

Importance of the Water Industry

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The water industry is very obviously one of the most important industries in the nation. Even compared to other industries like energy or commercial, water can be considered the most important one because it's one of the most basic necessities. Without it, millions of American people would be without clean water to drink, bathe, or clean their everyday items. This has become evident with the Flint water crisis that began in 2014, where an entire city's water supply became polluted and completely unsuitable to drink or use. Without the vital water industry workers and their dedication to safety, hundreds of cities would become just like Flint, and millions would be in turmoil.

My grandfather is a water industry worker. He works in a very small town called Fortuna, North Dakota, and helps support the town population of just over a dozen people. He oversees all water systems and makes certain that everyone is well cared for, and supplied with clean, fresh water. Without him, the people of Fortuna would have to leave their sleepy little town that holds such a sentimental value, and leave a whole lifetime of memories behind. My grandfather is not just a water industry worker though. He is someone that I deeply admire for his dedication and compassion for others. He taught me how to be kind without limits, and to help those less fortunate than you become greater than yourself. So it's only fitting that he would work in such a selfless position, helping those who may be so desperate for something so vital.

Even without my grandfather, I have always been able to recognize how lucky I am to benefit from those who work to support the water industry. I'm not afraid to admit it, but I often find myself taking at least thirty minute long showers, sometimes twice a day. I love the feel of

scalding hot water, and the shower has become a safe space for me to sing my heart out or just sit and think about the day's events. My water supply is a source of calm and a symbol of peace for me, really helping me breathe. I've learned to subconsciously appreciate the amount of water I use daily, and realize I would be a very different person without it.

Not only is the water industry one of the most vital occupations in the world, but it should be one of the most appreciated as well. We have to remember to thank and be compassionate for those who are willing to supply everyone around them with a resource that is truly needed. I will remember to say thank you to my grandfather, and those others that I know will apply for this scholarship who are planning on benefitting their own communities.