

Toilet To Faucet, Company Makes Clean Water

Supporter Demonstrates By Drinking Some

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EAGLE GROVE, Iowa --

A man who said he has technology to turn raw sewage into drinking water backed up his claim by drinking some of it on Thursday.



"A lot of people thought I was nuts," said Mike Trevis of Pure Sense Filtration.

The Eagle Grove-based company is treating water that comes from toilets and other sewage sources and winds up in wastewater treatment plants.

"We're at the point right now where I don't think there's a water problem we can't fix," Trevis said.

He showed off his company's work to a touring group of city leaders and business owners. He also helped himself to a glass of the treated water and said it was good.

Trevis said he couldn't reveal the secret of the filtration system for competitive reasons but he said it starts inside some large tanks at the test facility.

"Somebody's flushing the toilet uptown. It's coming right here. It's hitting the chopper, we're sucking it up and running it right through these tanks," he said.

With the help of microbiology and not chemicals, the water comes out of the tanks looking relatively clear.

"As you can see, there's not much sludge here," he said.



He said that's especially true when compared with the sludge left behind at a typical treatment plant. Once the waste water from the tanks is sent through a series of filters, it's good enough to drink.

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The process takes about seven hours to convert the sewage to drinking water. It's odorless and NewsChannel 8's Angie Hunt said it tastes just like water from the tap.

"I've been drinking it and I mean, I've always been goofy, so it ain't the water," Trevis said.

Webster City business owner Dean Bowden said he wants to try the system to handle waste water from his meat processing plant.

"Possibly a pilot plant or doing something that we could to reduce our cost and (it would) just be a better way to get rid of our waste," he said.



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