

### **Did you know that often, bottled water is taken from the tap?**

If you're going to pay for a product you could get for free, it helps to know what you're buying. You may see “glacier water” and “mountain water” on bottles, but there's no standard definition for those terms. Whatever the bottle says, don't be misled by crisp blue labels and pictures of mountains. Forty-seven percent of the bottled water sold in the U.S. is tap water that's been purified, according to data from the Beverage Marketing Association. If you're concerned about the water quality in your area but don't want to pay for bottled water get yourself a filter. Why not drink tap water?

<http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine/2012/07/do-you-know-where-your-bottled-water-comes-from/index.htm>

### **Did you know that Berlin tap water is very healthy?**

In 2003, bottled water surpassed Germany's per-capita consumption of beer. But how can that be? Germany's water has an excellent reputation, and its capital is no exception. In fact, in a 2003 comparative study, Berlin tap water came first, ahead any other major German city. Berlin tap water is extracted from groundwater pumped out of strata formed during the Ice Age. It also contains many healthy natural minerals, like calcium and sodium. The one and only cleaning step is the removal of iron. So why not take the opportunity to enjoy this excellent water? Why not drink tap water?

<http://www.thelocal.de/lifestyle/20100728-28789.html>

### **Did you know that tap water is the same quality as, or even better than bottled water?**

As far as Berlin's drinking water is concerned, studies showed that its quality is outstanding. In July 2003, drinking water in 270 German cities was tested in the largest comparative study carried out to date. This study showed that Berlin's water met all requirements as required by local drinking water regulations and EU guidelines. Berlin's water is, as a matter of fact, of the same quality as, or even better than, bottled water. It is fundamental to emphasize that, in order for water to be called drinking water and to be considered a foodstuff, it must adhere to all the standards and regulations put forward by the German Drinking Water Ordinance, one of the strictest regulatory bodies in the public sector worldwide. So guys ... why not drink tap water?

<http://www.bwb.de/content/language2/downloads/info-engl-09.pdf>

### **Did you know that bottled water is a big pollution factor?**

You should be proud of the healthy, clean water that your country provides you. Instead of buying bottled water, save your money and the environment by refilling your old one. It takes almost 500 years to decompose the bottles you throw out in a landfill. But not only does it take time to decompose the plastic, it also pollutes the environment with the toxic chemicals that the bottles contain since their production. At this time, thrown out plastic bottles represents nearly 50% of the recyclable waste. You can just imagine what that will do to your environment! Transporting the bottles and keeping them cold burns fossil fuel that generates the greenhouse effect. Think twice before you buy bottled water.

Furthermore, 2.7 MILLION tons of plastic are used to bottle water bottles every year.

Moreover, 86% of water bottles aren't recycled, but become garbage or litter. Be proud of

your tap water! Why not drink tap water?

<http://www.all-recycling-facts.com/recycling-statistics.html>

**Did you know that the tap water use of every individual can make a difference for the environment? \_\_\_\_\_on**

average, one person uses 166 disposable plastic water bottles each year. So if everyone in New York City were to use a reusable water bottle for one week, for one month, or for one year it would make a significant difference in reducing waste.

One week = 24 million bottles saved

One month = 112 million bottles saved

One year = 1.328 billion bottles saved

So ... why not drink tap water?

**Did you know that water is becoming a precious resource purchased by bottled water companies?**

In the documentary film *Thirst*, authors Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman demonstrated the rapid worldwide privatization of municipal water supplies, and the effect these purchases are having on local economies. Water is being called the "Blue Gold" of the 21st century. Thanks to increasing urbanization and population, shifting climates and industrial pollution, fresh water is becoming humanity's most precious resource. Multinational corporations are stepping in to purchase groundwater and distribution rights wherever they can, and the bottled water industry is an important component in their drive to commoditize what many feel is a basic human right: the access to safe and affordable water. Do you really want to participate in this industry? Why not drink tap water?

<http://www.mnn.com/food/healthy-eating/stories/5-reasons-not-to-drink-bottled-water>

**Did you know that you could spare money drinking tap water?**

According to the DGE (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung e.V.), each person needs to drink at least 1,5 Liters water a day. According to Tap Tops Bottles research, if you were drinking tap water instead of spending between 25 cents (in a supermarket) and 1,5 euros/L (late-night shops or bakeries for instance) everytime you had to drink, you could spare around 200euros a year! So... why not drink tap water?

**Did you know that it is more expensive to drink bottled water than putting gas in your car? \_\_\_\_\_**

The most commonly used plastic for making water bottles is PET, and that it is derived from crude oil. Just in the U.S., 1.5 MILLION barrels of oil are used each year for tasks such as making PET, transporting bottles and powering water bottle factories. With other words, it costs more money to drink bottled water than to put gas in your car. In contrast to tap water, which is distributed through an energy-efficient infrastructure. Why not just drink tap water?

**Did you know that a lot of people don't have access to clean water?**

**Sub-Saharan Africa faces the greatest challenge in increasing the use of improved drinking water sources.**

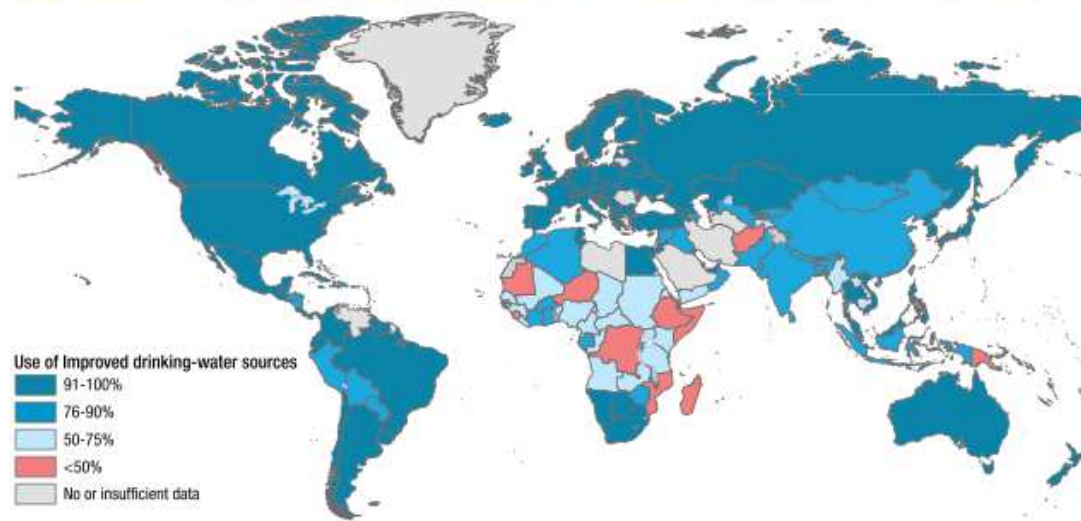


Figure 3. Worldwide use of improved drinking water sources in 2008

Worldwide, 780 million of people don't have access to clean and safe water according to water.org. We often forget this. By drinking tap water instead of buying bottles, you can raise awareness about this problem and take a step to solve this problem. So why not drink tap water?

<http://water.org/water-crisis/water-facts/water/>

<http://www.unicef.org/wash/>

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