Water Brothers & Episode Guide Questions

THE BIG LEAK

- 1. Name one major reason why municipalities are having trouble fixing water infrastructure?
- 2. How much treated water is lost to leaky pipes each year in North America?
- 3. How many water main breaks occur across North America each year?
- 4. What was the name of the contaminant found in Flint's drinking water?
- 5. What was clogging the first sewer line the team investigated?
- 6. What is one expensive consequence that can occur when our sewer lines get clogged?
- 7. Why are sanitary/baby wipes so problematic for wastewater systems?
- 8. Name the three solutions for the sanitary wipe problem?
- 9. What are the two problematic items Alex finds in the old sewer?
- 10. What does CSO stand for?
- 11. On average, how much raw sewage enters Lake Ontario from the City of Toronto each year?
- 12. What are two solutions that can help reduce sewage entering our lakes and rivers?
- 13. What is one way that cities can fix the aging infrastructure problem?

Water Brothers & Episode Guide Answers



- 1. Name one major reason why municipalities are having trouble fixing water infrastructure? They are short on funds, don't have enough money, limited financial resources
- 2. How much treated water is lost to leaky pipes each year in North America? 8 trillion litres of water
- 3. How many water main breaks occur across North America each year? Over 300,000
- 4. What was the name of the contaminant found in Flint's drinking water? Lead
- **5. What was clogging the first sewer line the team investigated?** The first sewer was blocked by blobs/balls of cooking fats, oil and grease
- **6.** What is one expensive consequence that can occur when our sewer lines get clogged? Sewers can back up and flood peoples basements
- 7. Why are sanitary/baby wipes so problematic for wastewater systems? Wipes do not biodegrade because they are made of plastic
- **8. Name the three solutions for the sanitary wipe problem?** Don't buy wipes, only dispose of them in the garbage, change labeling laws so they cannot be promoted as "flushable"
- **9. What are the two problematic items Alex finds in the old sewer?** Tampon applicators and pills/medicine
- 10. What does CSO stand for? Combined Sewer Overflow
- **11.On average, how much raw sewage enters Lake Ontario from the City of Toronto each year?** Between 3 and 4 billion litres of sewage
- **12.What are two solutions that can help reduce sewage entering our lakes and rivers?** Rain barrels, green roofs, permeable surfaces/concrete
- **13.What is one way that cities can fix the aging infrastructure problem?** By increasing the cost of water services