

Water Is The Spirit of the world  
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Ms. Jackson's class  
May 16, 2019  
Essay

Water is important to everything on our planet and it's important we do our best to take care of it. Without water earth wouldn't even be. Sadly, due to globalization and the use of modern machinery, humans have been polluting the water and the ecosystem around it. It's also important to know how to be safe around water whether you live right next to it or miles away from it. It still affects you and everything around you.

Did you know the average temperature on Lake Superior is around 39 degrees fahrenheit? Burrr, that's cold! Cold enough to get hypothermia! Hypothermia is when your body starts shutting down to conserve heat. People get hypothermia all the time- whether it's falling through the ice and not being able to get back out or even just being in the water for too long. There are ways to protect yourself from hypothermia and it's as easy as just wearing a life jacket. If you wear a life jacket, you have a better chance of survival. Life jackets are buoyant so they float. You're not buoyant so you won't. Your life jacket will help you so that you don't have to waste your energy by keeping your head above the water. It will also assist you when get into the H.E.L.P position. H.E.L.P stands for heat emitting lessening position. Did you know that 10 people die every day due to water related accidents and 88% aren't wearing a life jacket? I know I'll remember to wear my life jacket when I'm canoeing, paddle boarding, tubing, and kayaking. I hope you follow suit and stay safe by wearing a life jacket.

Did you know even olympic swimmers can't swim against a rip current? I don't know about you, but I'm sure not stronger than olympic swimmer. What really is a rip current? A rip current is a narrow current going away from the shore and around 100 hundred people die because of rip currents per year. There's a way to get out of a rip current. You can swim to either side of it. Also try to wait a little bit longer to swim out. That way, the current will be weaker. never try to swim against it. You're just wasting your energy by doing that.

Have you ever gone to the beach and it was closed? Beaches can't close, can they? Beaches can close, but it's for your safety if a beach is closed. in minnesota, it's probably due to a harmful chemical called E coli which is short for Escherichia coli. E coli gets into the lake through storm drains. If you don't pick up your dog's poop and a

big storm comes, the water will carry some of the bacteria from the poop and that water can go to the storm drain which carries it down to the river. It's not just E coli that harms our lakes and rivers. other things can get down the storm drain such as litter, soaps, oil, pesticides, fertilizers, and salt. These are all non point source pollutants. This means that people can't track down where the pollutants came from. Oil leaks from factories are point source pollutants. Point source pollutants are pollutants that can be tracked. Because they can be tracked, people can work together to make sure that oil leaks won't happen again. Make sure that harmful pollutants don't go down the storm drain. Keep our lake clean, cold , and clear !

What are invasive species? Invasive species are animals or plants that have been transferred to another place and are disrupting the ecosystem and its native plants. Some examples of invasive species are the ruffe, spiny water flea, lamprey, and Goldfish. Yes! Goldfish are invasive species! they get into the water and make it mucky which can make that water get really hot and unsafe for some native plants and animals. Invasive species can take over and wipe out native species populations.

Have you heard of the piping plover? It's an endangered species whose habitat is slowly decreasing. one of their last nesting spots is in Michigan. They also nest on the ground which makes their nest vulnerable to many predators such as off-leash dogs. Another thing that can be atrocious is that their eggs look exactly like rocks. That can be a good disguise, but animals may accidentally step on them. I've never seen a piping plover but I hope one day they won't be endangered and I'll get the chance to see one.

Do you like swimming in clean water or muddy water ? Verso is a paper company that works toward keeping our lakes clear. The main ingredient in paper is trees, which we use for drawing, writing, origami, and many other things. Verso helps the environment by making sure they cut down trees that are farther away from bodies of water. But why? Trees help keep the land near rivers from eroding. When the land near rivers and lakes erode, it pushes the dirt and mud into the lakes or rivers. by not cutting down trees by bodies of water, the roots of the trees hold the dirt in place which causes less erosion.

Did you know our port in Duluth ships 35 million tons of cargo per year. That sure is a lot! That 35 million tons is mostly made up of iron ore, coal, and grain. There are also two different types of ships- Lakers that stay within the great lakes and are ginormous. salties that are smaller and meant to fit through the locks so they can travel out to sea. they wouldn't be able to transport goods without tipping if they didn't have a ballast. The ballast is the part of the ship that should be under water and to make sure the ballast stays under water to keep the boat from tipping they pump water in and out.

Oil spills are really bad for bodys of water. The U.S coast guard knows how to clean them up using synthetic material that are oil affiliate. There are also other



materials that can be used other than the special synthetic equipment that the coast guard uses such as organic materials like hay and some minerals.

Bacteria is the main worker at WLSSD or the Western Lake Superior Sanitary district. You might think bacteria- ewww- but bacteria is really helpful. when the water first comes in, it looks kind of dirty just a little yellowish. then it sits for a while and the bacteria begins to eat away the bad stuff and then you get a big brown goop at the bottom. it looks like it's made no progress, but after that, the water begins to clear. the water shouldn't be too clear because that would be unhealthy to put back into lakes and rivers.

As you can see, water is very important and there are lots of ways one little person can make a big difference- whether it's good difference or bad difference. it's up to you to decide. Just remember- Earth wouldn't be here without water and neither would we.