



TAPPING THE KEG

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We've all seen the freestanding water cooler. They're popping up everywhere, even in the local municipal office kitchenette.

When asked why the cooler, "it tastes better". Strangely enough, the cooler is ten feet away from the fresh water tap. Each time the keg was empty, the office staff had the DPW/Water Department run to the grocery store and buy another keg (\$3.50 / 3 gallons).

Eventually, the DPW stopped buying the water from the local grocery and started refilling the kegs with tap water. Refilling with tap water went on for an extended period, and no one was the wiser!

Bottled water has several issues that many have concerns about. Most people are concerned with environmental disposal, plastic particles, contaminants and the least of their concerns is cost.

Recently they have discovered micro plastic particles in bottled water. There is little evidence the particles cause harm to us. Has anyone ever read the bottled water label? "Source Borough of XYZ municipal supply". You are buying someone else's tap water!

How about the cost of bottled water? It takes eight bottles to the gallon. Recently I noticed bottled water in a vending machine for \$4.00 each, which translates into \$32.00 per gallon. Buying 1,000 gallons of bottled water would cost \$32,000.00!

Again, like the water cooler, there is a time and place for bottled water. As for the environmental concern, New York has a five cent return deposit on water bottles. I suggest we purchase a refillable bottle at our local discount store and fill with your tap water. It's cheaper and environmentally friendly! 💧💧

Strangely enough, no one knew or could tell the difference between tap water and purchased water. Eventually, the office staff caught on that the keg was being refilled with tap water. But, they still insisted they could taste the difference.

The municipal water rate is approximately \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons. Purchasing the same amount from the grocer at \$3.50 per keg rounds out to \$1,167.00 for the same thousand gallons of tap water. Rather expensive for the same product. We are not opposed to the water cooler. There are places where plumbing would be difficult and the cooler would be the best option to provide potable water.

