

LifeStream Article

By Rebecca Jackson

Technology does, indeed, exist to create potable drinking water literally from thin air, and a Smith Mountain Lake developer and Reiki master is now marketing the units.

Samuel Strauss, a New York native who founded the Loving Touch Center in Callaway and is orchestrating development of one of the Lake's first environmentally friendly, "green" communities, is offering XZIEX atmospheric water generators now very popular in the arid western U.S. The machine works, according to company literature, on the scientific principal of drawing ambient air through an electro-static air filter, then extracting the water through a sophisticated condensation process. The condensed water collects in a reservoir and is then sent in through a series of state-of-science purifiers. The apparatus, which is the size of an average water cooler unit, will generate gallons of water per day and stop when it is full.

"One of my biggest passions is the environment, as is evident in my Reiki practice, and the subdivision I'm developing," said Strauss, a Reiki practitioner for more than 20 years. "Water is far more important than any resource we have, and less than one percent of the water on this planet is drinkable."

The unprecedented technology found in XZIEX units removes inorganic materials, undesirable odors, tastes and particulate matter smaller than .01 microns. From the reservoir, the water passes through an ozone generator, where it is cleansed of bacteria, metals, minerals, viruses and other organic and inorganic elements that might have been absorbed from the air. Once the holding unit is filled with clean, fresh water, the computerized control system circulates the water continually to maintain freshness and purity.

The machine operates on the theory that while many regions of the earth are suffering from drought conditions such as the southeast experienced earlier this year, there are billions of gallons of water recycling in the atmosphere every day and the perpetual supply is limitless and accessible almost anywhere in the world.

Those who own a XZIEX no longer have to purchase water in plastic bottles, or rely on tap water which may contain unhealthy materials, according to Strauss. Americans went through about 50 billion plastic water bottles last year alone, roughly 167 plastic bottles for each person. The country's recycling rate for plastic bottles is only an estimated 23 percent, which means that people pitch 38 billion bottles per year into landfills. Additionally, a lot of the detritus ends up despoiling the environment in such phenomena as the Pacific Ocean's floating garbage island, a continent-sized amalgamation of trash held together by a whirling vortex of oceanic and atmospheric currents. Some bottled water, according to Strauss, is simply reprocessed tap water and nothing special, despite what consumers may read on the label.

To curb this plague of plastic, more than 30 localities nationwide, and many abroad have prohibited spending municipal money on single-serving bottled water.

XZEIX currently offers two different types of machines (the smaller household model costs roughly \$2,000 and all units are touted as very energy efficient, operating on the current from a 110 volt electrical outlet; company literature claims the units produce a gallon of water for about 10 cents), the XZEIX Elite and the XZEIX Pro. Both machines filter the water using ultraviolet light, which kills bacteria and germs. The water is then sent through two solid carbon block water filters which removes volatile organic chemicals that could be in the water. It is filtered further through a UF membrane to remove any remaining bacteria and common viruses. Commercial and portable units also are available. Solar operated units will be on the market soon. Units also infuse the fresh water with manganese, zinc and chloride.

In the course of five-month inquiry by the Associated Press, company literature states, drug residue has been detected in the drinking water supplies of at least 41 million Americans in 24 major metropolitan areas, from southern California to New Jersey. The AP investigation showed the presence of a vast array of pharmaceuticals in drinking water, including antibiotics, anti-convulsants, mood stabilizers and sex hormones.

With many major cities, including Albuquerque, Atlanta and Denver, running out of ground-based water, the time has come to market and implement viable alternative sources of water generation, according to Strauss. Abroad, water sources in the Middle East, as well as parts of Africa, are plummeting because of continuing droughts and human population growth.

“North Carolina is in terrible shape,” water wise, and water restrictions were put in place this summer in many localities, including Rocky Mount,” he said. “Then, we have the problem of acid rain. The coal goes up and comes down as acid rain. We should not wait until the availability of water becomes a crisis. I found a good product, it works, a way to produce water from air based on condensation, and clean it through a six-step system. The water produced in an XZEIX unit is clean, it’s safe, and you’re not plugging into a water source,” said Strauss.

For more information, call Strauss at 540-482-0805, or visit his website at www.air2h2o.myxziex.com.