

You Need Water to Print Money, And a Million Other Reasons You Should Care About Water Conservation

Nowadays, everyone is always talking about privilege. From the SATs to full-time employment, everyone has some sort of privilege in one sense or another. Most of the time, talk about privilege revolves around monetary advantages that benefit a person's life in some way. However, a privilege most of us living in the United States in the 21st century don't often think about is the privilege of access to clean water.

The stark reality is that Americans are just a step away from the water crisis that plagues remote areas of the world. The article, ['The Deal With Water'](#), aptly captures the gravity of this situation, labeling water as 'The New Oil'. The lack of clean water access is a significant barrier for women and girls in Africa and other developing regions, hindering their education and career opportunities.

True privilege is the ability to turn on the faucet, jump in the ocean, or swim in a lake and know it is safe and clean. True privilege is the ability to spend time worrying about resources besides water.

As Michael Webber points out in his article, ['Energy, Water, and Food Problems Must Be Solved Together'](#), the interdependence of these three critical resources needs to be addressed. I urge the executives and environmental organizations in Manhattan Beach to work together in appreciating and conserving these resources, starting with the cleanup of our local river.

If access to clean water, and therefore food and energy for future generations of our society, isn't enough reason to convince you that working together towards the goal of cleaning up the local river is essential, maybe the fact that you [need water to print money](#) is.

Just kidding, kind of. The fact that we need water to print money, one of the most essential elements of our economy, is a perfect example of why it is so vital that we all work together to accomplish the goal of harboring safe and clean water sources. Without water and, therefore, money, food, energy, clothing, and the million other things we need to survive in a day, nothing else matters, simple as that.

When we act like clean water is a privilege that we are entitled to, we lose the sense of gratefulness that we should have when working with these resources. Clean water is a gift, and it should be treated as such. It is not a tool in a geopolitical campaign; it is perhaps the most important resource we have, and we must do everything in our power to protect it, even if that means working with those we don't prefer. (But hey, a good consequence is that we can still print money, so there's that!)