

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 requires we invest in adequate infrastructure, provide sanitation facilities, and encourage hygiene. Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems is essential.

Fact of the day

80 percent of wastewater goes into waterways without adequate treatment.

Act now

How much water do you use?

All day



Try to calculate how much water your household uses in a full day. You will need co-operation from the rest of the family but let them know what you are doing and why.

Fill in the *Household Water Usage Worksheet* every time a tap is turned on or some household appliance uses water. Record the number of times the toilet is flushed and how long taps are running for handwashing. Make a note of how much water is going for teas, coffees and other drinks.

Watch out for other times that water is used that you didn't think of. You might need to search online to see how much water your washing machine or dishwasher uses per cycle.

When you are done, see how this compares to the amount of water people have per day in other countries in Europe and Africa.

Make a water filter

1 hour



How could you filter dirty water at home to make clean water? Get some dirty water and pour it through a funnel. What could you put in the funnel to filter the water? Try a few ideas.

Design a better water system for your house

1 hour



Using the *Water System Design Worksheet*, draw your house with the water pipe coming in from outside, and the waste pipe taking everything away. Next, mark in all of the taps and other devices which use that water. Do the same for the waste pipes, showing where all of the waste water (including pee and poop!) comes from before it leaves your house. Now, draw your house again and see if you can make a better system. These ideas might help.

Tap water has been treated to the standard of drinking water – is it necessary to use this for clothes-washing and flushing the toilet? Could you use some other water, such as rainwater, for some of these jobs? Maybe some water could be used a second time, like the clever toilet cisterns which are also a wash-hand-basin? How about splitting up the wastewater as well? Could the relatively clean water from the shower go out a different pipe and end up watering the garden?

Turn off that tap

5 minutes



While brushing your teeth, don't leave the tap running. Are there other times water gets wasted like this?

What to do next

Once finished your own action, share it on social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter). Tag **@ScoutingIreland** and using the hashtags **#scoutsforsdgs #scoutsie #17days17sdgs**.

This will allow scouts not only from Ireland, but all over the world, to see your actions and use that as inspiration to go and make a positive impact in their communities!

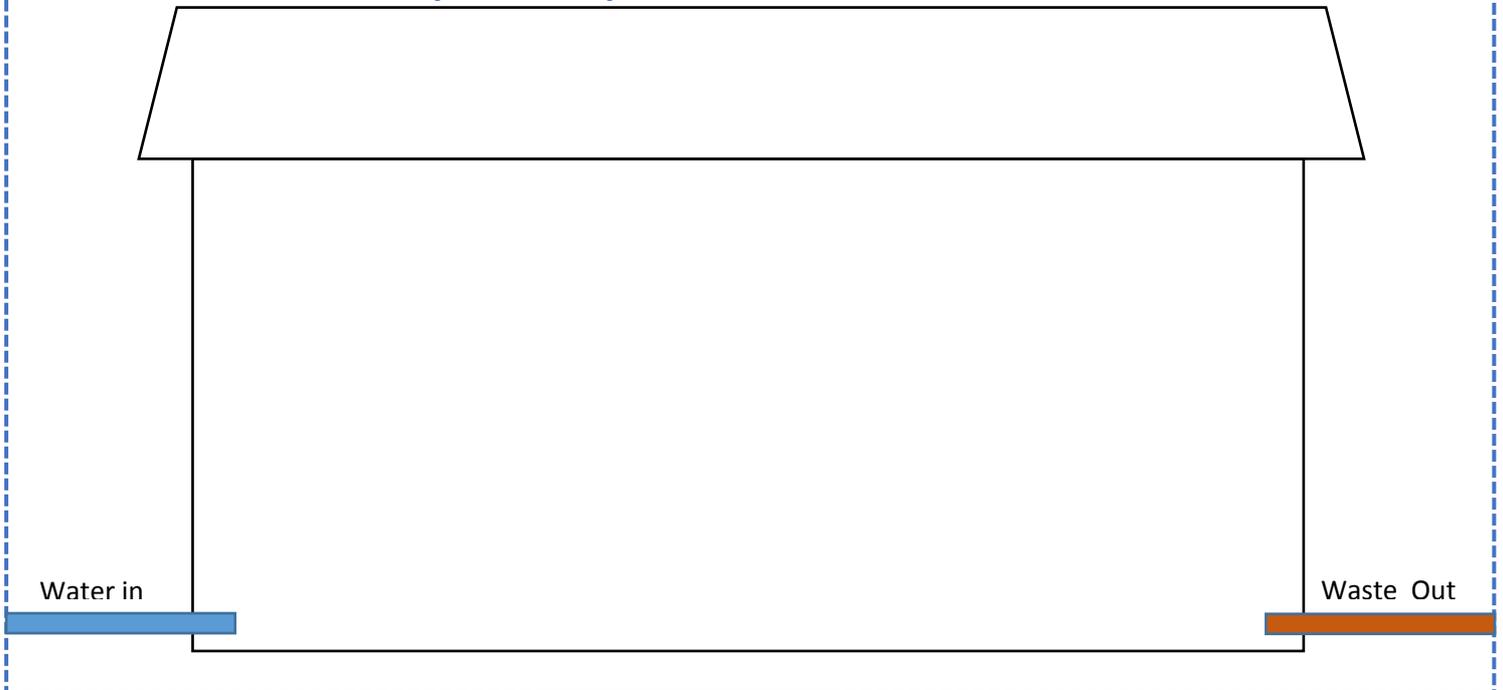


SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Water System Design

Draw in the water system in your house, linking up the water mains to all of your taps and water-using appliances, and linking up the sinks and toilets to the waste pipe.

This is the current water system in my house



Now draw what it could be like, if you had other sources of water, used some water recycling, and split up your water waste.

This is a much better and cleverer system that I came up with!



Well done! You have probably just designed the house of the future. Think of that water saved if all houses were like this.

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