

## [Heat wave plunges much of U.S. into a deep fryer](#)

That is the headline yesterday from Yahoo.com. And we know that when its hot like this its important that we drink plenty of water .. but did you know that three billion people have no running water within a kilometer of their homes – that’s half the world’s population. [Every eight seconds](#), a child dies of water-borne disease, causing almost four million unnecessary and preventable deaths.

Dirty water and a lack of basic sanitation are undermining efforts to end extreme poverty and disease in the world’s poorest countries. Women and girls in developing countries spend most of their days gathering water for their families, walking 3.5 miles on average each day to collect water. Girls often drop out of primary school because their schools lack separate toilets and easy access to safe water.

If you want to help with this issue ask Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) to re-introduce the [Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act](#). This bill would strengthen America’s ability to build partnerships to provide clean water and sanitation to 100 million of the poorest people in the world.

Our letters and calls are small acts that can make a big difference to a lot of people.