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Al's Corner Everything you've always wanted to know





The Truth Is Out There....

Greetings and Salutations Fellow Snowmobiling Enthusiasts

PREPARE TO HAVE YOUR MIND EXPANDED....



I wish the season could have been a little better, but who would have thought that our literal perfect season, two years ago, would end up costing us so much? But, what doesn't cost too much is good health, ergo, here we go with Part 5 of Preventing Coronary Artery Disease.

Can you just drink soft water and get the same benefit as drinking distilled water? If you don't mind slugging your body with chlorine, fluoride, and whatever farmland runoff chemicals that are in the water.......YES. However, there is a catch, kind of a big one. You see, well water will probably contain enough dissolved and suspended rust particles to kill a water softener in less than a year, maybe even six months. People keep their softeners filled with salt, and they think because it's using salt, that they have soft water. NOPE Even a few parts per million of rust will plug up a softener. The resin in a softener is only designed to attract hardness, from calcium and lime. It does that very well. However, rust just plugs the resin bed up. Oh, you'll get water to flow through the softener on the path with the least resistance, but it really won't be giving you the soft water you need.

This is why, if you have well water in MN, and you don't have a good iron filter in the water line before the softener, your softener is probably already dead, and you just don't know it. I used to fix the Sears brand of softener, and many of the designs that are out there now are virtual duplicates of the Sears, as the patent ran out some time ago. I've seen plenty of dead softeners where rust just killed the machine, and the people were unaware.

So, what to do? First, get your water tested. Let an outside faucet run for 3 minutes and take a sample. DON"T let the local softener place test your water, send it far away, so they won't just bug you to buy THEIR softener. When you know what you're dealing with, check the iron content from the test. If it's 3 ppm or over, you're going to need a good iron filter so you won't kill your softener. Do some homework on iron filters, find out what will work for you. Get the best one you can afford. Then, your water softener will give you ample amounts of mineral free water, so you won't be plugging up stuff in your body and causing problems. Get some water test strips and test it weekly or biweekly, to keep things running smoothly. See you next time!