

Six-Week Public Seminar Series on Fresh Water Availability and Use

Fresh Water Availability: Confronting the Immense Challenge

WHY? Growing human population and accelerating development, along with the uncertainty caused by climate change, are placing increasing pressure on the world's ecosystems. Water is fundamental to all forms of life. Humans use enormous quantities of water for agricultural, industrial, recreational and household purposes. Consequently, fresh water supplies are diminishing. According to a 2013 declaration by over 500 water researchers, the majority of the 9 billion people on Earth will live under the handicap of severely limited fresh water availability within one or two generations.

WHAT? Professional experts will cover a range of topics. The first four seminars will address fresh water issues at global, national and local levels; the last two, household best use practices. The seminar dates, topics and speakers are as follows:

- October 6** Global and National Water Availability and Detrimental Practices
2011 Documentary *Last Call at the Oasis*
- October 13** Central Illinois Water Availability and Laws
George Roadcap, Hydro-geologist, Illinois State Water Survey
- October 20** Central Illinois Industrial Water Use: I. Coal mining
Coal's Impact on clean water in Illinois
Traci Barkley, Water Resources Scientist, Prairie Rivers Network
- November 3** Central Illinois Industrial Water Use: II. Agriculture
Methods for reducing agricultural nutrients entering rivers and streams
George Czapar, Director, Center for Watershed Science, Illinois State Water Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois
- November 10** Individual Water Conservation Practices for Work and Home
Methods whereby individuals can conserve water indoors and outdoors through behaviors and technology
Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager, City of Urbana
- November 17** Individual Storm Water Management Practices
From rain barrels to rain gardens-ideas for managing storm water at home
Sandra Mason, Horticulture Educator, University of Illinois Extension

WHERE and WHEN? Seminars will be held from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Urbana, 602 West Green Street