

Water pollution/purification

By David

What is water pollution?

Water pollution is a wide spread chemical build up of viruses and bacteria in the quality of water. “Water is uniquely vulnerable to pollution. Known as a “universal solvent,” water is able to dissolve more substances than any other liquid on earth. It’s the reason we have brilliant blue waterfalls. It’s also why water is so easily polluted.”

Water in apartment buildings

- Water in New York City (including most of downtown apartment buildings) probably has the dirtiest water in the Northeast.
- If you live above the 3rd floor on an apartment building you are most likely to be getting your water supply from a water tank on your roof. The reason for this is the lack of power the pipes have to push the water up 20 stories high and to your sink.
- So they use a pressure system to pump gallons upon gallons of water into a holding tank until you need your water.

What you don't know...

- At least once a year, your building manager/owner is supposed to empty the water tank, clean it, treat it, then refill.
- If you have seen a notification that water will not be working from a certain time to a time then that probably what they are doing.
- But 70% of nyc owners are not doing this and this is what a research team has found in these tanks....

<https://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/campaigns>



Countless amounts of bacteria. Dead animals. Human flesh and a mass of fecal matter. Luckily the majority of this water goes through a filter before being sent to faucets but most filters do not treat the water. This means that germs like e.coli and salmonella is being sent to people throughout the building. These germs can infect you and in the worse case, kill you.

Flint michigan

“In April 2014, an ill-fated decision to switch water sources triggered a series of governance and infrastructure failures that contaminated drinking water in Flint, Michigan’s seventh largest city, with high levels of lead. For residents of Flint, whose concerns about water quality went unaddressed for more than a year and whose children may suffer the lifelong effects of lead poisoning, the crisis has exacted an indescribable cost and driven deep fissures in public trust.”
More than 12,000 children were affected.

In conclusion

We must make a difference in how governments conduct their cleaning process and how they are misinforming us. For generations, water pollution in america has been a widespread problem and many of us have learned to adapt to such. We have to find a way to stop sending waste to the ocean and find a way to recycle.

Things to think about...

1. Do you think ALL new york tap water is clean (yes or no)
2. Has flint michigan affected you or a loved one (yes or no)
3. By 2050 will water quality get better or worse (yes or no)

How can I help???

The first thing I would advise you to do is to talk to a building manager/owner. Make sure that they are following the city's water purification guidelines. If you want to go even further you could buy a testing kit and test the water yourself. If you search online and type in "water pollution" you will find dozens of sources that can further explain this issue.

sources

<https://www.nrdc.org/stories/water-pollution-everything-you-need-know>

https://www.circleofblue.org/flint/?gclid=CjwKCAiAt9z-BRBCEiwA_bWv-NAbquUI-ug4XaZ0T1hNiyxXUN1mZ5hyQaNbZAeBqze_FeZN98TcthoCGKIQAvD_BwE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_9RLbRZJr0&t=3s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrUVLpFaUoM&t=168s>

<https://www.clearwaterfund.org/>