

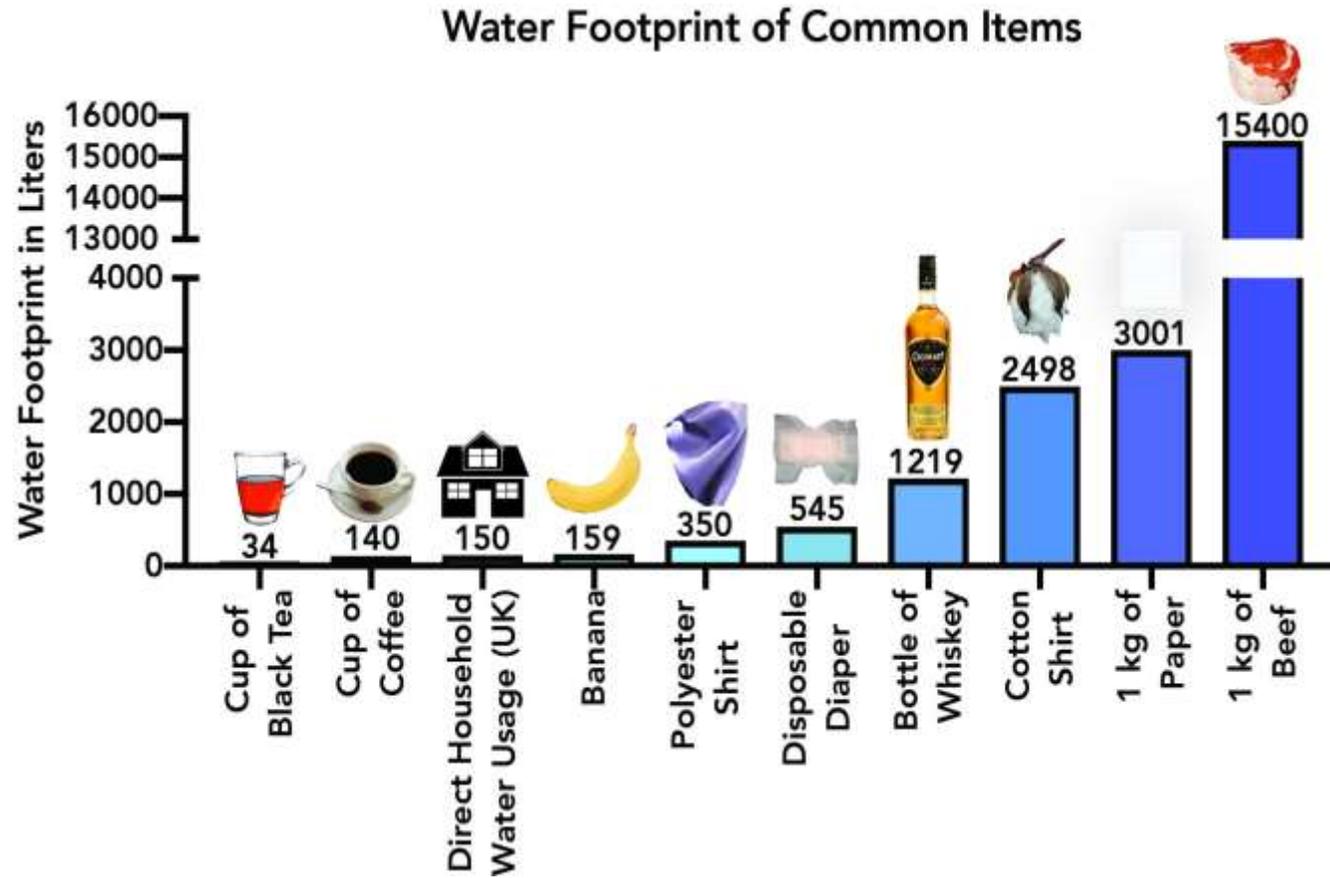


Water Footprint
and the Impact of
Food Production
Environmental
Sustainability

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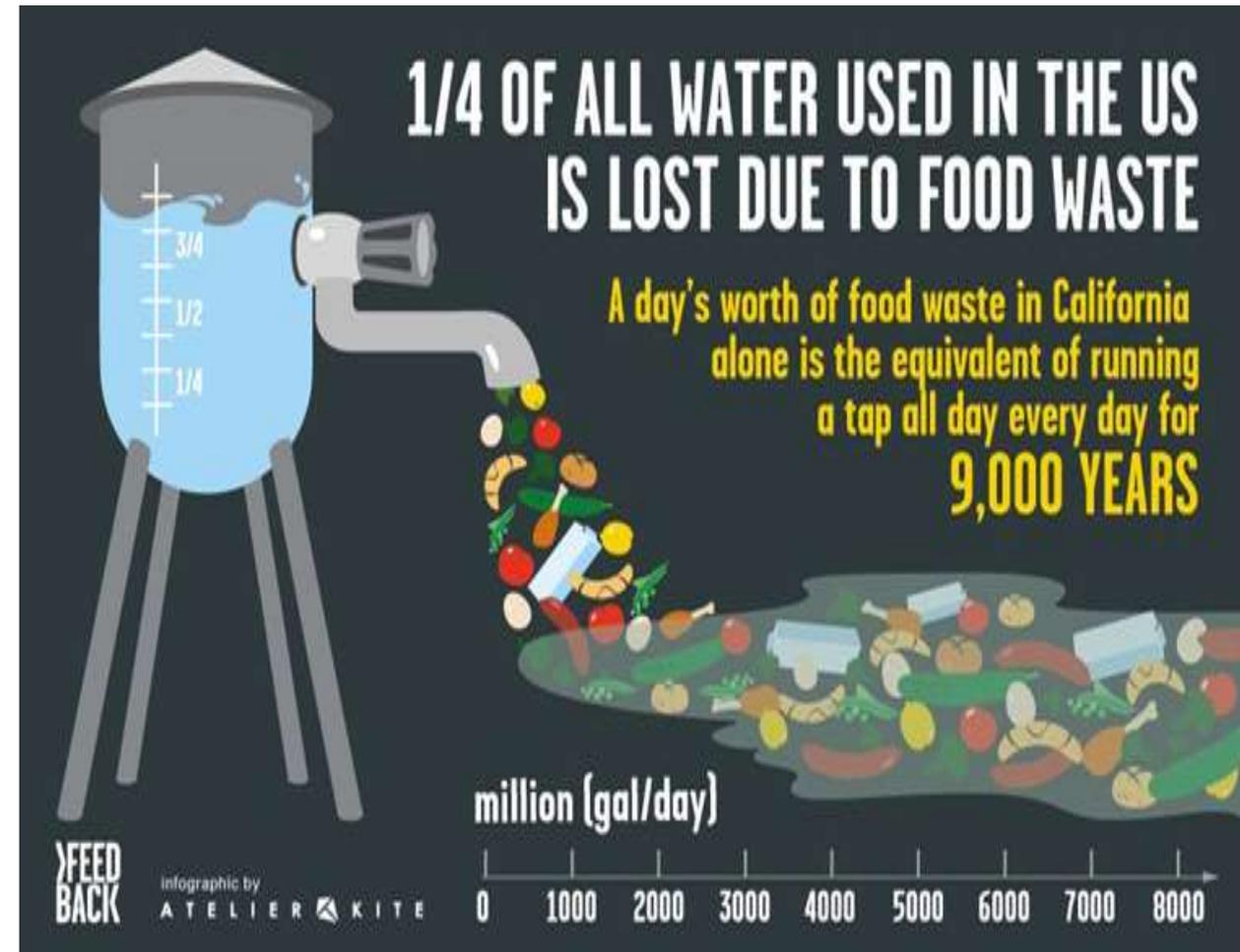
What Is Water Footprint?

- Shows the full extent of water use in relation to consumption by people
- measures the amount of water used to produce each of the goods and services we use
- Helps us better understand the use of freshwater
- Direct and indirect water use
- Grey, blue and green water footprint: components of water footprint



Food Waste

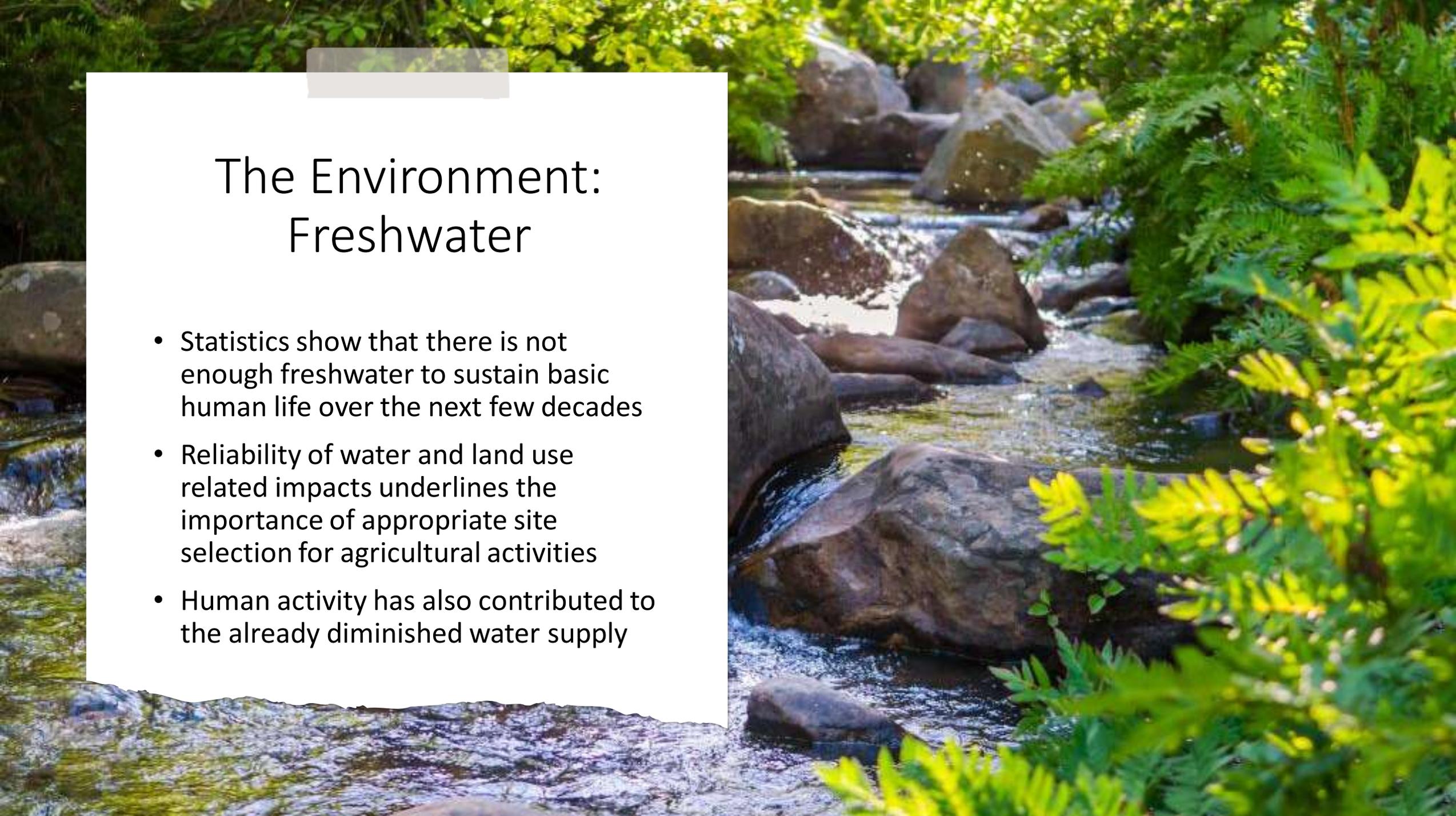
- Farm to table requires 80% of freshwater use
- Studies show that this will double by the year 2050
- Food waste is one of the biggest problems regarding sustainability today
- food waste now accounts for more than one quarter of the total freshwater consumption



Food Production and Consumption



- Agricultural land plays a significant role in the food supply chain
- **Agricultural sustainability is centered around enhancing environmental quality and the origin of the resources being used (leading to the extensive use of freshwater resources)**
- By focusing on food consumption, we can better understand the use of freshwater in relation to the production of certain foods such as fruits, vegetables and processed foods

A scenic view of a river flowing through a lush green forest. The river is surrounded by large, dark rocks and dense green foliage, including ferns. The water is clear and appears to be flowing over the rocks, creating small rapids. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

The Environment: Freshwater

- Statistics show that there is not enough freshwater to sustain basic human life over the next few decades
- Reliability of water and land use related impacts underlines the importance of appropriate site selection for agricultural activities
- Human activity has also contributed to the already diminished water supply

Agriculture in the United States

- Major environmental functions and human needs critically depend on water
- Crop production is heavily concentrated in certain areas, larger farms are getting larger, while the number of smaller operations is decreasing, and crop diversity is declining
- Water is a crucial component in food production, and water management strategies





Environmental and Agricultural Policies

- the United States has seen drastic shifts to support increasing demand for food and commodities
- larger farms are getting larger, while the number of smaller operations is decreasing, and crop diversity is declining
- We need to identify broad policy changes of the U.S. Farm Bills and other bills, rules and regulations directly related to agriculture
- It starts with us



Connection

- **To preserve freshwater, we must start at the source**
- **Then tackle the issue of food waste by addressing it at the retail/consumer level**
- **Find more sustainable and efficient ways to produce the foods we all know and love**

In Conclusion..

- Water is one of our most precious assets to our everyday lives and we must protect it with everything we have in us. It is vital for human consumption and civilization and supporting ecosystems across the world.
- Water footprint helps us understand what purpose freshwater resources serve and helps us better understand what is being polluted and what is being preserved

