OFFICE OF THE CHIEF WELLNESS OFFICER

Sustainability at Home: Water

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Partners: College of Nursing, Buckeye Wellness, YP4H, OSU Health Plan, Office of Human Resources, Employee Assistance Program and Office of Student Life

Skills Building - Week #4

- Use gardening to complement your other wellness practices
- Identify your self-care needs and use plants to set yourself up for success
- Dream big and start small
- Seek our additional support to learn more and connect with local resources (<u>go.osu.edu/familygarden</u>)



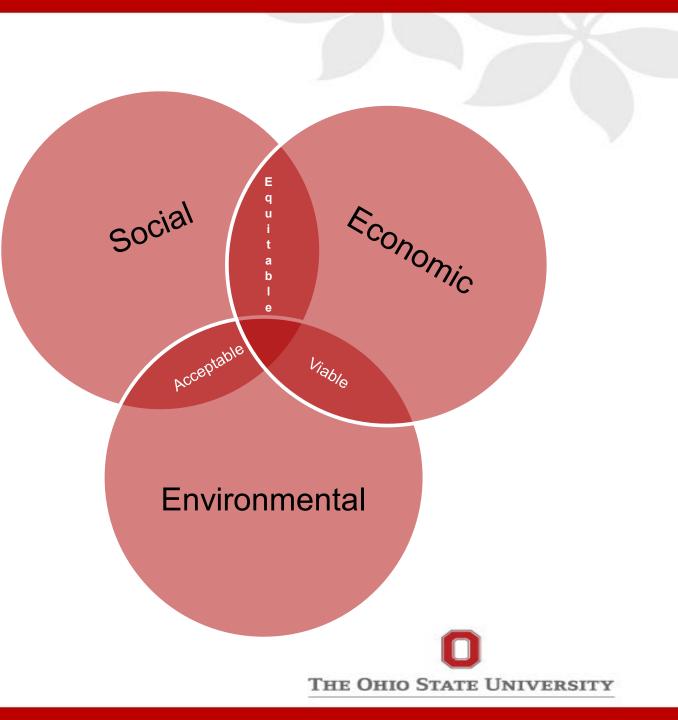
Objectives

- By the end of this program, you will be able to:
 - Recognize sustainability as a complex topic that exists on a spectrum
 - Evaluate and compare water conservation or protection measures one could take in their home
 - Apply what you have learned



Sustainability

- Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources to maintain an ecological balance
- Social
- Environmental
- Economic



Whose responsibility is it?

- Individuals
- Community
- Elected officials
- Companies



Sustainability by Room





Bathroom



| Year | Gallons per flush |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Before 1950 | 7.0 |
| 1950-1980 | 5.0 |
| 1980-1994 | 3.5-4.5 |
| After 1994 | 1.6 |
| EPA Water Sense | 1.28 |
| Ultra High Efficiency Toilet | .8 |

Adapted from resources from EPA¹ and Ohio State University².



Bathroom



Bathroom



| | Showerhead | Faucet |
|------------|------------|---------|
| Typical | 2.5 gpm | 2.2 gpm |
| WaterSense | 2.0 gpm | 1.5 gpm |

Adapted from resources from EPA¹ and Penn State University⁷.



Laundry



| Clothes Washing Machine | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Year/ Style | Gallon per load | |
| Before 1980 | 56 | |
| 1980-1990 | 51 | |
| 1990-present | 43 | |
| Front-loading | 27 | |

Adapted from resources from EPA¹ and Ohio State University².



Laundry

- EPA found US generates about 32.44 billion pounds up from 5 billion in just 1980.
- 95% of textiles can be recycled.
- Discarding unwanted clothes wastes a lot of water and energy.⁹



Laundry

- Unsubscribe [°]
- Make repairs
- Donate/ Borrow
- Thrift
- Rent
- If you buy new
- Upcycle
- Rags
- Throw lint away





| Dishes Washing Machine | | |
|------------------------|------------------|--|
| Year/ Style | Gallons per load | |
| 1980-1990 | 14 | |
| 1990-1995 | 11 | |
| 1995-present | 7-10 | |
| Water Efficient | 4.5 | |
| Human | ? | |

Adapted from resources from Penn State University?

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Milk is one of the most wasted foods in America.. 12% of all food waste by weight¹⁰.

• To produce, ship, process, ship, store, ship, distribute, store, store... etc.





- According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the:
- "Best if used by/before" date indicates when a product will be of best flavor or quality. It is not a purchase or a safety date¹⁰.
- "Sell-by" date tells the store how long to display the product for sale for inventory management. It is not a safety date.
- "Use-by" date is the last date recommended for the use of the product while at peak quality. It is not a safety date except when used on infant formula.
- Dates should be used for safety guidance on foods that are not heated prior to consumption and have a history of microbial contamination (e.g., deli meats, soft cheeses, etc.)



- Average American spends \$1,300 on food that ends up being wasted each year¹¹.
 - This is about \$3.50 per day
 - #1 source of food budgets spent on wasted food is meat and seafood
 - Waste goes beyond food



- Use your freezer!
- Have a "use first" corner of fridge
- Organize your kitchen FIFO (first in, first out)
- Compost what cannot be saved
- Buy from bulk bins
- Label leftovers
- Prepare food so it is "ready-to-eat"



- 1. <u>https://www.epa.gov/watersense</u>
- 2. https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/aex-420
- 3. <u>https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-01/documents/ws-products-factsheet-toilets_0.pdf</u>
- 4. <u>https://www.safeplumbing.org/files/safeplumbing.org/documents/misc/timeline.pdf</u>
- 5. <u>https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2014-6-november-december/green-life/dropping-brick-your-toilet-has-never-felt-so-good</u>
- 6. <u>https://www.thisoldhouse.com/bathrooms/21018915/read-this-before-you-buy-a-toilet</u>



- 7. <u>https://extension.psu.edu/water-conservation-how-much-water-and-money-can-you-save</u>
- 8. <u>https://www.homedepot.com/p/NEOPERL-1-5-GPM-Regular-Size-Water-Saving-Aerator-Insert-37-0083-98/100666083</u>
- 9. <u>https://www.centerforecotechnology.org/fast-fashion-textile-waste/</u>
- 10. <u>https://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/ohio-state-researchers-milk-date-labels-contribute-food-waste</u>
- 11.<u>https://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2020/study-calculates-true-</u> <u>cost-of-food-waste-in-america.php</u>



Skill Building- Week 5

• Identify ways to reduce water consumption in the home

• Define what sustainability means to you

• Share something you learned with a friend



Thank You

Office of the Chief Wellness Officer and Buckeye Wellness

We appreciate your feedback! Please complete a brief survey following this presentation

This survey will be sent via email to all registrants. This and all future series recordings can be found at: <u>https://u.osu.edu/keepcalmcovid194/recorded-webinars/</u>



Next Week

April 21, 2021 12:30 - 1:00 pm EST Saving for Vacation Melissa Rupp, M.Ed. Family and Consumer Sciences Educator Ohio State Extension in Fulton County

Stay Calm and Well

Part IV

Learn strategies to reduce stress and improve your optimal state of health and well-being during challenging times.



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