

Importance of the Water Industry

With vast amounts of uses across the globe, water is the single most important resource found on Earth. Making up over 60 percent of the human body, water serves as catalyst for a number of essential body functions. Processes such as regulating body temperature, flushing waste, transporting nutrients, and inducing bodily growth are all made possible from this natural resource. On top of being a necessity for human survival, water is seen to be an essential aspect of everyday lives. We use this resource daily to complete tasks such cooking, cleaning, showering, and washing clothes. In today's society, running water has become a staple that is regularly overlooked.

We owe our gratitude towards the water industry, who provide the citizens of the country with clean and reliable sources of water. Without the availability of this natural resource, regions and populations would not be able to flourish. On a smaller scale, water in North Dakota is no different. With many farmsteads scattered across the state, away from urban cities, the need for water remains. The ability of the local water industry to provide water lines to and from these rural homesteads is vital. Moving into the state's urban areas, more and more people are beginning to flock towards these more developed neighborhoods. With the increase in population for these specific areas, fresh and clean water needs to be accessible for all.

One of North Dakota's key industries, agriculture, is where water resources are most used. During our long summer seasons when the weather turns dry, the need for fresh water to irrigate fields is vital. Some farmers rely on rain to produce most of the water supply for their crops, which can lead to problems when rainfall is reduced. Instead, many farmers and ranchers irrigate their crops using sprayers or pumps, where water can be applied to the field uniformly. By having the availability of wells or reservoirs to pump water from allows farmers to enhance their crops to grow the best yield. Also, with our state relying heavily on agriculture for its economy, using methods to irrigate fields creates better economic success.

Along with agriculture, oil and gas also play a major role in the economy of North Dakota. For gas and oil development out west, huge amounts of water are implemented to process and extract these fuels from the earth. For instance, water is used during the drilling

process to lubricate and cool the drill during extraction. Water is also used to flush oil reservoirs and help apply pressure to force oil out of the ground.

Overall, on a state and national level, water acts a necessity for everyday life. Used for personal health and wellbeing along with acting as a catalyst for commercial production, water can be used is various ways. With the advancements in technology along with the increase in population, the need for water in society will never go away. Thankfully, we have great leaders who help develop and carry out plans to get people the water they need.