

WATER PURIFICATION



MERIDIAN DESIGNS mUV
2.4 oz, \$49, www.uvaquastar.com

Put this glowing wand into your drinking water container to zap disease-causing protozoa, bacteria and viruses with ultraviolet (UV-C) light. The mUV (pronounced "move") is safe to use with any kind of container and takes just 80 seconds to purify one liter of water (longer in colder temperatures). After about 15 treatments you'll need to recharge it, which takes eight to 10 hours. Unscrew the metal cover on the unit's dome top to unfurl two wires tipped with gold-plated magnets. Connect the magnets to either end of a battery to send juice to the internal lithium-ion battery.

MSR HyperFlow Microfilter
7.4 oz, \$100, www.msrgear.com

For the ultimate in efficiency and simplicity, MSR's newest lightweight pump filter cleans a liter of water in about 30 seconds. Simply place the buoyant pod in a creek and work the pump like a bicycle-tire pump to draw the water through the hollow-fiber microfilter and remove protozoa (such as giardia and crypto), bacteria and particulates (it does not protect against viruses). The HyperFlow includes a hose adaptor that attaches to any bladder, MSR hydration or other type of wide-mouth container.



AQUAMIRA Water Treatment Drops
3 oz, \$13, www.aquamira.com

I wished I had these handy foolproof drops when my expensive battery-operated water purifier quit working during a 10-hour mountain run last summer.

Mix seven drops each of Aquamira Part A and Part B in the mixing cap (double if the water is really grimy), then wait five minutes (the mixture will turn bright yellow) before pouring it into one quart of unclean water. Wait 15 to 30 minutes (longer is better when the water is icy-cold or cloudy) before downing the thirst-quenching liquid. Forget using unhealthy, malodorous iodine tablets and opt for these tasteless chlorine-dioxide drops.

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