

R.A.D. for a Better Tomorrow, Tomorrow

Raising Awareness of Dihydrogen-Monoxide



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Why you should *actually* be concerned about Dihydrogen-Monoxide!

If you already haven't figured it out by now, dihydrogen-monoxide is not as dangerous as it may sound. It is in fact, just water. While the chemical properties of water are not dangerous in and of itself, not everyone in the world (or even in our own country) has access to enough clean water - and that is a matter of life and death. In reading his extensive environmental policies, I assume President Obama would agree that this is a serious concern and should be addressed as soon as possible. Clean water is the most important thing to every living being on this planet, and maintaining clean water supplies for everyone deserves to be among the highest of priorities.

You probably noticed the side bar on the right that briefly highlights many points of concern in this very real, and very serious issue. I highly suggest looking over it, as it clearly defines the tragic magnitude this encompasses. Nearly 900 million people do not have clean water available to them - that's roughly three times the population of the United States! Access to clean drinking water is not the only issue: sanitary, economical, and cultural concerns are prevalent as well.

Lack of access to proper toilets is of great concern in many developing countries, as the majority of illnesses are caused by fecal matter. This can also be a problem in the schools of developing nations as many girls, for obvious reasons, will drop out when they reach puberty. Economically, the absence of established water sources that are clean and convenient can be devastating. Billions of working hours are wasted in the procurement of water in some parts of the world, when that

Important Facts and Statistics

- 884 million people lack access to clean water
- 780 million lack access to an improved water source
- Over 3 million people die each year from water, sanitation, and hygiene-related causes
- A brief shower (5 min) uses more water than most people in developing nations use in a day
- People living in slums can pay as much as ten times more for water than wealthier people in the same city
- Every 20 seconds, a child dies from a water-related illness
- Worldwide, 70% of water sources are used for agriculture, while only 10% are used for domestic purposes
- Many developing nations have limited access to proper toilets, including many schools
- 443 million school days are lost each year due to water-related diseases
- Women are overwhelmingly expected to provide water for their families when there is no water source at home

time could have been easily spent improving other important parts of a nation's infrastructure. Culturally, a lack of convenient water sources and proper sanitation affect women worldwide most negatively. Women are the expected bearers and spend 200 million hours a day collecting water every year.

All in all, water-related concerns are more of an issue than most people realize. Please help raise awareness and visit water.org for more info!



- 20% of children worldwide die every year due to water-related diseases
- Half of the world's hospital beds are filled with people suffering from water-related diseases
- Containers used for water collection can weigh over 40 pounds and must sometimes be carried great distances
- It has been estimated that Sub-Saharan Africa alone loses 40 billion hours per year collecting water
- 12.5% of people worldwide do not have access to clean water sources