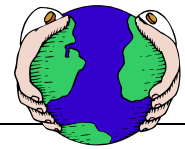


# Water – An Abundant Resource?



In most parts of Canada, we take water for granted. But many people in the drier parts of the world view water as a resource more important than gold. Without water we could not survive. About two-thirds of the human body is water, all our crops and livestock need water to survive, and human activities require water.

Studies show that the average Canadian uses about 330 litres of water per day for personal use. We could try to calculate the total amount of water Canadians use by multiplying this figure by the population of Canada!! But this would not come close to giving us the total amount of water used in Canada. Agriculture, mining, manufacturing, electrical generation, and other activities all require great amounts of water.

## Human Activities – Food for Thought....

- ☛ It requires 10 litres of water to manufacture 1 litre of gasoline
- ☛ It requires 1000 litres of water to grow 1 kilogram of potatoes
- ☛ It requires 300 litres of water to produce 1 kilogram of paper
- ☛ It requires 215 000 litres of water to produce 1 metric tonne of steel
- ☛ More than 1 trillion litres of untreated sewage is dumped into our waterways every year by 21 cities across the country (about 3.25 billion litres per day)

If all these are taken into account, the per person use of water rises to about 4500 litres per day! Canadians are the second largest users of water in the world.

## Average Daily Domestic Water Use



Rank	Country	Water Use Per Person
1	United States	425 litres
2	Canada	330 litres
3	United Kingdom	200 litres
4	France	150 litres
5	Israel	135 litres
6	India	35 litres

