

Item 20

April 2, 2008

Madison Water Utility Board
119 E. Olin Ave
Madison, WI 53713

Friends,

I read in yesterday's Capital Times that you are working on a plan to help reduce water usage here in Madison.

I want to tell you how very thankful I am that you are doing this!

When I was a boy growing up here in Madison the artesian well near the downtown area gushed with water in public view within an area enclosed with glass. I often thought then how privileged I was to grow up in a city with such an abundant supply of clear water.

During that time (1940's and '50's) I had a number of aunts and uncles on farms west and north of Spring Green. Driving on trips to visit them I sometimes saw pipes sticking out of the hillside, water running continuously, and a tin cup hanging on the end of the pipe. Farm homes often were built where a spring ran from the hillside. As the years went by I noticed fewer and fewer of these scenes.

Obviously, you know all this, but I did want to share my experiences as an encouragement to you as you help us manage the water resources we have left. In addition, as you know also, some are suggesting that the great wars of the future world will be over water. Perhaps your efforts will make a contribution to the peace of the future world!

At any rate, thanks for what you are doing, and courage for your struggle with the nay-sayers!

Cordially,



Ken Gelhaus
3109 Stevens St. #5
Madison, WI 53705

PS. How about including more intensive restrictions on water use for watering lawns and golf courses and for washing cars?