
HARDNESS

BERKELEY COUNTY **WATER DISTRICT**

The characteristics of the geography on which Berkeley County exists is perfect for resulting in a water with a very high hardness content.

The District obtains a significant amount of water from ground water sources. Water hardness is predominately associated with calcium in the water. There is an abundance of limestone under the County which the ground water travels through. Limestone is mostly calcium and hence the reason the ground water in our area is so hard.

ANY HEALTH CONCERNS WITH HARD WATER?

No. Hard water is simply an aesthetics issue. Calcium at the levels found in the water is not a concern with respect to health. Please review the World Health Organization report noted on the website below for a detailed explanation of water hardness and health. http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/chemicals/hardness.pdf

HOW TO ADDRESS THE AESTHETIC EFFECTS OF HARD WATER

The good news is that hard water is a relatively easy condition to treat. The treatment process is easy to administer as a homeowner and the results are often very good. Please look into installing a water softener if you wish to reduce or eliminate the source of the hardness. Although the hardness levels can vary depending on the source of water being used on any given day, for design purposes, the hardness levels are approximately 250 mg/l or 15 grains per gallon.

There are numerous cleaning products on the market which advertise to clean surfaces that have an accumulation of a calcium precipitate.

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