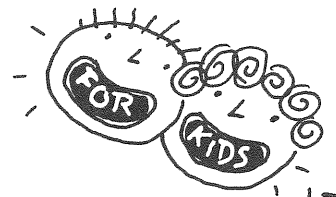


Blue Thumb Word Search



Most people in North America get their water from a public water utility. Public utilities are companies or government agencies that supply needs such as electricity, gas, or water to the public. Water utilities get their water from rivers, lakes, reservoirs, or underground aquifers. Often, the water must be treated to make it safe to drink.

We reuse the same water over and over and it can become polluted by people and industry. Even deep underground aquifers can be polluted from the surface. For example, many household items, such as car wax, spot remover, or floor polish, should not be poured down the drain or thrown out in the trash. Even lawn chemicals and other garden toxins used outdoors can contaminate water sources by running off the land into storm drains. And water can end up in lakes and rivers.

Let's take care of our water resources. Use your "Blue Thumb" to conserve water, protect it, and get involved.

New Vocabulary Words:

water sources – bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and underground aquifers from which we draw water for drinking

treatment – a series of chemical and physical processes to remove dissolved and suspended solids from raw water to produce safe water to drink

contaminate – to make unsafe for drinking

pesticide – a chemical used to kill pests

hazardous – dangerous or harmful



Can You Find These Words?

(circle each one)

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| nature | recycle |
| drink | pesticide |
| toxic | oil |
| fertilizer | batteries |
| paint | contaminate |
| gasoline | hazardous |
| clean | wells |
| treatment | leaks |
| tap | pollute |
| protect | safe |
| water sources | |

