

Calcium Buildup Got You Down?

If you are experiencing a mineral build-up around your faucets and sinks, it is because our water contains calcium. While this is normally a healthy thing, it can damage fixtures and appliances and generally be unsightly. Because this does not constitute a health hazard, the Cooperative is not required to remove it. So what are we to do?

The traditional method is to 'soften' water by adding salts in a water softener appliance. In addition to taking up a fair amount of space, adding salt does not seem like a healthy option. But there may be other options. There now is a device which appears to eliminate much of the problem; at least it did for us.

It turns out that if you create a powerful enough magnetic field around your water pipe, the calcium molecules in the water lose much of their 'stickiness'. In our house, this has greatly reduced the amount of the buildup we used to have around sinks and faucets. Once we had an electrical outlet installed, we were able to finish installing the device ourselves. The only drawback was the expense; our entire outlay was in the neighborhood of \$900.

DripWorks offers an alternative that is much less expensive and easier to install. We have no experience with these but, if we were doing this again, I'd try this option first and see how well it worked. Below are links to websites where you can find out more about these options.

<http://www.easywater.com/no-salt-conditioner/>

<https://www.dripworks.com/magnetic-water-conditioning>

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