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Water Recycling

What comes to a teenager's mind when water is mentioned? I usually think about water when taking a shower or bath, or when brushing my teeth. I thirst for water after a tiring basketball game or after talking on the phone. I realize how much water I use when doing these activities, but do I see how much water I use writing on a piece of paper or drinking a can of soda? I believe teenagers can make a difference conserving water by a Recycling Water Club.

Conserving water in Oklahoma has become an important issue, and most people don't even realize when they are wasting this precious gem. In fact, just 40 sheets of paper waste 100 gallons of water! How many gallons of water am I using as I do my worksheets for history or take notes in biology? During school, I waste loads of water by just using paper! In addition, just one 12 ounce can of soda amounts to 16.5 gallons of water. The aluminum and the ingredients in the drink make up this unbelievable waste of water! In that 12 ounce can of soda that I drink with my supper, I waste more water than if I had just had one cup of water. Teenagers know how much they waste when brushing their teeth, but do they realize how much water they use when writing on paper or drinking a can of soda? What can we do to reduce this crime of water wasting?

The answer is recycling! Students can join together at school and form a Recycling Water Club. In past years at my school, students have been involved by placing cardboard bins in teachers' rooms where the unneeded papers can be placed. Then, once a week the paper is taken to the local recycling facility. The Recycling Water Club could do the same for the 12 ounce cans. Think of all the water that will be saved by just recycling these used items.

Although this is all good, the Recycling Water Club needs to inform. They need to inform the students on how much water they use when doing certain activities, and how to reduce this amount. The Recycling Water Club can make sure the students are recycling at home, not just at school. The Club could save water by just giving the information to the students.

Conserving water is an important issue. We need water to survive. We must keep it plentiful. Can recycling help? Yes! Can teenagers handle this responsibility? Yes! The Recycling Water Club can make a difference, and so can the teenagers that participate in it.