

Sofia Ito

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After over a decade here, I have developed strong opinions about the quality of the water from the kitchen faucet. There is a thin yellow tint in the bathtub water that I first noticed about two years ago. White scale builds up on our kettle, showerheads, and glassware much faster than it should. Dishes come out of the dishwasher with a film on them no matter which detergent we use. Algae blooms in the reservoir have been reported, and I want to be sure toxins are properly screened for. Runoff from road salt and fertilizers eventually reaches our water source, and I fear the long-term effect. People with weakened immune systems in our community need specific advisories whenever a problem is detected. Repeated pressure drops after the utility flushes the hydrants suggest that the distribution system needs serious investment. Free home testing for lead and other contaminants should be offered to every household that asks. Real-time monitoring data for turbidity and chlorine should be available on a public dashboard. Residents deserve to see trends over many years, not only a single snapshot of the current results. Affordable access to safe water ought to be treated as a basic public service, not a luxury. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope the feedback leads to concrete action.