

At the bottom rung of the sanitation ladder is open defecation, whether it takes place in a field, forest, body of water, or other outdoor area. “A rainstorm is going to carry those feces across a wider range of space,” Gwynn says, “and with that comes the transmission of diseases.” Every two minutes, somewhere in the world, a child under five dies as a result of poor sanitation, poor hygiene, or unsafe drinking water.

“The impact of being at that bottom rung is drastic,” Balla says. On a business trip to India in 2012, he saw how the level of sanitation facilities can have all sorts of impacts beyond disease transmission, including contributing to educational disparities for girls, who may leave school when they reach their teens if there are no toilet facilities.

One step up is “unimproved” — that’s the disposal of feces in a pit or bucket. It’s more contained, but an unlined pit is still in contact with soil, and a heavy rainstorm will transmit diseases. And poop in a bucket has to be emptied somewhere. “It’s not really contained — it’s temporarily contained,” Gwynn says.

At the next step up the ladder are latrines that are shared among households; on this rung, facilities are designated as “limited.” This is an improvement over the two previous steps, but shared facilities are often detached from homes, which can lead families to feel less ownership and responsibility for maintaining the latrine. “It ends up filling up quicker, or sometimes one family can’t afford to pay to empty the latrine,” Gwynn says. “Often, we see long-term management of these facilities that is not optimal.”

“Basic” facilities, the next step up, include improved facilities that are not shared with another household. This goal looks at safety as well as access: latrines with lined pits that help minimize the spread of fecal matter and safe platforms such as concrete slabs that users can stand on without the risk of falling in.

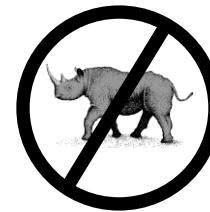
At the top rung on the sanitation ladder, and the target of the sanitation-related Sustainable Development Goal, are “safely managed” facilities. At this level, not only does a household have access to its own toilet, but the waste is safely collected and treated. “Now we’re talking about the full cycle of what happens to your feces,” Gwynn says. Safely managed facilities solve many of the problems caused by shared facilities such as a pit latrine in a slum. That pit latrine may be lined and have a nice slab on it. But it fills up fast, and the way the waste is collected and disposed of is unsafe — somebody has to go into the hole and bring the waste out, and then it is dumped into a nearby river. “How are we protecting anybody any differently than if we did open defecation?” she asks.

THE EARLY RISER

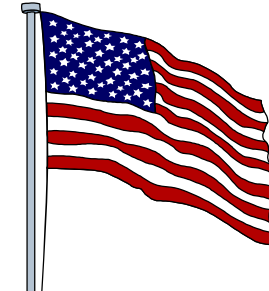
EVERY ROTARIAN
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EVERY YEAR



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DON'T BE A R.I.N.O.
(Rotarian In Name Only!)



ROTARY PRAYER

Oh Lord, and giver of all good, we
thank Thee for our daily food.

May Rotary friends and Rotary
ways, help to serve Thee all of our
days.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS NORTH



2020-21 R.I. Officers - D5790

President of Rotary International: Holger Knaack

District Governor: Roger Paschal

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2020-21

President: Clint Wood ~ President Elect:

Secretary: Tom Sheriff ~ Treasurer: Ann Lucas

Executive Secretary: Jeani Secord ~ Sgt. at Arms: Larry Gunnell

Directors: Clint Wood – Phil Waggoner ~ Gary Southard ~ Mike Crocker

Tom Cale ~ Tom Sheriff & Troy Secord (PDG Ex-Officios)

Website: www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org

FUTURE PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

January 22-----	David Collins
January 29-----	Mike Crocker
February 5-----	Larry Gunnell
February 12-----	Ajay Kumar
February 19-----	Ann Lucas
February 26-----	Bill Neale
March 5-----	Rob Noble
March 12-----	Jeani Secord
March 19-----	Troy Secord
March 26-----	Tom Sheriff

NEWS FROM OUR LAST "VIRTUAL" MEETING:

Clint presented the Rotary Prayer and Tom S. presented the Pledges.

There were no club anniversaries, etc.

President Clint noted that the obituary for Martha Dennis, the wife of our club's past president Chuck Dennis, was in today's newspaper. There is no further information as to the date of Mary K. Carroll's funeral.

Tom S. presented a request for funds for aid for hurricane relief to repair the home of Norma Love in Mocoron, Honduras. Tom presented a powerpoint presentation from Scott Hendricks.

As our program for the day, Tom S. presented an old powerpoint presentation of our club's and district's involvement in the area of Mocoron in Honduras.

Troy Secord made a motion that the club donate \$500.00 to Norma Love Foundation and Gary Southard seconded. The motion passed.

President Clint noted that individuals that have recovered from the covid virus can donate blood plasma that contains antibodies against the covid virus. I hope that I said that correctly.

The club's board will meet next Wednesday.

Larry led us in the 4-Way Test.

NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:

IN COMMUNITIES WITH NO SERVICES, INCREMENTAL STEPS CAN GO A LONG WAY. WHEN ROTARY MEMBERS TRIED TO BRING TOILETS TO A REMOTE ISLAND, THE POPULATION WASN'T READY

In many remote places, toilets that are connected to sewers or septic tanks are the exception, not the rule. In those areas, toilets that operate without water seem like an ideal solution. So-called dry, or urine-diverting, toilets feature two or three holes: one for urinating, one for defecating, and, in some models, one for washing. They don't cost much to operate, and they don't smell. And both the urine and the solid waste can be treated and used as fertilizer. What's not to like?

But when a group of Rotary members tried to bring these toilets to a remote island in Indonesia, the community wasn't ready for technology that the Rotarians thought of as no-frills, but the intended recipients saw as overly complicated. "The community didn't want it, and in fact the project had to be redesigned. It cost the project a couple of years," says Mark Balla, president of the Rotary Club of Box Hill Central, Australia, and vice chair of the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Rotary Action Group. "People thought it was a great idea but didn't think about the cultural appropriateness. That's so important when developing a project."

Part of the problem was that the project made too ambitious a leap. One tool that could help is the sanitation ladder, a graphic representation of levels of sanitation service that might exist in a community. "It helps you visualize the progressive steps to take to raise up a community from having absolutely no services to having the highest quality and most reliable services," says Erica Gwynn, the WASH area of focus manager for The Rotary Foundation. Developed by the World Health Organization/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation, and Hygiene, the sanitation ladder concept can help Rotary clubs design a needs assessment, understand a community's sanitation level, and set goals for a project.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which were adopted by UN member states in 2015 as a blueprint to a sustainable future, include the ambitious target of providing universal access to safely managed water and sanitation services by 2030. The target is easier to reach if sanitation services are assessed in gradations, rather than simply labeled as unimproved or improved. And the standard, well-defined service levels described on the sanitation ladder make it easier to compare progress in different countries.