THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE

The earth’s water circulates continuously in a closed loop.

Within the basic cycle, water is also returned to the atmosphere by:
- transpiration from trees and plants
- evaporation from lakes and rivers
- sublimation from icecaps and snow.

Water flows into the ocean through surface and groundwater aquifers.

Water in the atmosphere condenses into clouds and falls to Earth as precipitation.

We have a finite supply of water and we have SEVEN ILLION PEOPLE!

Water from the ocean evaporates and rises to the atmosphere.

Manufactured chemicals are accumulating in the environment.

Drugs taken by people, pets and farm animals, or discarded leftover medications, get into water sources when they go down the drain or are carried by stormwater from landfills and farms. Chemicals in beauty and hygiene products enter wastewater when you bathe or wash your hands. Insufficient regulation allow these manufactured chemicals in consumer products build up in the environment. Private septic systems and municipal waste treatment plants can’t remove them. Many of these act as endocrine disruptors including triclosan (a pesticide in antibacterial soaps) and manufactured fragrances. These bioactive chemicals persist in the environment; pass through water, soil and air, and bioaccumulate in the food chain. Aquatic organisms, unborn babies, and young children are most vulnerable to reproductive and developmental harm. Observed feminization of aquatic animals has raised concerns about estrogenic compounds in water supplies. Studies have detected pharmaceutical residues in drinking water. Antibiotic resistance is another problem.

Chemicals in pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) are getting into our water!

We drink the same water that dinosaurs drank.

Undo the Environmental Chemical Brew – Protect Great Lakes Water for Future Generations – Keep PPCPs Out!

Monitor PPCP purchase, use, storage and disposal. Read labels and replace products with safer alternatives. Insist on standards to control toxic chemicals in PPCPs and encourage green chemistry.

www.seagrant.psu.edu

www.unwantedmeds.org