**Water Footprint Calculator**

**Do this BEFORE coming to Recitation (Bring a hard copy to class)**

You’re going to calculate your water footprint two times. The first time it will be based on your current lifestyle. The second time you do it, base it on a hypothetical lifestyle, one in which you are more “sustainable.” Think about what changes you could make to decrease your water footprint and recalculate “your life habits” to determine whether those changes would have a real impact or not. And let’s make this exercise worth your time! Avoid selecting ridiculously hard changes, and instead, focus on selecting choices that you think you could actually start making right now. For example, if you fly home every year to see your family, don’t put on the calculator that you’d never be flying. Or if you commute 50 miles to school every day, then unless you plan on moving near campus any time soon, don’t say you won’t be driving 250 miles a week. The purpose of this exercise is to get you thinking about what types of basic things we can all do to decrease our water footprints without having to completely change our lives (i.e. moving to a cabin in the woods with no electricity, growing all your own food and making all your clothes). Some adjustments might simply include: riding your bike rather than driving those 3 miles, changing your diet, taking shorter showers/showering less in general, growing some food in your back yard, and etc.

 There are two calculators you can choose from. The one from Nat Geo is much simpler, but the one from the Water Footprint Network is probably going to provide you with much more accurate results. Use whichever one you prefer

 1) National Geographic’s Water Footprint Calculator

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/change-the-course/water-footprint-calculator/>

 2) Calculator from the Water Footprint Network

<http://waterfootprint.org/en/resources/interactive-tools/personal-water-footprint-calculator/personal-calculator-extended/>

🡪 BRING to Recitation, a ***short hard copy*** “report” (225-250 words) on your findings. What did you change? Did it have a big impact? What’s stopping you from starting to make those adjustments now? This is worth 10 points.

🡪 Physically being present is worth 10 points

🡪In Recitation you’ll be put with your group project group to complete the exercise. This is worth 10 points