remodeling



Nor Any Drop to Drink?

Make sure clean water is part of your next healthy home project

BY LAUREN HUNTER

From drought-related water restrictions in California to drinking water crises in Michigan and Ohio, the news is awash in water quality concerns. While politicians and pundits debate the business and public health ramifications of updating water infrastructure, building products manufacturers are giving construction pros the means to improve water quality at the homeowner level.

Most healthy home discussions have focused on indoor air quality, but plumbing plays an important part in healthy homes as well. While these four new products can't negate the effects of lead pipes, they can address issues of hard water, microbial contaminants, and reclaimed water use.

1. GET IN THE ZONE

Lenova's Aqualogic Ozone Faucet incorporates a small ozone generator to help sanitize hands, surfaces, and food without chemicals or residues. Because ozone oxidizes micro-organisms on contact, the sanitizing faucet helps eliminate pesticides, as well as bacteria including salmonella, norovirus, and e-coli. The Aqualogic faucet is FDA-tested and certified. *lenovasinks.com*

2. THE COLOR PURPLE

Viega has expanded its ViegaPEX tubing line to include purple PEX for reclaimed water applications. Available in 1/2-, 3/4-, and

1-inch sizes, the tubing carries a high rating for chlorine. Viega manufactures all the resin for its PEX tubing itself. Reclaimed water is ideal for use in toilets, irrigation, and laundry. *viega.us*

3. SMOOTH MOVES

Lubrizol's FlowGuard Gold pipe is made of CPVC, which has been third-party tested to show better protection against biofilms than some other non-metallic pipe materials. The pipes' super-smooth interior surface is designed not to corrode, so microbes won't have cracks or crevices to gather in and multiply. Compatible with hot and cold water, FlowGuard also has less condensation than other materials, and its easy installation allows for lower labor costs. *flowguardgold.com*

4. SOFTER TOUCH

Enviro Water Products' Pro Combo System combines water softening and filtration without the added expense and wasted water of standard water softeners. A pre-filter removes dirt and debris, followed by a two-stage carbon system that filters out bacteria, chlorine, pesticides, and more. The filtered water then moves through a specialized material in the salt-free NatureSoft tank that guards against contaminants, sediment, and scale build-up. *envirowaterproducts.com*

