A Simple Way to Make Sure Our Drinking Water is Safe

Pure clean water is a necessity for good health and we must make sure we get it. Psychiatric pharmaceuticals, as well as other chemicals, have been being found in both public and bottled drinking water since 2008. There appears to have been a massive underground contamination, in the USA, that may even be getting into many private wells out in the country. The full effects of these chemicals cannot be fully known by anyone, not even the experts. Some of the pharmaceuticals, that were found in our drinking water, are known to have the effect of numbing our minds and blocking our instincts, feelings and hearts.

Regardless of how this contamination happened, the focus right now should be on solving the problem for ourselves and our loved ones, especially for the sake of our children. We should all have healthy water to drink and cook with. So, the wise thing for us to do is clean our water. Cleaning the chemicals from our water can free our hearts, instincts and minds and prevent other damaging effects.

I recently found a water filter design that is simple and natural and has been repeatedly tested and proven to be effective with removing E.coli, pharmaceuticals and other chemicals from water. Those who are aware of our water problem and are into being self-reliant are going to love this. This is the solution to our water problem and it's so simple that almost anyone can make their own water filter for free.

The full design is freely printable from the web links below. It is for large community systems but it gives us the general idea of what is needed, so that we can make other designs that are the appropriate size for our needs. Most people will need smaller, simpler ones. I'm sharing my plans for smaller ones with the hope of inspiring you to make your own.

You may be thinking that the stores sell water filters; why not just buy one? But, do they completely get rid of the pharmaceuticals and chemicals? I feel that most of them don't. **When we make our own filter, with the materials that are proven to be effective, we know it is working. And the materials are free to most people.**

Materials Needed for All Size Filters

Rocks
Sand
Natural Charcoal (Untreated)
Cotton Cloth or Screen
Container to put them in

Plumbing is only needed for the largest ones, but even they can do without that if they were modified to be stacked on top of each other.

The best type of container to use would be glass, wood, stainless steel or pottery, but a high quality plastic is better than nothing. The container just has to have an opening at the top, to pour water into, and an opening in

the bottom to let it out. The hardest part is making the natural charcoal, but even that is easy and can just be a fun couple of hours with a campfire.

I'm Making My Own Water Filter and You Can Too

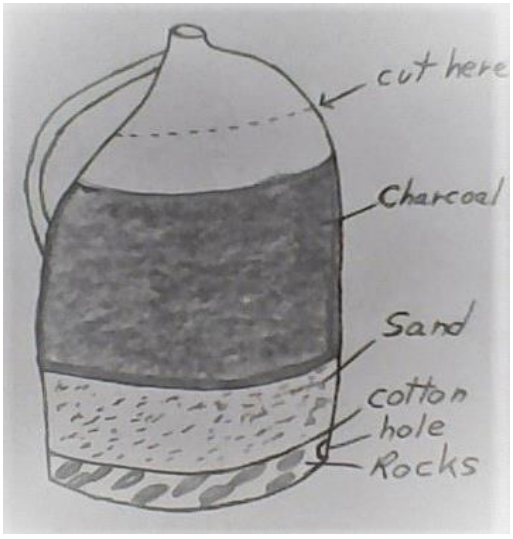
Small Filter for Tap Water

The materials that finely clean the water are the sand and charcoal, the charcoal being the most important one, because it removes the pharmaceuticals and other chemicals. A filter, that is only used for tap or well water, does not need the other layers on top of the charcoal, which are to catch larger debris, like what can be in a lake or river. In this style I've only added layers of sand and rocks under the charcoal so that the water has a chance to regain some of the minerals that the charcoal may remove.

This can be done with any size container. I plan to do it with a one gallon jug until I can do a five gallon bucket or a single barrel size. **The thicker the charcoal layer is, the more effective it will be and the longer it will last. And the thicker the layer of sand, the more minerals the water will have**.

I don't know how effective a gallon size will be, but it will surely be far better than nothing until I can build a bigger one. **A five gallon size will surely last longer and I plan to also make one of those with the same layers I list below. I'll crush the charcoal as fine as possible, without it being powder, so that as much as possible can fit in**.

Natural Charcoal (finely crushed)
Sand (rinsed)
A layer of cotton cloth
Rocks (rinsed)



The top of the container should be cut off so that the cotton cloth can be spread on the bottom more easily. I'll leave enough space on top to let a whole glass of water in at a time. I'll probably use some sort of cork, in the

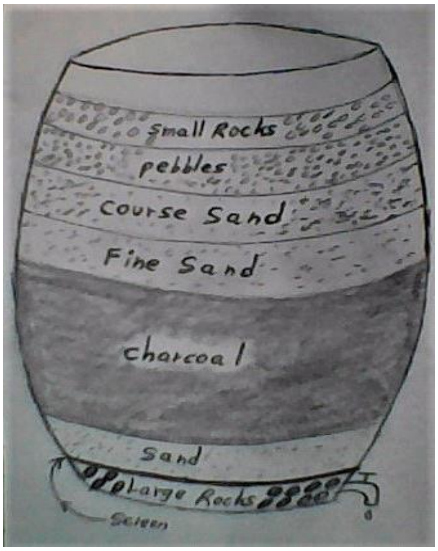
bottom hole, so that some of the water can sit in the sand and rocks for a while before I drink it. I want it to gather as many minerals as possible.

Single Barrel Water Filter Idea

I'll want to use this filter for water from a stream or pond, so I'll add layers of rocks and sand on top of the charcoal. I'll use a standard wooden barrel, like what is used for wine. The thickness of the layers are approximate, and (of course) would be less for a five gallon size, which can also be done this way. I feel certain that this barrel size will be very effective and will probably last for at least a couple years, since it will be only for my own cooking and drinking water. It will be interesting to run tests to see how much water I can get through it, before having to replace the charcoal layer.

3" of Small Stones (nickel and quarter size)
3" of Pebbles (pea size)
3" of Course Sand
9" of Fine Sand (but not too fine - not like powder)
A Piece of Screen (with smaller openings than the fine sand)
9" of Natural Charcoal (finely crushed)
2" of Course Sand
A Piece of Screen (with smaller openings than the course sand)
2" of pebbles (pea size)
A Piece of Screen (with smaller openings than the pebbles)
3" of Large Stones (Up to 2 - 3" around)

The sand can be sifted through various sizes of screen to get rid of the finest particles. The sand and rocks should be rinsed clean, before being layered in the container, so that the water flows clear faster. After it is assembled Water should be flushed through it, until it comes out clean.



I'll set up a little faucet in this one. Wouldn't a barrel, sitting on a little square table, be a cute rustic addition to a kitchen? It could also be painted and made artsy or be a more contemporary type of container. It should be kept covered, so it can also be used as a plant stand...etc. The possibilities are endless. We can use whatever containers are easiest or will fit in with our decor.

Two Barrel Water Filter Idea

I'm also thinking of doing one with two barrels stacked on top of each other and a thin container (4 to 10 inches thick) between the two of them. In this plan I will put more sand and charcoal in the top barrel, more sand and stones in the bottom barrel and organic material, that can be easily changed often, in a drawer in the middle container. **The goal is not only to take the chemicals out of the water, but to also make sure the water contains the same minerals it would have in nature, because this is what is best for us**.

How to Make Charcoal

Charcoal must be made with natural wood that has not been treated. Making it can be as simple as filling a tin with small pieces of dry wood, putting the cover on securely, drilling or nailing a small hole in the middle of the cover, throwing it on a campfire with the hole pointed up, and cooking it for one to two hours with the fire built up around it.

The tin can be anything from a cookie tin to a clean gallon size paint can or a five gallon tin. A five gallon tin may need a half inch or larger hole on top. The bigger the container is the more venting it needs. And the wood can be as small or large as it needs to be to fit into the tin and secure a cover on it. The larger the wood pieces are the longer it takes to cook. Our first burn will be a fun experiment and, after that, we will know more about what works best for whatever size container and wood we are using.

Smoke, and possibly flames, will pour out of the hole as it cooks and the gasses escape. When the smoke stops rising out of the hole it is done. Remove it from the fire, cover the hole and let it cool.

The charcoal can be crushed through putting it in bags and stomping on it or hammering it. It crumbles easily. It can be more finely ground in a blender or food processor, but should not be powdered.

Large Community Water Filtration System

The larger systems below are for communities and are a bit more complex. But they are still very simply made. The four barrel system could be made even simpler, and less expensive, by rearranging the earthen layers and stacking the barrels on top of each other. What a fun project this could be for a community or neighborhood to pull together on.

Video for four barrel system;

https://youtu.be/kazEAzGWuIc

Printable design of 300 Liter Per Day Water Filter System

https://www.aqsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/blue-barrel-system-manual-English.pdf

Printable design for 2000 Liter Per Day Water Filter System

https://www.aqsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2000LPD_English.pdf

Designers of this Water Filter System; AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS www.aqsolutions.org

How to Make Large Amounts of Charcoal

Large quantities of charcoal can be made in a large burn barrel. It must have a cover and holes cut into the bottom of the sides for air flow. Fill it with wood, light it on fire, let it burn (uncovered) until it's all on fire - right down to the bottom and roaring for a while, (until it seems about half burned) then choke out the fire, through covering it and preventing oxygen from reaching it. To completely deprive it of oxygen; gravel can be raked up to cover the air holes in the bottom of the barrel and mud can be heaped onto the outer edges of the cover. Below is a video that shows one way to do this process.

Some people have put a pipe chimney on a large barrel, that they fill with wood, seal closed and build a large fire up around it - using the same method as described above for small tins. And some people have either made or purchased a "retort kiln" that is made just for this purpose. Left over charcoal can be used to cook with, instead of using the store bought charcoal.

Printable PDF on making large quantities of charcoal

https://www.aqsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EZ-char-drum-oven.pdf

P.S. I am doing the best I can, to follow my own instincts, which are telling me that this information is needed by masses of people, before I am going to be able to complete my own experimentations with the small designs. I am sharing it prematurely, because it is needed and I trust the tested designs. **Please listen to your own instincts, above all else, and do what feels best for you**. Whatever the size, it's sure to make the water better than what most of us have been drinking.

We must use our own common sense and follow our own instincts above all else. And we must clear away all that blocks our instincts, like the pharmaceuticals that are in our drinking water. We must be free to think and feel and sense so that we can grow into all that we were born to be.

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