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The Importance of Water

There are many things in life that we take for granted. One of these things is the abundance of healthy and clean water. Water is the greatest necessity in life. Most of North Dakota's residents are very fortunate to be provided with clean drinking water. This is all because of the many men and women that work tirelessly for companies in the water industry.

We are all used to being able to walk over to our faucet and receive water, but when it doesn't come out, it's an instant reality check. I've even experienced a planned water outage due to construction being done by my house. I knew it was going to be off, however when I went to go fill my cup like I always do, the water was off, and it made me realize how much we use water without even thinking about. For example, cooking, cleaning, showering, brushing teeth, drinking water, etc. It is sort of like when the power is out, you go into a different room and flip the switch automatically, just to receive no light.

While growing up my dad had to check his phone a lot for work. I always wondered what could be so important at work at all hours of the day and not just from eight to five. Now I realize how important it is to him and his staff to make sure the customers always have water. Whether it is resetting pumps, adjusting reservoir levels, opening and closing gate valves to find water breaks, or checking power at pump houses after a lightning or ice storm. One of the most memorable moments that sticks out to me is when I was nine. My dad was gone every day and

into the night for approximately three months, searching for and repairing frozen water lines to make sure customers could receive water in a timely manner. It was hard for my mom and I not to see my dad very much during this time. We realize how much he not only cares for his family, but also the rural water customers in the system.

Living in a farming community and having family that are farmers has also made me recognize how important water is and how intense times can get when there is a lack of it. We need water to help our crops grow, which provides the food that is on our tables. If there is no water, there is no food. It is as simple as that. Because of this, clean and healthy water is crucial for survival.

In conclusion, water is the key to life. I am thankful for the educated professionals that work in the water industry, helping provide clean and safe water. Without these professionals, we would not have access to clean and healthy drinking water.