurpose water schemes
-Construct eco-friendly dams, pipelines, and aqueducts to move water from areas of abundance to scarcity.
-Access to clean water and basic sanitation should become human rights.
-Water can also be conserved by using animal stem cells to produce meat tissue (without the need to create the animal)
-By increasing vegetarianism around the world.

About 80% of diseases in the developing world are water-related. Many are due to poor management of human excreta. About 2.6 billion people lack adequate sanitation. Many major rivers now run dry during part of the year before they reach the ocean.

Unless major political and technological changes occur, future conflicts over trade-offs among agricultural, urban, and ecological uses of water are inevitable.
Previously, water-sharing agreements have occurred even among people in conflict and have led to cooperation in other areas.

This challenge will be addressed seriously when the number of people without clean water and those suffering from water-borne diseases diminishes by half and when the percentage of water used in agriculture drops for five years in a row.

Regional Considerations

Africa:
Sub-Saharan Africa would have to triple its freshwater access to meet its MDG target on water by 2015, but few African governments spend more than 0.5% of GDP on water and sanitation. The IPCC warns that a 12C increase in average temperature may leave 250600 million Africans in water-stressed conditions.
Africa has about one-third of the world's major international water basins but uses less than 6% of its renewable water resources. Since the majority of Africa depends on rain-fed agriculture, upgrading rain-fed systems and improving agricultural productivity will immediately improve the lives of millions of Africans.

Asia and Oceania:
The Yangtze, Mekong, Salween, Ganges, and Indus are among the 10 most polluted rivers in the world, and some of them could eventually dry up. In the best-case scenario, the water situation in China is expected to get worse for the next eight years. China has only 8% of the world's fresh water to meet the needs of 22% of the worlds population. More than 12 million Chinese are short of drinking water, and 75% of the drinking water is polluted. China is expected to desalinate 800,000 to 1 million cubic meters of seawater a day by 2010, a significant increase from 120,000 cubic meters a day in 2005. It also plans to transfer water from Tibetan highlands to the more-developed northeast. Forced migration due to water shortages has begun in China, and India should be next. India's urban water demand is expected to double and industrial demand to triple by 2025. Diarrhea causes some 450,000 deaths annually in India.

Europe:
Cyprus, Bulgaria, Belgium, Spain, Malta, FYR Macedonia, Italy, the UK, and Germany can be considered water-stressed; 14% of the EU population has been affected by water scarcity. Over 80% of the original floodplain area along the Danube and its main tributaries has been lost as a result of dams, pollution, and climate change. The Belgian government recognizes water as a human right, and its development aid will focus on water. Water utilities in Germany pay farmers to switch to organic operations because it costs less than removing farm chemicals from water supplies. Russia could supply fresh water to China and Middle Asia.

Latin America:
Although the region has 28% of the worlds water resources, almost 80 million people do not have access to safe drinking water and 120 million lack sewage treatment. Water crises will occur in megacities within a generation unless new water supplies are generated, a culture of water stewardship is achieved, lessons from both successful and unsuccessful approaches to privatization are applied, and legislation is updated for more reliable, transparent, and

consistent integrated water resources management policies among institutions and countries. Water and sanitation problems cost the region an estimated $29 billion a year. Policymakers should pay more attention to privatizations best practices and to lessons from past failures.

North America:
Each kilowatt-hour of electricity in the U.S. requires about 25 gallons of water for cooling, making power plants the second largest water consumer in the country, after agriculture. Over the past five years, municipal water rates have increased by an average of 27% in the U.S. and 58% in Canada. Water consumption per capita has been lowered over 20 years, yet 16 million Americans face water rationing. Water could become a class problem. Poor people will be the first victims in free market distribution. The EPA found that half of all streams in the U.S. are polluted. Government agricultural water subsidies should be changed to encourage conservation. Innovations are increasing from atmospheric water generation to nano-filtration and packets (sachets) for water purification.

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Ans: 7

This is a very complex issue and beyond me in many ways and it's very hard for me to reduce it to "simple things each of us can do." However, I've tried my best:

1. Have fewer kids. I have a hard time making this 1, since I adore children and think "the more, the better." However, water is a finite resource. Overpopulation strains the world water supply. Those blessed with material resources and a love for children might consider opening our hearts to other ways of creating a joyful family than having tons of kids.

2. Stop buying water. Stop buying filters, stop buying bottled water. Yes, clean, pure water is better for our health, but only when the rich and middle class refuse to pay for water will our governments be held accountable for providing clean, pure, high-quality water filtration systems for all. Clean water should be a birthright, not a privilege.

3. Limit your use of prescription medicines. Dispose of them properly. When they get into our groundwater, even the most sophisticated water filters allow them to pass through leaving traces of birth control pills and other hormonal tablets, pain relievers, anti-depressents, and more in our water. No wonder men and women alike are suffering from hormonal and other health problems. Even when used properly, they pass through our urine into our groundwater, and gross as it is to think about, that gets treated and becomes our drinking water.

4. Become a vegetarian, vegan, or try to limit your use of animal products, including dairy. It takes a lot more water to provide milk or meat than it does to provide veggies you require water not just to quench the animal's thirst but also to grow the food that the animal eats. We can lessen the use of water just by eating the veggies ourselves, instead of feeding them to animals and then eating animals! Not to mention raising animals creates a lot of water pollution; especially in large modern farms, entire watersheds are polluted by the huge amounts of animal manure.

5. Create a beautiful lawn suitable to your natural environment. If you live in the desert, stop watering your lawn and plant it with native plants who can thrive on less water. Boycott golf courses in places that get less rainfall what a waste to be keeping these green while there are water shortages. These are just a few I came up with based upon my attention to

the news and the subject of water shortages. Hope everybody will be inspired and I look forward to the other advisors' ideas, too.

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Ans: 8

Taken for granted by some, stolen by others, water is one of the world's most valuable commodities. In some places, a gallon of water is worth more than a gallon of petroleum, according to Miguel Medina, a specialist in hydrology and water resources at Duke's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

"More than 2.4 billion people in the world do not have access to sanitation, more than 1.2 billion don't have access to potable, clean water," Medina said. "And, under the best scenario if all our efforts come to fruition{ the best improvement we can hope for by the year 2015 is to cut that deficit down to something like 1.9 billion for sanitation."

Medina leads an international team of hydrologists and water experts evaluating the World Water Assessment Program (WWAP), a United Nations [UNESCO] program that aims to improve the management of the world's water resources. The opportunity to take part in this work is fascinating to Medina as a researcher, he says, but also horrifying as a citizen of the world.

"We're in a world with limited resources and our population keeps growing, but we have to remember that the amount of clean water stays fixed at best. If we contaminate it, we reduce the amount that is available," said Medina. The more we stress the world, the more we stress the water resources."

"In some parts of Africa, women spend more than 4 hours every day carrying water to support their families. In India's largest city, Mumbai, hundreds of thousands of people are without access to water," said Medina. "Desperate people in poor neighborhoods make holes in the pipes taking water to other parts of Mumbai just to survive."

The United Nations continues to express concern that the growing global water crisis threatens the security, stability and environmental stability of many developing nations. Read more about this in the 2nd United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR).

Managing Water - Politics and Practicalities

Evaluating a country's water status entails drawing information from a wide range of sources, from individuals to governmental agencies to industry. The methods include a combination of questionnaires, on the ground interviewing and relationship building. In some countries, several agencies may be involved in managing water for different purposes; in other countries, there may be conflicting governmental oversight, transient oversight or no oversight at all.

"Part of why it is difficult to manage water is that watersheds don't respect political boundaries," Medina said. "Instead, water follows natural geographical boundaries forming distinct watersheds."

A watershed in the broadest sense is essentially a river basin, Medina explained.
Every drop of water that falls, ever tributary within the river basin is part of that watershed. For example, the La Plata River Basin in South America collects water from many other

rivers, flows past Buenos Aires, Argentina and Montevideo, Uruguay and then flows into the Atlantic. The La Plata and its tributaries run through five different countries.

According to the WWAP, the Danube River Basin in Europe covers parts or all of 18 states comprising Albania, Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland and Ukraine. There are marked differences between these countries in terms of economy, sociology and topography that make managing water a complicated matter.

"The overlap of countries affected by and dependent on water ways is a complex, World wide problem," said Medina. "What's worse, there are many very large bodies of water where there simply is no managing governmental body, or too many to be effective. What about when contaminants flow downstream? Who has to pay to clean that up? The country at the end of the watershed? The country where the contamination originated?" This is in part why UNESCO's World Water Assessment Program was established.

"It's imperative to bring an international focus to the management of water resources because the solution has to be an international cooperation," Medina said. UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, through the World Water Assessment Program, is the United Nations unit in charge of monitoring how member nations manage their water resources.

"There is tremendous potential for conflict, but if you turn it around, there is also tremendous potential for collaboration," Medina explained. "One of the ways that Palestine and Israel have had to come together is over water. But brokering these agreements is tricky and wars disrupt them, making it impossible for both sides to carry out the responsibilities of those agreements, which can further name conflicts. Obviously, this affects a very broad brush stroke of people who may or may not even be involved in the military action."

What's unique about the WWAP program is that evaluation teams focus on socioeconomic factors as well as science-based hydrologic measurements such as rainfall and runoff. This entails defining and better understanding the basic hydrologic processes, management practices and policies governing global freshwater resources.

Perhaps more importantly, WWAP attempts to bring the issues of water resource management into sharp focus so that policymakers and stakeholders can make informed decisions.

"We're asking whether the program is using the right evaluations," said Medina. "If there is no progress being made in countries that have had a case study conducted, WWAP is not being effective. This means more than just measurements it is about how and why people are using the water resources in their area, and ultimately how that affects neighbors and those downstream.

But as simple as it is to recognize that water management is a problem, global discourse begins to break down almost immediately. Countries do not fully agree on how to evaluate water quality management, even though it makes practical sense to gather the same information in each country to ensure that data are comparable. For example, there is disagreement over the water quality indicators.

Not everyone is pleased with how their country ranks out," said Medina. "Water quality is a function of so many variables{vegetation, contaminants in the country, contaminants from upstream, nitrogen/phosphorous, wetlands, and others. The balance and weighting of these factors is a hot topic of debate. The WWAP doesn't pull punches in these reports because it's not in anyone's best interest to do so. Agriculture, urbanization, herbicide/pesticide runoff, floods, droughts this is highly complex problem with a lot of people trying to control and manage it."

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Ans: 9

Safe Water: Keystone of Environment, Health, Economy and Security
People who fall ill from waterborne diseases can't work. Women and girls like Sarah who travel hours to fetch clean water for their families can't go to school or hold on to a job. Without proper sanitation, human waste pollutes waterways and wildlife habitat. Global warming and population pressures are drying up water supplies and instigating conflict over scarce resources. Expanding access to clean water and sanitation will have ripple effects throughout local economies and societies.

The U.N. estimates that if the proportion of people without access to safe water and basic sanitation were halved, countries around the world would save $7.3 billion per year in health care costs, and the annual global value of adult working days gained because of less illness would be almost $750 million. Relocating wells or boreholes closer to users, installing piped water supply in houses, and building latrines closer to home would yield annual time savings worth $64 billion.

Simple Solutions Can Make Water Safer

Simple sanitation improvements, like digging pit latrines and treating drinking water with chlorine, filters and other simple, existing technologies can save millions of lives. The challenge is to put the right strategies to use in the right places, as needs vary from country to country.

The long-term goal is to provide safe sources of treated drinking water and improved sanitation for all. In the meantime, simple, shorter-term strategies can save millions of lives. The list of successful safe drinking water projects is growing, using simple household approaches, such as:
* Household chlorination or other chemical treatment
* Solar disinfection leaving transparent bottles of water in the sun to kill microbes
* Hygiene education and promoting hand-washing
* Boiling water using excess heat from cooking
* Filtering water using sand, cloth, ceramics or other existing materials.
Chemical contamination such as arsenic pollution can be more difficult to solve, but strategies like these have been successful in particular regions:
* Accessing low-arsenic water through shallow groundwater or deeper aquifers
* Rainwater harvesting
* Pond-sand filtration
* Household chemical treatment
* Piping in water from safe or treated sources.

Safe Water by 2015: How to Get it Done

Safe water is a critical environmental and public health issue, as well as a means to lift people out of poverty and ensure human security. Yet the number of people without safe water is increasing. Water supply and sanitation programs can't be developed in isolation from other development issues. Global warming is affecting water supplies, creating shifts in agriculture and where people live. AIDS patients especially need access to clean water so they don't fall ill from common waterborne germs that healthy adults can fend off. Integrating safe water programs into larger development strategies often involves complex, many-sided reforms, which requires high-level coordination and firm political will to get the job done.

The United Nations included safe water in its Millennium Development goals, with the intention of reducing by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

In 2005, the United States Congress codified the goal into law by passing the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act. The act made the provision of safe water and sanitation a cornerstone of U.S. foreign aid by integrating water sanitation into all

U.S. development programs. However, Congress has failed to designate any funds for its implementation. Providing safe water is an essential step for human health and development. Global awareness of this issue is rising, but our leaders need to take concrete action in order to solve this crisis in the next decade. NRDC is urging the U.S. Congress to fully fund the Senator Paul SimonWater for the Poor Act, and is helping provide concrete recommendations to implement the act successfully. By encouraging leadership and generating momentum for solutions, we can save millions of lives over the next 10 years.

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Ans: 10

Conservation of water is the best thing which each of us can do individually to solve the problems regarding shortage of water. It is seen in general households that people don't have access to even sufficient drinking water. In contrast there are many who have access to water and use (rather waste) it in swimming pools which are not being used for months. Some people don't even keep a check on their overflowing water tanks and cause wastage of water. I have even observed people dampening their walls with water in summer season.

Apart from this, as the saying goes "prevention is better than cure", we should prevent the shortage of water by helping our ecosystem in the natural process of water purification. If we plant more trees and reduce vehicular pollution, it will add to not just greenery and oxygen in the environment but would also reduce the soil depletion. This in turn would help the sustainance of vegetation. If vegetation is more, we will have more rainfall and this will lead to increase in ground water level which will ultimately solve the problem of shortage of water. To summarise:

1. We should conserve water by not wasting it in luxurious activities.
2. We should plant more trees to help the water cycle of the nature.
3. Rain water should be collected by the medium of community tanks and it should be used for irrigation.
4. Water should be recycled and the recycled water be used for agriculture.
5. We should teach ourselves and our friends about the benefits of conserving water. This can include conducting community awareness programmes which can be conducted in schools and colleges.

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Ans: 11

Yes, we are going to face more troubles and to do fighting one another in near future for water as per our requirement. Water is covering 71 percent of Earths surface, gives our planet its distinctive blue hue when seen from space. Yet for all that water, an astonishing small amount is available for human use. If we were to imagine all the Earths water in a 1000-litre bucket filled to brimming, the fraction that is freshwater and not locked in ice is a mere 25 mL. Rough estimates place South Americas share of that total at about half. Asia gets almost 6.25 mL, leaving the remainder another 6.25 mL for everyone living in North and Central America, Europe, Australia, Africa, and the Middle East. The lions share of the water we use goes to growing our food: irrigation siphons o_ roughly two-thirds of all the water we consume. Industrial and other economic activities draw. To keep pace, we have diverted rivers, tapped lakes, and pumped aquifers. Everywhere, the best and cheapest sources of water are now being used.

Supply is only one part of the growing water crisis. For an increasing number of people, water quality is every bit as threatening. Population growth, industrialization, and urbanization are not only depleting lakes, rivers, and aquifers, they are polluting them as well. Already more than 1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water; 3 billion lack access to basic sewerage systems. For millions, life-sustaining water is now a deadly menace. Water- and sanitation-related diseases will rob many more of their health and a productive future.

We must manage our current supplies better. Past approaches, enthusiastically endorsed by development banks and agencies, flavoured large-scale, capital- intensive projects. While they did deliver water to many households and many farms, most fell short of their original promise. Thirty years of applied research supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) offers a new focus for global efforts to curb water demand and alleviate poverty: community-based or local water management. It is at this level that the effects of water scarcity are most keenly felt and it is here that solutions must be implemented. As the examples that follow demonstrate, some of the most powerful responses to water scarcity are already being mounted in households, farmers fields, villages, and city neighbourhoods across the developing world. If these efforts are to continue and to expand, local people will need ongoing support from their governments. In some cases, this will include delegating power to make decisions about which options to pursue and which techniques to employ.

For those who wish to pursue the promise and confront the problems of local water management, this brief can serve as a useful reference. Highlighted blocks throughout the document underscore some of the key lessons gleaned from IDRCs three decades of support for water-related research. They can serve as starting points or notions to consider in developing new community-based initiatives or in improving those currently under way. A benefit cost analysis found rainwater harvesting to be economical where rainfall averages between 100 to 500 millimetres per year. More rain than that and costs exceed benefits; less, and benefits fail to cover costs. Ulitmately managing ground water level and by various means and strict rules and methods, keeping enviornment and forestry, plantation for keeping the earth cool and rain harvesting and diverting into underground without losing etc. are the prime and urgent steps and remedies to take by the world governments and population in order to maintain the water level underground and without polluting it.
Also, Waste water recycling - Reusing waste water is an obvious response to local water shortages. But recycled wastewater can pose a threat to public health, soil, and water if wastewater is not reused carefully by operate effectively in the long-term, large-scale

operations also require that governments develop means of allocating costs and revenues, encourage or oblige those used to disposing of wastewater for free to use the new system, and reform building codes or land-use regulations to permit and encourage wastewater recycling.

Approaches that engage local users in water management are simply more efficient, more effective, more equitable, and more environmentally sustainable than the usual top-down practices. They are not panaceas, but must complement wider reaching water-management approaches. Local water management, however, does offer an immediate path forward in divining solutions to growing water scarcity.
Community-based water management strategies can play a critical role in solving water scarcity problems. The following elements should be considered in developing any new local water-management initiatives or in improving current programs.

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Ans: 12

Drinkable Water, is just under about 1% of total water on the planet and the irony is in that 1% again about 80% is on earth's poles, making it just 0.2% of total water on earth available to Living Beings.
Though water is the most essential necessity of our life, many of us don't even think it as a resource.

And we don't have an alternate to this H2O molecule, as Green fuels to Petroleum. Do We So what best can be done to manage this resource for present needs and for the future requirements. Follow a four point Formula Harness, Conserve, Use Wisely and Safe disposal(Reuse).
I explain this studies show that Uttarakhand, India which is among one of the highest rainfall receiving areas in world, harnessing a mere 0.7% of this rainwater is sufficient to meet the drinking water requirements of the whole state population.
Conservation, The water that is harnessed should be properly conserved, i.e. take measures that increases the ground water level, see that water is not leaking or is being polluted etc...

Now its the duty of general public use water wisely, no unwanted wastage. And lastly reuse, Water that has been used for bathing, washing can be reused for flushing toilets or after some simple filtering can be diverted to gardens.

So from now on whenever we use water try to follow these guidelines-
1. Firstly, see that your home is leak free, no taps dripping, as at the end of the day its 20liters that goes waste drop by drop from taps.
2. While washing dishes, after soaping dip the vessels in a basin filled with water and then rinse them under a slow stream from tap.
3. Avoid washing floors in summer, instead clean it with a wet cloth piece.
4.Harvest rainwater in rainy season, try to divert water from your house top to a small pit filled with gravel.
At the end of the day, water management has to become the people's movement. So Use wisely, Live well.

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Ans: 13

The world water crisis is one of the largest public health issues of our time. Nearly 1. 1 billion people (roughly 20% of the worlds population) lack access to safe drinking water. The world water crisis is created by a confluence of factors including climate and geography, lack of water systems and infrastructure, and inadequate sanitation, something that 2.6 billion people (40% of the worlds population) lack access to.

Some of these countries have additional problems, including high levels of arsenic and fluoride in drinking water.

IN THE HOUSE

A dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day. A leaking toilet can use 90,000 gallons of water in a month. Get out the wrench and change the washers on your sinks and showers, or get new washerless faucets. Keeping your existing equipment well maintained is probably the easiest and cheapest way to start saving water

All the water that goes down the drain, clean or dirty, ends up mixing with raw sewage, getting contaminated, and meeting the same fate. Try to stay aware of this precious resource disappearing and turn o_ the water while brushing your teeth or shaving and always wash laundry and dishes with full loads. When washing dishes by hand, fill up the sink and turn off the water. Take shorter showers
one can connect the sink straight to the toilet sistern and so use the water twice, first to have a shave and then to flush the toilet also if you bend the ball valve you can regulate the level of the sistern.

Save water:
Some simple steps can go a long way in saving water like for e.g: you should always turn off the tap when you are brushing your teeth. And try to collect the water used to wash vegetables and salad to water your houseplants.

In your Garden
Water the garden early in the morning or late in the evening. This reduces water loss due to evaporation. Don’t over-water the garden. Water only till the soil becomes moist, not soggy.

Explore water efficient irrigation systems. Sprinkler irrigation and drip irrigation can be adapted to garden situations .

Make your garden lively - plant trees and shrubs which will attract birds. You can also put p nest boxes and put food.

Try growing sturdy grass in bare patches of land, and convince people in your neighbourhood to do so too. Put waste to work in your garden- sweep the fallen leaves and flowers into flower beds or under shrubs. This will increase soil fertility and also reduce the need for frequent watering.

If you have little space in your garden, you could make a compost pit to turn organic waste from the kitchen and garden to soil enriching manure .

Don't use chemicals in the garden - as they will eventually end up in the sea and can upset the delicate balance of lifecycles.

Organic and environmentally friendly fertilizers and pesticides are available – organic gardening reduces pollution and is better for wildlife. Harvest your rainwater

Put a rain barrel on your downspouts and use this water for irrigation. Rain cisterns come in all shapes and sizes ranging from larger underground systems to smaller, freestanding ones.

In Community Report broken pipes, open hydrants, and excessive waste. Don't be shy bout pointing out leaks to your friends and family members, either.

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Ans: 14
Hai,
The best way to provide drinking water for all is by saving water .Here are some ways that how we can save water.

Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or cleaning.

Verify that your home is leak-free, because many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at the rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year which will add to the cost of water and sewer utilities, or strain your septic system.
Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are inexpensive, readily available and easily installed. (Flush as soon as test is done, since food coloring may stain tank.)

Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash rather than the toilet.

Take shorter showers. Replace you showerhead with an ultra-low-ow version. Some units are available that allow you to cut o_ the ow without adjusting the water temperature knobs.

Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath by closing the drain first and filling the tub only 1/3 full. Stopper tub before turning water. The initial burst of cold water can be warmed by adding hot water later.

Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face. Brush your teeth first while waiting for water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.

Retrofit all wasteful household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.
Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water level for the size of load you are using.

When washing dishes by hand, _ll one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet.

Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run every time you want a cool glass of water.

Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.
Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste instead of using a garbage disposal.

Garbage disposals also can add 50% to the volume of solids in a septic tank which can lead to malfunctions and maintenance problems.

Consider installing an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will reduce heating costs for your household.

Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.

Never install a water-to-air heat pump or air-conditioning system. Air-to-air models are just as efficient and do not waste water.

Install water softening systems only when necessary. Save water and salt by running the minimum amount of regenerations necessary to maintain water softness. Turn softeners off while on vacation.

Check your pump. If you have a well at your home, listen to see if the pump kicks on and off while the water is not in use. If it does, you have a leak.

When adjusting water temperatures, instead of turning water flow up, try turning it down. If the water is too hot or cold, turn the offender down rather than increasing water flow to balance the temperatures.

If the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.

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Ans: 15

Though the globe contains water nearly to 70%,the amount of safe drinking water is very little. These sources keep getting replenished with rain water. Hence it is our bounden duty to see that such scarce and valuable resource is improved and not a drop of it is wasted. The following simple measures are suggested.

1. Afforestation: This helps inducement of rain to replenish our sources. It is necessary that we help grow trees and do not cut them unnecessarily.

2. Water conservation: The rain water should not be allowed to run into sea. It is essential to take steps to hold the water in tanks and reservoirs. To the maximum extent possible we should see that the rain water finds its way into the mother earth by having rain water pits for every house and at as closer intervals as possible.

3. Avoid wastage: Wastage of water in any form is a crime against humanity. This should be spread to everyone and preventive steps should be taken.

4. Equitable distribution: This valuable resource should be distributed properly to as many people as possible. Government function comes in here, but responsible citizens may aid to a large extent.

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Ans: 16

It is a sad situation on the earth that is there a shortage of drinking water, even though our earth is covered with 79% of water. Though there is tremendous growth in Science & Technology, still we are not able to convert the Sea water into drinking water. I feel that the main problems of shortage of water is as follows.
1. In most of the cities water is being excessively supplied to Rich class people and to the areas where MLA's and other high class people leaving.
2. In some areas it is being given for 24 hours and for some areas for only 1/2 to 1 Hour
The solution to the drinking water each one can do is as follows
1. Water should be treated as precious and should be conserved in a systematic manner and at any cost each and every on should not waste it.
2. Water supply should be given in a equal manner and there should not be any rich or low class for it.
3. The best way should be, it should be also given like a ration, so that people knows the value of it.

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Ans: 17

Over 1 billion people don't have access to clean drinking water; more than 2 billion lack access to adequate sanitation; and millions die every year due to preventable water-related diseases. Water resources around the globe are threatened by climate change, misuse, and pollution. But there are solutions: we can provide for people's basic needs while protecting the environment by using innovative water efficiency and conservation strategies, community-scale projects, smart economics, and new technology.

That 1.2 billion people lack access to clean water is surely one of the greatest development failures of the modern era. That as many as 5 million people mainly children die every year from preventable, water-related disease is surely one of the great tragedies of our time

Unfortunately, despite a growing recognition that more must be done to help those without clean water or adequate sanitation, a report by the Pacific Institute estimates that over 34 million people might perish in the next 20 years from water-related disease { even if the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, which aim to cut the proportion of those without safe access by half, are met.

The problem is not merely a lack of aid (although more money is needed) or a lack of technology. It is a failure of vision and will. According to many international water experts, hundreds of billions of dollars are needed to bring safe water to everyone who needs it. Since international water aid is so paltry, many of these experts claim that privatization of water services is the only way to help the poor.
But many critics of this approach note that community-scale infrastructure and efficiency and conservation can bring basic water services to the millions who need it without breaking the bank. And many critics of the gold-plated approach argue that water privatization,

although it can play some productive role, will never be able to bring water to the worlds poorest people.

However, there are solutions to the global water crisis that don’t involve massive dams, large-scale infrastructure, and tens or hundreds of billions of dollars. First and foremost, we must use what the Pacific Institute calls soft path solutions to the global water crisis. Soft path solutions aim to improve the productivity of water rather than seek endless new supply; soft path solutions complement centrally-planned infrastructure with community scale projects; and soft path solutions involve stake-holders in key decisions so that water deals and projects protect the environment and the public interest.

The Pacific Institute advocates the creation of a National Water Commission, which will provide guidance to U.S. water policy and, in turn, greater funding to ameliorate the global water crisis.

The Pacific Institute is also calling for a global initiative to provide safe water, adequate sanitation, and hygiene education at 100 percent of the world's schools within a decade.

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Ans: 18

Thousands of people in India still believe that "water is free". They ignore the price which our environment and our future generations will be paying for their nearly "free" water. In India, there are so many places experiencing heavy rainfall while there are some others which experience draughts every year. Do you think this problem is natural and can't be helped?...Of course not... It can be helped by making dams and reservoirs which redirect the storage and flow of water and channels can be made to irrigate dry lands from such water sources. In India, even big dam projects are opposed by public without considering the benefits of these technological developments.

We don’t have a habit of storing rain water. Rain water should be collected and stored and can be later used for many purposes. Instead, there are people who pollute the rivers and water bodies by adding pollutant chemicals from their industries. For the sake of saving the cost of disposal of industrial waste, they are contamination one of our most precious natural resource. This problem of pollution caused by industries should be stopped by all means and the people causing such nuissance should be punished and fined for disturbing the ecological cycle.
On an individual basis we should prevent the wastage of water in household activities and use water wisely.

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Ans: 19

Yes dear,
Water is going to be a problem for the next gen. But, we urbanites can't do much, though closing water taps, removing the flush tank leaks, etc can add to the effort. But most important is what you need to do in the rural INDIA. Irrigation takes 74% of the water usage in any part of the world. And unfortunately the need for saving watr in farming is lost on the powers that be, because it is politically not expedinet.

How can any blame the POOR FARMER?. But dear he is the culprit.
He and those who support him for vote-bank politics. If one is serious of water saving the following things to be ensured by working in rural areas.

1. Ensure Drip and Sprinkler irrigation.
2. Don't let farmer use inefficient tools to bring water to his farm.
3. Eat less rice (rice cultivation takes the most water).
4. Find ways of growing rice with less water.
5. Ban flood irrigation for non - rice crops.
6. Give pressurized, vavle regulated water access to Farmer and ask him to pay for it (requires some effort!!!!!!!!). and lastly PRAY.
good luck

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Ans: 20

I would say that don't cut down any trees because trees are the main source of getting water. I would prefer that deforestation are leading to the lack of fresh and clean water. so I would suggest u that don't cut down trees as it leads to global warming and global warming leads to melting of ice caps and i would give u another point that don't waste water for unnecessary things. how to save water;

!plant the trees at evening because the transpiration rate would me less.
!regularly check the water taps that there is no leakage of water.
!close the water taps when you are shaving or brushing your teeth. Etc.
hese are some ways to save the clean and fresh water.

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Ans: 21

My sources are from
1) national geographic under the green guide www.thegreenguide.com
2) wikipedia en.wikipedia.org url button does not work for my window, so a manual copy and paste is necessary
Getting funding for carbon filters and a distillery plant from organizations that hold fundraisers, to raise money for healthier water is the first step. Then a countries politics needs to set up a system for distilling water then passing it through carbon filters to be delivered to people to drink.

It is very expensive to do and money that is received for groups that support the cause can be little, but pay o_ in the long run. The best thing that everyone can do to support a cause to deliver clean water, is to donate money and or time to groups that provide for the long term instead of the short (short meaning sending crates of bottled water.

For people with no apparent source of water like deserts, may need to find the water underground then use wells that use the same steps as above to give to the people.

But no water can be found, then a country most seek help form its neighbors since the best way is to think long term and not rely on shipments of bottled water. Another thing that will help is if waste water is dealt with properly whether it is sewage from a house, commercial building or factory well help in the long run since it is one of the main sources for the pollution in the first place.

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Ans: 22

Hi,
Water Conservation is the main solution to this issue. Simple thing that one can do include rain water harvesting, maintain a constant maximum level of water consumption, create awareness amongst neighbors about this issue of water consumption and ensure that you don't use water unnecessarily.
The main problem with water is that it cannot be effectively transported to large proportion of population. I don't Know how relevant is the word 'Global water crisis'. I have never heard of such thing before. Rain scarce countries like Israel and Saudi Arabia should be taken as examples for finding ways to this water crisis.

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Ans: 23
Simple thing to rectify is save water. Water is precious. We literally waste water every-time. Think about those people who didn't even get a drop. Afforestation. Grow more plants and trees. If you grow then water crisis can be everted. Not only that, we must increase the tax to drive the car. Reason being if tax is increased some people will decide other means and ways to travel, that will reduce traffic as a result new roads won't be built and as a result the trees wont be cut. I insist everyone to grow one plant every couple of months or so. That saves water, energy, global crisis for everything.

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Ans: 24
1) Save the Ground Water
2) To keep our used water from spoiling our water resources, we have to remove the pollutants before the water gets back into the environment. In urban areas in most developed countries, the wastewater from homes, businesses and factories is collected by a system of underground pipes{ sewers{ which carry it to one or more central treatment facilities. Most of these are located near bodies of water into which the treated wastewater is discharged
3) Try to grow more trees.
4) Factory wastages should not be mixed with the Ground water

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Ans: 25
Each one of can do the following:
-Don't waste water
-Respect the water supply we have and not contaminate it by adding pollutants
-Grow vegetation where possible, especially near areas where there is runoff water from household use or rain water.
-Those that have access to water can share with the others who don't

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Ans: 26
One, we should stop wasting water. Two, we should minimize our water consumption. Third, we should conserve water. Four, we should educate people about water conservation.

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Ans: 27

We need to teach or realizing the people regarding the importance of good water even if they wasting for 1 drop of water and make them to clear the problems of due to bad water. I think we have to start from the basic level i.e., from the school. Moreover the main concentration is needed the slum areas.

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Ans: 28
thanks for reminding us about this issue...
my answer is: using water wisely

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Ans: 29
We should stop pumping of ground water, from bore wells, for agriculture purpose.

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Ans: 30
This could be achieved by spreading the message that any king of water can be boiled and filtered to make it clean drinking water.

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