

Abigail Reddy

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My family relies on the water from the kitchen faucet, and lately we have had reasons to question whether it is truly safe. Coffee and tea made with this water taste flat and slightly bitter compared with what I make when I travel. My dog sniffs at the water bowl and walks away when I fill it from the tap, which tells me something is off. Guests have commented on the taste of the water, and I am honestly a little embarrassed to serve it. There is a thin yellow tint in the bathtub water that I first noticed about seven years ago. Stormwater and sewer overflows near the intake worry me, and I would like to see separation projects accelerated. Residents deserve to see trends over many years, not only a single snapshot of the current results. Rebates for filters and plumbing replacement would make a real difference for low-income households. Our local library hosted a talk about water safety, and it was packed, which shows how much people care. Neighbors in the older part of the city talk about this issue constantly, and almost everyone has a story about odd-looking water. Clean, safe, and good-tasting water is a reasonable expectation, and I hope we can meet it soon.