

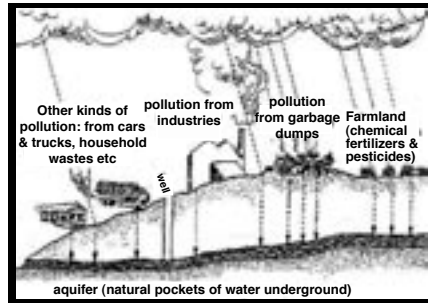
What do you know about Water?

Our bodies are made up of more than 80% water!

Clean

Fresh Water (water that isn't full of salt like sea water, or polluted like sewage water or waste water) is one of the most precious resources we have. Without fresh water we couldn't live on this planet. Unfortunately there are big problems with fresh water in our world today because of pollution from people and industries. Many of the places that supply us with fresh water (like forests, rivers and lakes) are being lost. And many fresh water sources are now becoming dirty and polluted.

We use water every day. For cooking, drinking, washing, growing food & making almost everything we use.



**We need to save fresh water!
How can we do that?**

We can understand how precious our fresh water is and ...



- Don't throw wastes into rivers & oceans
- Don't leave taps on when you aren't using them
- Fix broken taps as soon as they start leaking
- Learn how to collect, store & use rain water
- Figure out how you can reuse water as much as possible

What is Wastewater?

Wastewater is water that has been contaminated by chemicals, from human or animal waste, water that is used in toilets (*blackwater*), or water already used for bathing and washing things (*graywater*).

What can blackwater do to our environment?

That depends on how you dispose of your blackwater. If you put it into a septic tank and the septic tank isn't properly sealed, then the blackwater will start seeping into the ground, and contaminate your well water or the ground water, which flows below you. If you put blackwater into rivers or the sea it will eventually kill the fish and other sea life around the area, as well as causing human illness for those who come into contact with that water.

What can we do about our blackwater?

Blackwater needs to be treated before it flows back into the environment. Wastewater Gardens® systems, purify blackwater so that it can be safely returned to earth. Doing this will help conserve our precious fresh water resources.

Today, Wastewater Gardens® are purifying and conserving water in many countries all over the world. You can see samples of some of these gardens on our website: www.pcrf.org

WasteWater Gardens® are a great way for us to make our water clean, to reuse water & to help conserve our fresh water resources!

A Wastewater Gardens® Fact Sheet

How you can conserve & clean

Water with

Wastewater

Gardens®

for more information about Wastewater Gardens® you can visit:

www.idepfoundation.org/wwg.htm

How do Wastewater Gardens® purify & conserve water?

Normally wastewater from your toilets (called blackwater) goes to your septic tank, and disappears into the ground below you. This pollutes your well water and groundwater (the water that flows below the earth's surface). Using rivers or water channels as toilets can be very dangerous for yourself and other bathers, especially children, as there are many diseases and infections that you can catch from this.

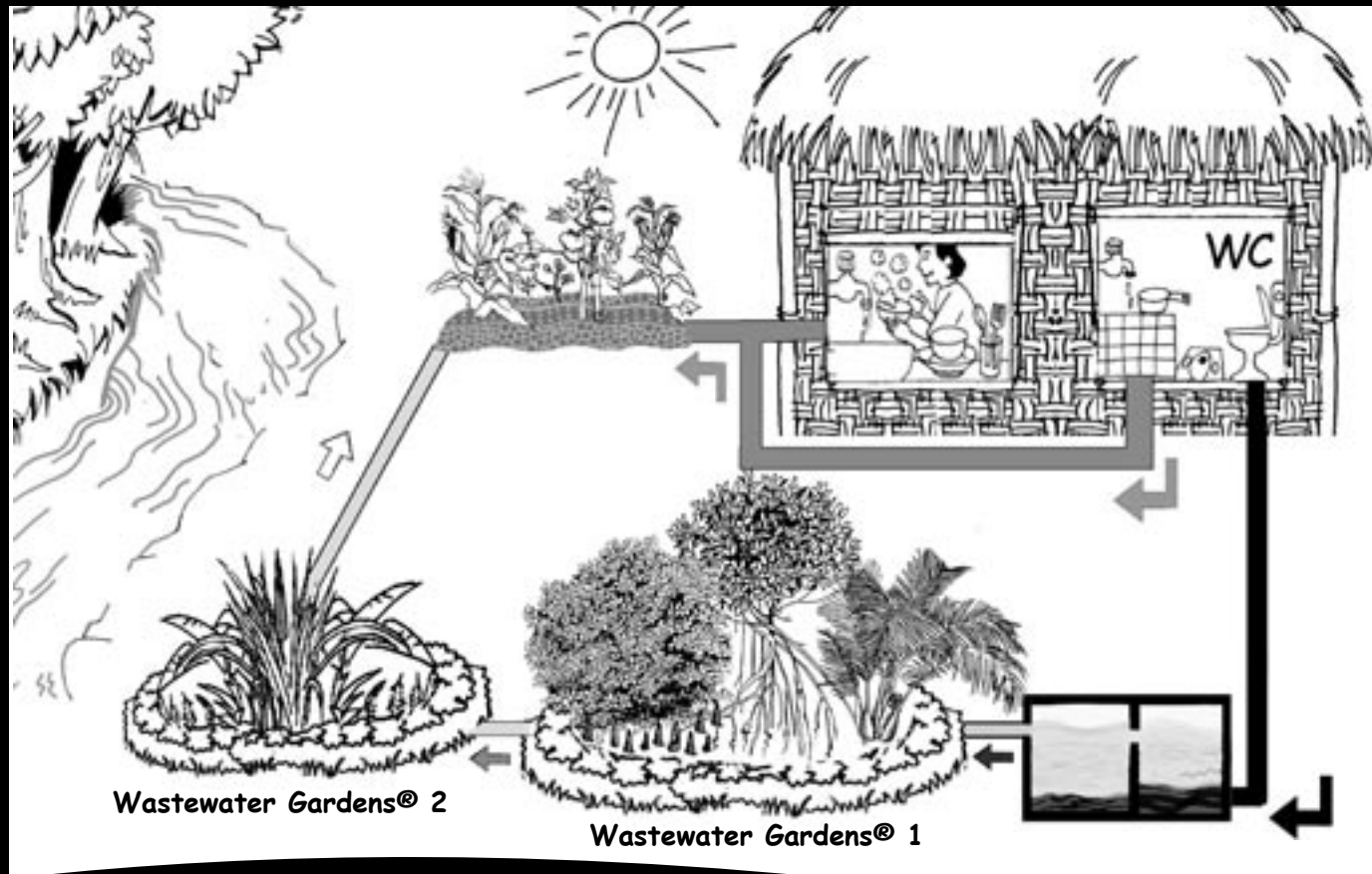
In the Wastewater Gardens® system blackwater flows through a sealed (water tight) septic tank into a Water-tight, plant-filled living water treatment system. The plants use the rich nutrients in the blackwater to grow. At the same time oxygen & microbes that are in the Wastewater Gardens® eliminate harmful bacteria that would cause disease from untreated sewage. **And when water comes out of the Wastewater Gardens® after treatment, the water that flows out of the Wastewater Gardens® is clean enough to water your gardens and farms!**

The wastewater from washing & cleaning (called graywater) can be piped straight from your sinks and is kept below ground, draining through a bed of gravel so there is no danger from contact and can be directly used for irrigating your gardens.

In the system shown here, Wastewater Gardens® 1 uses Mangrove Trees & Shrubs, which can be used for food, medicine & crafts.

&

Wastewater Gardens® 2 uses native wetland plants, water-tolerant fruit trees, such as banana & papaya & medicinal herbs.



Wastewater Gardens®

Eliminate the risk of diseases that come from contact with blackwater

Are a low-cost, long-lasting appropriate technology and easy to maintain

Don't have bad odors

Mosquitos don't breed in them

Can be made any size; for homes, clinics, schools, hospitals and even communities

Can use either fresh water, salt water or mixed.

Save water in dry areas, as water from WWG's can be used for irrigation

Are beautiful gardens, that grow well even in very dry areas

The plants grown in WWG's are often locally available & are very productive & healthy

to see pictures of Wastewater Gardens® all over the world see : www.idepfoundation.org/wwg.htm