Dear Governor Beshear,

I understand that you are doing everything in your power to make water available to more Kentucky residents. According to WDRB, you've given money to fund piping projects and on behalf of the community, it's appreciated.

On the flip side of this, more water will be wasted once these homes have water. By no means should that lessen the amount of work towards getting everyone clean water.

Every day, people wash their hands with soap and water, as that's the most effective way to kill germs and remove them from your hands. Did you know that the soap-and-water hand washing method has the most environmental impact of any hand cleansing method? It uses clean water and sends harmful materials found in soap and sends it back into the environment.

Isopropyl hand sanitizer has the lowest impact on the environment, including the production of it.

Hand sanitizer doesn't need to be a substitute for washing hands, but if it was pushed to be used more than washing hands after touching anything, it would increase the amount of water available. Funding research for hand sanitizer and investing in production of it would make means of hand cleaning a cheaper, more available option for the 5% of Kentuckians that don't have plumbing. It wouldn't solve the problem of increased risk of infection, but it could lower it.

Of course, Isopropyl alcohol based hand sanitizers are less affordable. By funding the production of these, it can decrease the price and make it readily available for those with limited access.



Gabrielle Fugate

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