Questions and facts that will quench your thirst for knowledge about the First State's H20

10 FUN FACTS

- **Canals run through it:** The busiest canal in the country is the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal, 75 feet deep, 400 feet wide, and 18 miles long. It was first suggested by 17th-century settler Augustinian, but it didn't open until 1825, and it has been improved many times since. (Delaware canals were later turned into waterways, but the blue-ribbon variety in the east drain to the Assawoman Canal in Sussex County is part of the Delaware River system.)
- **Drinkable water:** This salt-tolerant water is used for drinking water. The Delaware River is the most significant water source for farmers and urban dwellers alike. According to the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, heavy rains will push it back out into the river, but heavy rains will push it back up into the river. The wettest and driest months in the 1980s allowed it to move up to northern Philadelphia.
- **Baseball's dirty secret:** Since the 1950s, all new baseball fields built in Major League Baseball have been treated with mud harvested from an underground irrigation system on the Delaware in South Jersey. It all comes from a farm called Luna Blackwater Baseline Building Mud.
- **Man-made lake:** Delaware's biggest freshwater lake, the 20-mile long canal that forms the centerpoint of a state park, was created about 2 centuries ago by damming St. Georges Creek.
- **Clean, not-so-clean water:** The world's largest water filtration system was installed in Philadelphia in the early 1900s. Unfortunately, according to the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, it is still under threat. The wettest and driest months in the 1980s allowed it to move up to northern Philadelphia.
- **Flouridation:** There are 70 homes in rural areas in Delaware with water from home wells. According to the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, heavy rains will push it back out into the river, but heavy rains will push it back up into the river. The wettest and driest months in the 1980s allowed it to move up to northern Philadelphia.
- **What's in Delaware's drinking water?** Since 1974, all new water supplies have been treated with mud harvested from an underground irrigation system on the Delaware in South Jersey. It all comes from a farm called Luna Blackwater Baseline Building Mud.
- **Who manages Delaware's water?** The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, water quality programs, and other federal agencies are responsible for the quality and safety of Delaware's water supplies.
- **How much water does Delaware use?** Delaware uses about 1 billion gallons of water per day for domestic, agricultural, and industrial purposes. Most of Delaware's water comes from groundwater, but the Delaware River and its tributaries also provide a significant amount of water to the state. The Delaware is the second-largest tributary of the Susquehanna River, which flows into the Chesapeake Bay. Water quality and quantity issues are also important in Delaware, where the Delaware River is the largest tributary of the Delaware Estuary. The Delaware Estuary is a crucial part of the Delaware River system, and its water quality and quantity are closely monitored by state and federal agencies.

10 QUESTIONS

1. **Is there enough water?** Since 1974, all new water supplies have been treated with mud harvested from an underground irrigation system on the Delaware in South Jersey. It all comes from a farm called Luna Blackwater Baseline Building Mud.
2. **How is water quality in bodies of water monitored?** The Delaware River is the second-largest tributary of the Susquehanna River, which flows into the Chesapeake Bay. Water quality and quantity issues are also important in Delaware, where the Delaware River is the largest tributary of the Delaware Estuary. The Delaware Estuary is a crucial part of the Delaware River system, and its water quality and quantity are closely monitored by state and federal agencies.
3. **Who manages Delaware's water?** The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, water quality programs, and other federal agencies are responsible for the quality and safety of Delaware's water supplies.
4. **How does water from home wells differ from water supplied by municipalities and companies?** Most water in Delaware is treated in municipal water treatment plants, which vary in size and capacity. Home wells, on the other hand, are typically designed to serve only one or two homes and may not have the same level of treatment as public water systems. The water used by power plants ends up as runoff, which can be a significant source of pollution. The water used by power plants ends up as runoff, which can be a significant source of pollution.
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