

# Blue Thumb Word Search

Most people in North America get their water from a public water utility. Public utilities are companies or government agencies that supply needs such as electricity, gas, or water to the public. Water utilities get their water from rivers, lakes, reservoirs, or underground aquifers. Often, the water must be treated to make it safe to drink.

We reuse the same water over and over and it can become polluted by people and industry. Even deep underground aquifers can be polluted from the surface. For example, many household items, such as car wax, spot remover, or floor polish, should not be poured down the drain or thrown out in the trash. Even lawn chemicals and other garden toxins used outdoors can contaminate water sources by running off the land into storm drains. And water can end up in lakes and rivers.

## New Vocabulary Words:

**water sources-** bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and underground aquifers from which we draw water for drinking.

**treatment-** a series of chemical and physical processes to remove dissolved and suspended solids from raw water to produce safe water to drink.

**contaminate-** to make unsafe for drinking.

**pesticide-** a chemical used to kill pests.

**hazardous-** dangerous or harmful

Let's take care of our water resources. Use your "Blue Thumb" to conserve water, protect it, and get involved.

## Can You Find These Words?

(circle each one)

nature	recycle	treatment
drink	pesticide	leaks
toxic	oil	tap
fertilizer	batteries	pollute
paint	contaminate	protect
gasoline	hazardous	safe
clean	wells	water sources

W	E	L	L	S	D	M	P	Q	S	V	F
L	A	B	O	T	P	O	L	L	U	T	E
H	Z	T	R	E	A	T	M	E	N	T	R
C	P	A	E	R	I	C	B	C	U	E	T
O	Y	P	C	R	F	E	N	L	K	D	I
N	A	H	Y	J	S	T	M	E	H	I	L
T	E	A	C	P	Z	O	C	A	L	C	I
A	F	Z	L	K	T	R	U	N	T	I	Z
M	A	A	E	D	O	P	E	R	B	T	E
I	S	R	I	X	X	N	W	G	C	S	R
N	M	D	P	A	I	N	T	S	L	E	V
A	B	O	I	L	C	F	S	M	O	P	S
T	F	U	O	D	R	I	N	K	T	E	S
E	D	S	L	M	O	H	J	L	A	M	R
P	A	T	B	A	T	T	E	R	I	E	S
G	K	U	E	F	N	A	T	U	R	E	L