5 gallons per person, per day, is needed to survive. 663 million people on our planet still lack access to safe, clean drinking water. Imagine having only 5 gallons for everything we use water for in one single day. We shower, cook, clean, drink, wash our hands, and flush the toilet.

2.5% of the water on our planet is fresh water available for consumption. 97.5% of that water, is salt water. 70% of our planet is water.

Water Availability

Across the world there are many countries that lack access to clean water. Up to 70% of people in these communities are living without the 5 gallons of water (per day) that we need to survive.
THIRST PROJECT CLUB PROGRAM

WATERBORNE DISEASE

**Typhoid Fever**
- Contracted through drinking contaminated water, specifically containing the feces of an infected person or animal.
- Symptoms: Fever, Headache, Abdominal and Intestinal Pain, leads to dehydration, Diarrhea.

**E. coli**
- Contracted through drinking contaminated water, more specifically containing fecal coliform.
- Symptoms: Fever, Headache.

**Schistosomiasis**
- Contracted through direct contact with water contaminated with parasitic worms.
- Symptoms: Bleeding when urinating, Diarrhea, Abdominal Pain.

**Guinea Worm**
- Contracted through drinking contaminated water containing a parasitic worm.
- Symptoms: Blistering of the skin once the worm has reached maturity, typically on the lower limb.

**River Blindness**
- Contracted through the bite of a blackfly that breeds in fast flowing streams.
- Symptoms: Itching and rashes around the eyes with eye lesions at times.

**Cholera**
- Contracted through ingestion of contaminated water.
- Symptoms: Diarrhea and Dehydration.

**Hepatitis A**
- Contracted through drinking contaminated water.
- Symptoms: Loss of Appetite, Jaundice, Nausea.

**Diarrhea**
- Contracted through drinking contaminated water
- Symptoms: Passage of 3 or more liquid or loose stools per day.

**Waterborne Disease**
- Kills more children every year than AIDS, Malaria, and all world violence combined.
- 88% of all disease in the world is caused by a lack of access to safe, clean water.
- The water crisis is the equivalent of a jumbo jet crashing every hour and a half on end non-stop 365 days a year.
- 4,100 Children will die today from drinking contaminated water.

88%
This is a Jerry Can. It's used in developing countries to transport water. A full jerry can is 5 gallons of water and weighs 44lbs.

Women and children, typically between the ages of 8-13, are the ones tasked with transporting water. The average distance walked by women and children to fetch water is 3.75 miles. It takes on average of 6-8 hours per day for women and children to fetch water.

Children can't go to school to improve their education and women can't get jobs to provide for their families.

Walking for water is very physically demanding. Women who are pregnant can even have spontaneous miscarriages as a result of collecting and carrying water. Children can develop spinal and pelvic deformities, from carrying water on their heads.
In the areas we work, there is a sufficient amount of groundwater for communities in need. Groundwater, compared to surface water sources (rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds) is naturally protected from the parasites and bacteria that often times contaminate open and unprotected water sources. Due to the quantity and quality of groundwater, building a deep-borehole well is the best sustainable solution for the majority of developing communities we work in.

Clean Water changes everything! Once a well is built in a community...

**Economics:**
Women can get jobs and financially provide for their families, they don’t spend hours a day walking to their nearest water source.

**Food Security:**
Food security is attainable. It is impossible to achieve food security without water security.

**Disease rates can drop upwards of 88% overnight.**

**Sanitation:**
Every time Thirst Project builds a well, we make sure that each community we build in has pit latrines for proper sanitation and safe waste disposal in order to eliminate open defecation practices. This can reduce water related deaths by up to 37.5%.

**Water:**
Clean, safe water can reduce water related deaths by up to 21%.

**Education:**
Kids can go to school and get an education when they don’t have to walk 3-4 miles a day to fetch water for their families.

**Health and Sanitation:**
Health and Sanitation levels increase. If everyone in the world had clean water, we could cut global disease by 80%.

**Child mortality rates drop upwards of 90% overnight.**

**Hygiene:**
Every community we work in gets trained on proper hand washing techniques to stop the spread of waterborne diseases. Our hygiene workers’ teachings can reduce water-related deaths by up to 35%.

**W.A.S.H. Programs:**
Every freshwater well constructed is considered a W.A.S.H. Program (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene).