

Fact Sheet



What on Earth Do You Know About Water?



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation
Service

February 2003

- Approximately 80% of the earth's surface is covered with water.
- Only 1% of this water is fresh water we can use.
 - 97% is saltwater
 - 2% water frozen in glaciers
- Earth's fresh water supply is limited and threatened by pollution.
- We have the same amount of water as when the Earth was formed.
- Water moves in a never-ending cycle as nature recycles it over and over again.
- The water you drink may have been a drink for a dinosaur.
- One person uses 168 gallons of water a day.
- In 1986 the United States used over 25 trillion gallons of fresh water.
- We are using our fresh water faster than we are recharging our groundwater.
- Over 50% of our wetlands that recharge and purify ground water have been destroyed in the United States.
- Earth will not get any more water.
- Conserve water before there is no water left to conserve.

Conservation Across America

www.tx.usda.nrcs.gov

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.