

Water Awareness Test: How Do You Measure Up?

Everyday we do things that affect the amount of water we use and its quality. Here's an opportunity for you to consider what your contribution is to the problem and the solution. Take a few minutes to answer these questions. Add up the numbers you circle in each column to find your total. Then Use the information on the back to see how you measure up!

Select (1) if Never, Select (2) if Sometimes, Select (3) if Often

Leave the tap water running as you brush your teeth or shave?	1	2	3
Turn on the lawn sprinkler in the middle of the day?	1	2	3
Throw used containers of paint, solvents, or harsh cleansers into the trash?	1	2	3
Empty leftover paint, solvents, or cleansers into a household sink?	1	2	3
Run a washing machine or dishwasher with small loads?	1	2	3
Water your lawn frequently in the summertime?	1	2	3
Use large amounts of fertilizers to help your lawn grow?	1	2	3
Clean the driveway, sidewalk, or curbside by hosing it down with water?	1	2	3
Leave the shower running to heat the bathroom?	1	2	3
Wait to repair a dripping faucet until it turns into a steady leak?	1	2	3
Use the toilet to dispose of ordinary waste around the house?	1	2	3
Wash your car every weekend in the summer?	1	2	3
Change your oil in the street or use storm drains to dispose of used oil?	1	2	3
Sweep lawn and garden trimmings into the curb or down storm drains?	1	2	3
Use the garbage disposal to get rid of food scraps?	1	2	3
Total 1 = _____			

Select Yes or No

	Yes	No
Attend public meetings on water issues?	1	3
Consider the impact of land-use and zoning decisions on your water resources?	1	3
Write to your public officials about obvious mismanagement or disregard for water resources	1	3
Volunteer to help clean up a water body or promote water quality awareness in your community?	1	3
Vote for programs or candidates that protect the environment?	1	3
Know where your tap water comes from?	1	3
Know where your wastewater goes?	1	3
Know who operates your water utilities?	1	3
Know the name and location of your watershed?	1	3
Know how much it costs for your water supply and treatment?	1	3
Total 2 = _____		

Total 1 _____ + Total 2 _____ = Total Score _____

How Did You Score?

Take a look at your total score to see how you measure up

< 30

Total Score of 30 or less:

You are to be complimented on your knowledge of water resource issues and your commitment to practicing sound conservation and pollution prevention measures.

Keep it up!!! Try to find ways to educate your friends and family to follow your example.

31- 55

Total Score of 31 to 55:

You are generally aware of the need to conserve water and to protect our surface and groundwater from pollution but need to be more consistent in your habits.

Remember, even small leaks eventually result in huge losses, and small quantities of pollutants can contaminate large water bodies.

56 -75

Total Score of 56 to 75:

Like too many others in our area, you could be contributing to severe water supply and pollution control problems in our Rivanna Watershed, It would be great if you could think about and adopt new habits so you can become part of the solution to pollution.

What More Can I Do?

Here are some ideas on how you can get involved in protecting and conserving our precious Water resources:



- Conduct a home water use survey with your family and friends
- Try it out in class or at work
- Think about all the ways you can incorporate conservation practices into your everyday life
- Become a member of the Rivanna Conservation Society
- Join the River Guardians Volunteer Monitoring Corps program

For more information, contact:
Rivanna Conservation Society
PO Box 1501
Charlottesville, VA 22902
(434) 97- RIVER (434) 977-4837
www.rivannariver.org