



#### Ronald Turco, College of Agriculture Professor, Environmental Microbiology & Director, Purdue Water Community



## The Water Issue Atlanta (Uh-Oh)





#### Global Sustainability Initiative at Purdue (GSI) Center for the Environment Energy Center Purdue Climate Change Research Center Food Security Water Community

Advanced Computational Center for Engineering and Sciences

- o Cyber Center
- o Computing Research Institute
- Rosen Center for Advanced Computing
- Oncological Sciences Center
- Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering
- **Bindley Bioscience Center**
- Birck Nanotechnology Center
- Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship
- Discovery Learning Center



### The Purdue Water Community

#### 55 faculty members

#### **FOCUS AREAS**

- Water in the Landscape
- Agricultural Runoff
- Great Lakes Issues
- Public Health Impacts
- Large River and Watershed Functions
- Water Infrastructure
- Water Sustainability



Impacts of Biofuel Production Water Reuse in Large Watersheds Fate and Impact of Hormones in the Environment

**Example Projects** 

So how much fluid does the average, healthy adult living in a temperate climate need?

### Adequate intake (AI) for men is roughly 3 liters (about 13 cups) of total beverages a day.

## The AI for women is 2.2 liters (about 9 cups) of total beverages a day.

Access to water is critical factor in a free and well educated society.

Millions of women spending several hours a day collecting water limits their time in school.

http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/water/NU00283/

## You are 55 to 78% water and it is a major part of everything you do!

Water per day per person

![](_page_4_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Drinking 2-4 L

#### Domestic 40-400 L

#### Food & Products 1000-5000 L (and more) (the hidden water)

The average American uses about 378 L water per day **not accounting for water embedded in food and other products**.

## <u>9.30 x 10<sup>16</sup> L</u> of available water or 1.33 x 10<sup>7</sup> L per person on earth, if it was evenly distributed!

All Fresh Water Dia= 169 miles Volume = 2,551,100 mi<sup>3</sup>

#### **Available Water**

Dia= 35 miles Volume = 22,339 mi<sup>3</sup> Lakes and Rivers

#### 1 mile<sup>3</sup> of water = 4.16 Trillion L 7 billion people / earth (today)

http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/2010/gallery/global-water-volume.html

![](_page_5_Picture_7.jpeg)

### Less than 1% of all freshwater is readily accessible for human use.

## Less than 0.007% of all water on Earth is drinkable !!

The same water that existed on Earth billions of years ago still exists today. The total amount of water on earth is fixed at about 1.36 x  $10^{20}$  liters (3.6 x  $10^{19}$  gal) – it is constantly moving between three phases.

![](_page_8_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Evapotranspiration is the dominate loss mechanism from soil

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

Surface Runoff 8 to 9 inyr<sup>-1</sup>

![](_page_9_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_4.jpeg)

Evapotranspiration Evaporation 26 inyr<sup>-1</sup>

Groundwater recharge 3 to 4 inyr<sup>-1</sup> < 10% replacement

![](_page_9_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

## On the global scale most water is moving via vapor phase transport

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

http://www.grida.no/graphicslib/collection/vital-water-graphics-2

#### The water left on the ground interacts with people

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Sustainable Water – the

#### measures

Sustainable water is critical in providing the "public" (e.g., users) with clean and safe water and to help ensure the social, environmental, and economic sustainability of those using the resource.

#### A Sustainable Enterprise considers:

Supply (development and protection) Delivery Systems (infrastructure management) Waste Water treatment (optimized for resource capture) Environmental Impacts (the collective effects)

### **Sustainable Water**

A sustainable water use does not harm ecosystems, degrade water quality, or compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

Dr. Deborah L. Swackhamer, University of Minnesota - Water Resources Center - 2009 Minn. Laws. Ch. 172, Art. 2 § 30 at 45-46

The majority of agriculture is rain fed.

Irrigated agriculture provides <u>40%</u> of the world's food and <u>consumes 75% of world's freshwater</u> resources; up to 95% in some developing <u>countries</u>.

#### Today

- 14 plants and 8 terrestrial animals provide 90% of the worlds calories from some 30,000 eatable plant species
- Wheat, rice, and corn provide ½ world's calories
- Four primary forms of animals: fish, beef, pork, and chicken

Agriculture uses three types of water: green, blue and gray water – two are free and one is not.

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### **Green water = precipitation**

![](_page_16_Picture_3.jpeg)

Blue water = irrigation removed from other fresh water sources

Gray water = irrigation from high grade waste water

water 5 rule in plant growth is childer as it holds up the plant, moves nutrients and waste materials and is a source reducing **CO**<sub>2</sub> power. Oxygen ATP Calvin **Light Reactions** Cycle **Chlorophyll** NADPH Η,Ο SUGAR / Carbohydrate Water & Nitrogen

The ability to supply water to a plant is significant for production. How much water does it take to produce a 1.5 lb. bag of alfalfa?

- ➢A) 10 lbs.
  ➢B) 50 lbs.
  ➢C) 100 lbs.
  ➢D) 1000 lbs.
  ➢E) 2000 lbs.
- (1.2 gallons)
  (6 gallons)
  (12 gallons)
  (121 gallons)
  (241 gallons)

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_4.jpeg)

A 1.5 lb. Bag of Alfalfa requires a lot of water – its water use efficiency (WUE) is not great.

E) 2000 lbs. (241 gallons)

WUE is expressed as kg H<sub>2</sub>O/kg DM

![](_page_19_Picture_3.jpeg)

WUE=350 means that 350 kg H<sub>2</sub>O is needed to produce 1 kg of plant biomass a low number is preferred

Ranges from 250 >1000 Factors that improve yield also tend to improve WUE

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

The water foot print of a number of important food products reveal huge amounts of water are needed for the items.

Item	Water	Item	Water
1 kg wheat	1 m <sup>3</sup>	1 egg	135 L
1 kg rice	3 m <sup>3</sup>	1 beer (L)	25 L
1 kg milk	1 m <sup>3</sup>	1 hamburger	2400 L
1 kg cheese	5 m <sup>3</sup>	1 coffee (8oz)	140 L
1 kg pork	5 m <sup>3</sup>	1 sheet paper	10 L
1 kg beef	15 m <sup>3</sup>	Hoekstra & 0	Chapagain, 2008

#### The increasing population on earth is putting a demand on water resources via both direct consumption and to a far larger degree, indirect consumption in food and other products.

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $8.76 \times 10^{15} L$  / year drink demand

 $2.08 \times 10^{18} L$  / year food demand

Direct Consumption is less than 1% of the world's total yearly need for fresh water.

3L per day drink 5000L per day food

http://www.grida.no/graphicslib/collection/vital-water-graphics-2

Virtual water is the water 'embodied' in a product (i.e., food or cell phone), not in real sense, but in virtual sense. It refers to the water needed, at all steps, for the production of the product.

Virtual water content of a crop
Crop water use (m<sup>3</sup>/ha) / Crop yield (ton/ha)
Virtual water content of an animal
Sum of water for feed, drinking and servicing
Virtual water content of product
Sum of water used to make the item or the fuel used to move the item

# The <u>Water Footprint</u> of a product is the volume of fresh water used to produce the product, summed over the various steps of the production chain.

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

The water footprint: allows the linkage between consumption in one place and water systems impact in another place to be considered.

For small & large river systems Is the water clean ? Is land management impacting water quality/quantity? **Can we alter practices** n we measure c andes

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

**PCharacterizing the** Wabash River Watershed's Human-water cycle "Virtual water powers Indiana"

> Julia Wiener, ESE PhD Student Faculty Advisors: Loring Nies, School of Civil Engineering Chad Jafvert, School of Civil Engineering Luo Si, Department of Computer Sciences

## Preliminary case study

- Water Balance on Wabash Basin
- Objectives:
  - Develop a methodology
  - Demonstrate the significance of an holistic water resource analysis

![](_page_28_Picture_5.jpeg)

### Human Water Cycle...

- Human activity alters the natural water cycle
- When you withdraw water downstream, was it previously used upstream? If so, how much are we reusing the water of the rivers?
- Literature review: EPA's Wastewater in receiving waters at water supply abstraction points, 1980
- Relevance in terms of water resources planning, water quality, public health, inter-jurisdiction regulations/ collaboration/ research.

### **Theoretical Basis**

- Assess water reuse by:
  - Determining volume of water DISCHARGED into streams
  - Take US Geological Survey (USGS) gauging station STREAM FLOW measures as reference
  - Evaluate the relationship between discharges and surface waters stream flow

![](_page_30_Figure_5.jpeg)

- Compare with volume of surface water WITHDRAWN
- Analysis at different Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) Levels

### **Preliminary datasets**

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Results

- Integrated geospatial + temporal water use database for Wabash Watershed
  - Quantitative data:
    - Stream flows (time-series)
    - Volume of water withdrawals / discharges
  - Qualitative data:
    - Discharges / withdrawals characterization
    - Watersheds water use and reuse profiles
- Key element: Watershed Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)
   Natural Boundaries vs Political Boundaries

#### Results

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Significance

- During low flow months:
  - "Used" water ranges between 5 98%
  - We are essentially withdrawing, using, treating and discharging the entire volume of the river
- Relevance of holistic approach Extent of unplanned water reuse + withdrawals situation => discussion about managing our water resources
- Coordinated data acquisition, data organization and data management would facilitate this type of research

#### **Hierarchical complexity of freshwater pollutants**

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Combination of weak supplies and contamination results in ~ 3 million water related deaths per year.

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

http://www.indianawaterways.com/rivermaps.htm

# Components of the watershed planning and implementation that benefit from monitoring

- Identify Problems and Causes
- Identify Sources and Calculate Loads (con x vol)
- Identify Critical Areas (where to manage)
  - Choose Best Management Practice to apply
- Show Improvement

![](_page_38_Picture_6.jpeg)

### Three types of monitoring

Sampling Blitz (public participation)	200 sites, 2 times per year
<b>Biological Monitoring</b>	10 sites, 4 times per year
Weekly & continuous water sampling for flow, water microbiology and chemistry	5 sites; 52 times per year or Continuous

![](_page_40_Figure_0.jpeg)

Little Mea Creek (17.3 ca miles

Wabash North site 1 / Wabash South site 2 Elliot Ditch (site 3– 46 km<sup>2</sup> area) Little Pine Creek (site 4– 56 km<sup>2</sup> area) Little Wea Creek (site 5– 45 km<sup>2</sup> area)

Tippecanoe County, Indiana Gage Sites

03335500 Wabash River – Lafayette IN 03335671 Elliott Ditch (lower section) 033356725 Elliott Ditch (upper section) 03335673 Little Wea Creek 033356786 Little Pine Creek

#### Water Quality Assessment

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

### Gauging Station with Sonde

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

X= 2,452 cfu 100 mL<sup>-1</sup>  $\sigma$  =9,444

#### E. coli & Small Tributaries

![](_page_43_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_4.jpeg)

X= 1,671 cfu 100 mL<sup>-1</sup>  $\sigma$  =1,237

### E. coli in the Wabash

Wabash River

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

Elliot Ditch

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

Agricultural system shows strong • seasonal response

 $\sigma = 3.99$ 

### $NO_{3(2)}$ -N in the Wabash

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Your level of concern about water is directly related to where you are standing ..

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Sustaining Water

#### • Protect and Restore Water Quantity and Quality

- Model water balance
- Require implementation of pollutant reductions and equity in solution
- Address future contaminants (anticipate the impacts)
- Address Interconnected Nature of Water
  - Integrate water and land use planning
  - Align water, energy, land, transportation policies for sustainability