

CLEAN WATER PATCH PROGRAM



CLEAN International, in partnership with the Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast, has established this patch program to help provide education on where water comes from, encourage steps towards conserving this resource, provide education on the international water crisis and inspire action to increase impact and raise awareness. CLEAN International mobilizes and evaluates innovative, environmentally sustainable clean water and sanitation solutions through ongoing education, partnerships, and evaluation to save and improve lives.

Daisy & Brownies: Choose 1 per category Junior & Cadette: Choose 2 per category Seniors & Ambassadors: Choose 6 total

Discover

- Analyze how much water is used in your home and for certain activities. With an adult, go to www.watercalculator.org and answer the questionnaire to assess your home's water use and learn how to conserve water.
- Research where your local water comes from. You can learn about who provides your water, such as a regional water district, and where they source it (lake, well, reservoir, etc.).
- The [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) are 17 goals adopted by all UN Member States. They aim to promote peace and prosperity for people and the planet while tackling climate change and preserving oceans and forests. Review [SGG Goal #6: Clean Water and Sanitation](#) to learn more about worldwide access to clean water and sanitation.
- Learn more about ways to increase access to water worldwide, such as rainwater capture, digging a new well, or lake restoration.
- Research more about [women who walk for water](#) in Africa.

Connect

- Contact or visit your local water department or treatment plant.
- Connect with a local organization that serves individuals experiencing homelessness to learn about how they receive water, such as shelter, food bank, and community center.
- Connect to a local [Engineers Without Borders](#) chapter in your area or at a local university.
- Contact your local government to learn more about how they manage water at the city or county level. Here are a few suggestions of departments to reach out to that could speak to water or connect you to the right person.
 - Public Information Department
 - Water Conservation Department
 - Environmental Health Department
 - Public Works Department
- Visit a nearby Nature Center, Land Trust, or National and State Park Visitor Center to learn more about how water affects the lands and how you can volunteer to help.
- While learning more about water access worldwide, did you connect with a story about a community? If so, what was it and why?

Take Action

- After learning more about your personal and household water usage, pledge to conserve water in your home, school, or community.
- Clean up a local waterway in your community to clear it of trash.
- Organize a walk to teach others and walk in the shoes of those who walk for water (Step-by-step questions and Activity Guide)
- Organize a group to learn more about the millions of women and girls walking for water internationally.

Please fill out [THIS](#) survey and go to the resource center during normal business hours to receive the patch!

Activity Guide & Step-by-Step Questions



EDUCATION ON WALKING FOR WATER

Millions of people around the world lack access to water and must spend their days walking for it. Take time to experience what it feels like to walk in the shoes of those who do.

Question Guide

- **How far, on average, do you think people need to walk?** On average, people walk 4 miles carrying 40 pounds. That is the size of a medium-sized microwave or a full 5-gallon bucket. **What are some other items?**
- **How long do you think it would take to gather water?** For some, collecting water takes 6 hours per day, and many need to wait in line at the water source.
- **Who is mostly walking?** Women and girls (usually 8-13 years old) are often given the job of fetching water. They miss school and work to gather water. In one year in Africa alone, women and girls walk over 40 billion hours for water.
- **If you did not have access to water, where would you walk to get it? How long would it take you?**
- **Would the walk be safe during the day and at night?** For thousands worldwide, the walk is often long, hard, and sometimes unsafe due to attacks by people and animals. Unfortunately, they have no choice; they need water.
- 1 in 3 people around the world (over 2.4 billion) do not have a toilet. **How many would that be in your group with no access to a toilet?**

Information about Lack of Access to Clean Water

- Here is a poem and video about a girl's walk for water: <https://vimeo.com/86299224>
- Half of the world's illnesses are due to water and a lack of hygiene and sanitation.
- Over 2,000 people die every day from unclean water and a lack of sanitation. There is an urgent need worldwide for clean water.
- One in nine people (over 800 million) do not have access to clean water. That is the entire population of Europe, as well as the populations of North and South America combined!
- Here are a couple of videos on the impact of providing families and schools with clean water and sanitation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRGZOCaD9sQ> & <https://my.charitywater.org/global-water-crisis#modal-open>

ORGANIZE A WALK

- **How far would your group like to walk?** The average walk for water is 4 miles, but even a 1-mile event will help raise awareness for those walking for water.
- **Would you like to carry buckets of water on your walk? Gather a few buckets and take turns carrying water.**
- **Would you like to invite others to join you?** Share three facts with your participants about what you have learned about the water crisis around the world.