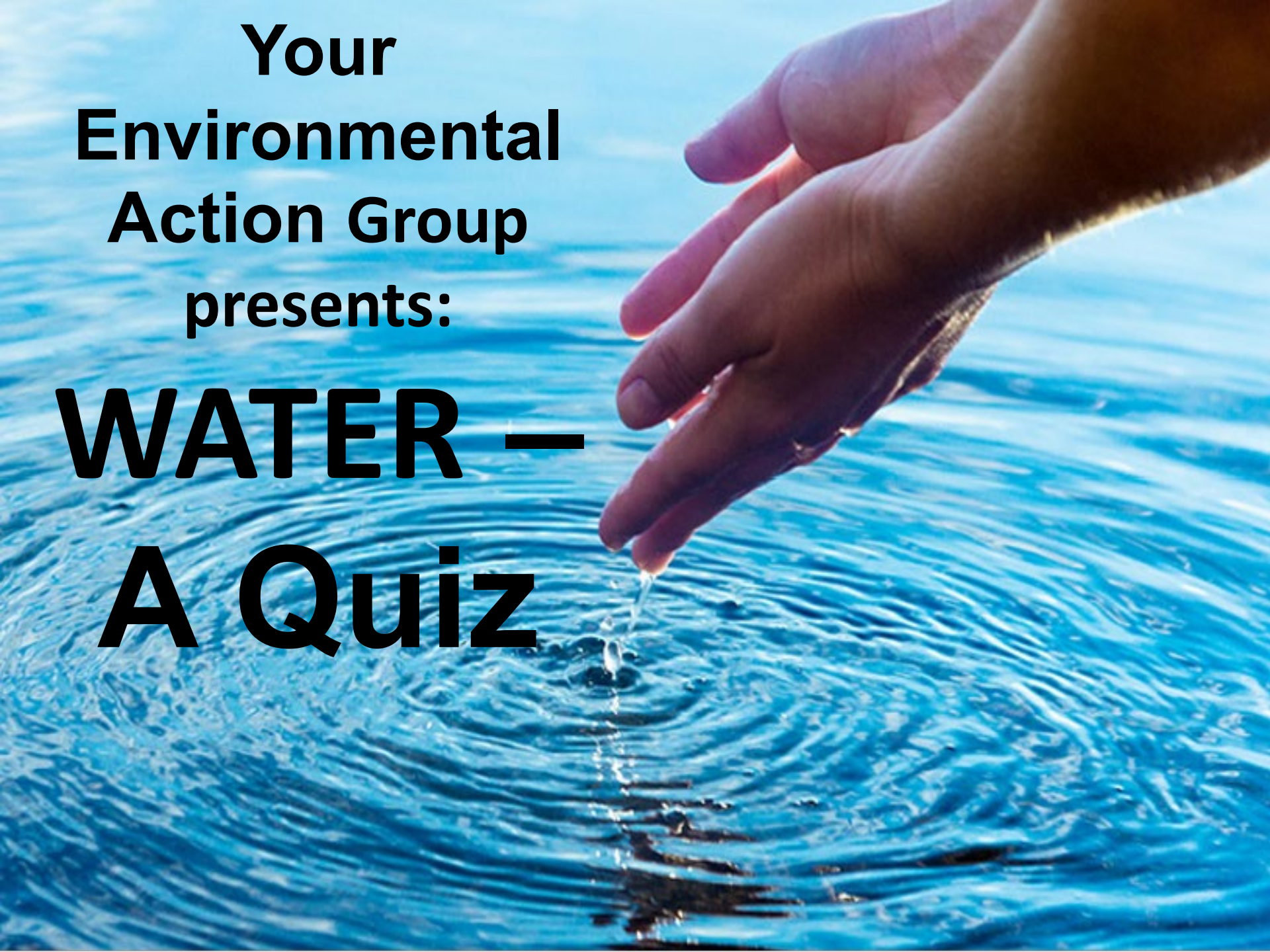
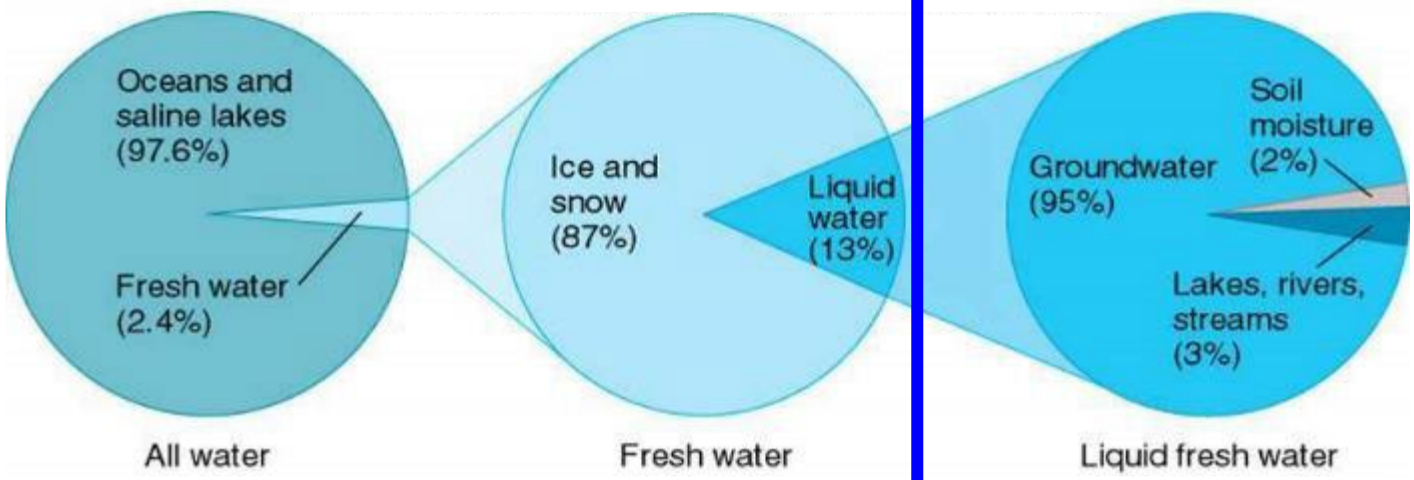

Your
Environmental
Action Group
presents:
WATER –
A Quiz

1) Our earth is sometimes called a water planet. But only about 15% of the earth's water is freshwater available for human uses such as drinking.

Utter rubbish!!!



Less than one half of one percent of the Earth's water is potable. A very limited resource.

Over one billion people in over 45 countries have insufficient water to meet 80% of their daily needs.
Shortages are due to failing rains, changing rivers, human activity (especially overcrowding in towns), agricultural demands, overgrazing, deforestation, wetlands draining, etc..

2) We are lucky in Michigan to be surrounded by freshwater so we don't need to worry about water shortages or drought.

- The first 5 months of 2023 were the driest ever recorded for Michigan.
- Some drought is increasingly common across much of the state.
- Water supplies also are often degraded by pollutants.

FALSE, SO FALSE

Michiganders should pay attention to water conservation.

3)The amount of water falling in the Great Lakes basin replenishing the lakes each year is barely enough to dampen the soil of the 50 contiguous United States.

TRUE

The TOTAL WATER in the Great Lakes would cover the 50 contiguous United States to a depth of about 10 feet.

The annual input – the RENEWABLE water – is only about 1% of the volume – and indeed is hardly enough to dampen the soil of the rest of the US.

Great Lakes water is sometimes called "fossil" water.

4) Several large lakes, rivers, and underground aquifers around the world, and thought safe from human water uses, have been drained.

Great Lakes water should stay in the Great Lakes

Water withdrawals especially for agriculture have drained waters of several large bodies of freshwater.
The same could happen to the Great Lakes if their water was withdrawn for agriculture, navigation of the Mississippi, industry, domestic purposes etc. in other places.

What can I do to conserve water?

5) Rain gardens slow runoff so rain-water soaks into the ground, helping replenish groundwater, reducing stormwater problems, and save you money.

TRUE

Ann Arbor Stormwater utility credit - saving $7.86 per quarter with an approved rain garden…

💧Draining at least 50% of your property's roof area OR capturing runoff from an impervious area equal to 50% of your roof area.

💧 Minimum 130 square feet, 3 to 6 inches deep throughout.

💧 Lots of plants to soak up and filter water – native plants are best.

https://www.a2gov.org/departments/systems-planning/water-resources/stormwater/Pages/Rain-gardens-.aspx

What can I do to conserve water?

6) The water saved by turning off the tap when brushing your teeth is so small, this isn't worth bothering with.

A typical faucet delivers about **2 gallons/minute**. Turning off the tap when brushing your teeth can save up to 8 gallons of water every day – about **240 gallons/month**.

Even better - wet your brush in a glass of water and use it to rinse your mouth.

Bottom line – turn off the tap when shaving, cleaning your teeth, soaping in the shower, soaping your car…

Use a bucket instead of a hose to wash that car, a bowl to wash vegetables and rinse soap off the dishes. Defrost food in the fridge, keep a bottle of cold water in the fridge too…

https://www.a2gov.org/services/Pages/TapWaterConservationTips.aspx

What can I do to conserve water?

7) Ten drips per minute from one leaky faucet wastes about 30 US gallons per month.

IT IS SADLY TRUE

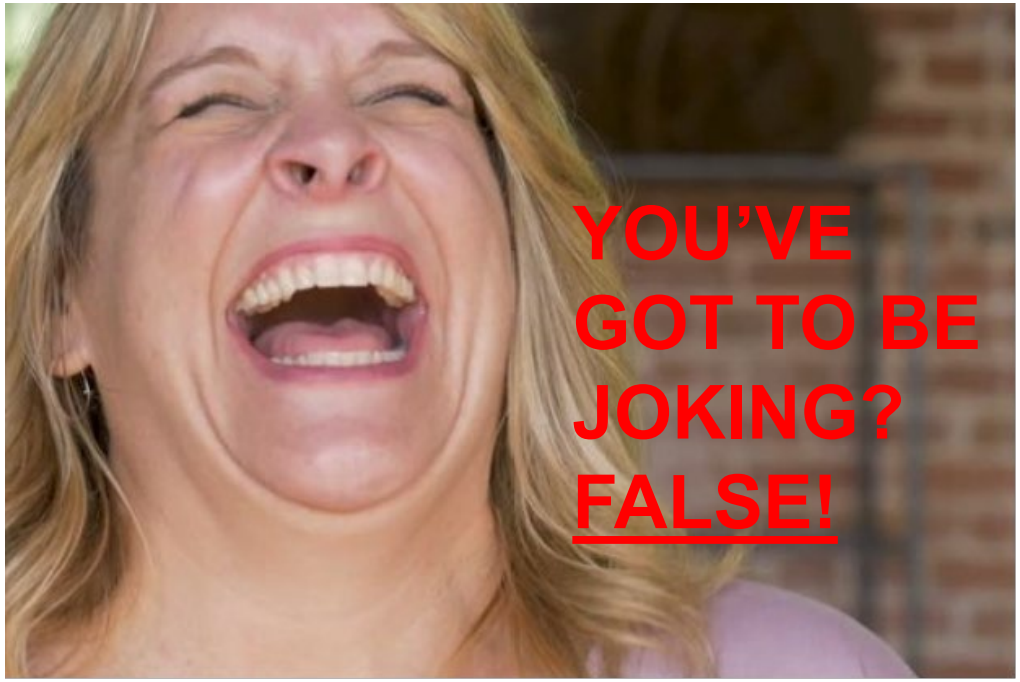
Leaks add up. EPA estimates a typical American home can waste 3000 gallons/year!!!!

Check all your faucets, inside and out, your toilets, all your pipes, fittings etc. for drips and leaks.

https://water.usgs.gov/edu/activity-drip.html

What can I do to conserve water?

8) It is a good idea, and sanitary, to rinse your dishes before putting them in the washer.



Scrape dishes before loading into the dishwasher. Don't rinse.

Compost food wastes.

Operate the dishwasher only when completely full.

Consider a high efficiency washing machine - save >50% in water and energy.

Same for laundry – full loads save water (or use appropriate level/load size selection).