

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Do Your Homework Before Diving Into Home Water Treatment

(NAPSA)—Have you ever wondered if your family's water is as good as it can be, but weren't sure where to turn? There's good news. Now, analyzing your water and choosing a water quality improvement system that's right for your family doesn't have to be a chore.

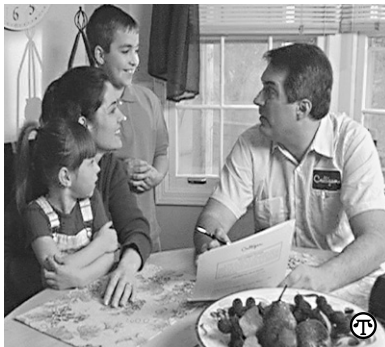
Here are some helpful tips from the experts at Culligan, the water conditioning and filtration experts:

- **Put Your Water To The Test.** Knowing what's in your water will help you determine your exact needs. Ask your municipal water supplier for its annual water quality report, which, by law, reviews contaminants in your water as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

You can also ask a local water expert to conduct a water analysis. Culligan dealers provide this free of charge, with no obligation, right in your home.

- **Buy From a Reputable—And Local—Provider.** Look for a nationally recognized brand name with decades of experience coupled with local sales and service expertise. Seek out only those that take consumer satisfaction very seriously, and factory-train their dealers in sales, installation and service.

- **Give Yourself Choices... And New Technologies.** Work with a company that can provide a full line of quality, cutting-edge products and services, including softeners, whole house filters, reverse



**If you are buying a water treatment system for the house, have an expert test your water first.**

osmosis systems and bottled water, and which fits your specific water situation and budget. For example, if you want to save nearly two tons of salt and 20,000 gallons of water over a water softener's lifecycle, there's new water softener technology called Aqua Sensor from Culligan that continuously monitors the water and regenerates only when needed, instead of on the time of day or water flow.

- **Avoid A "Quick Fix."** While the least expensive option might be tempting, a higher-priced solution may actually reduce operating costs and maintenance time. Ask for a detailed estimate of equipment, installation, and operating costs to be able to accurately compare all of your options.

- **Insist On The Best.** Look for products with endorsements like

the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval, NSF certifications, and a satisfaction guarantee. Culligan, for example, offers a 30-Day 100 Percent Satisfaction Guarantee—if you are not satisfied with your new equipment within 30 days after the date of purchase, Culligan will refund 100 percent of the purchase price.

Once you've selected the right water treatment provider and determined the system that best fits your needs, be sure to ask the following final questions:

- Did the salesperson answer all questions regarding design, function and cost of the equipment?

- Is installation included in the price? What about a bypass for lawn and garden faucets, a faucet for unsoftened water or any other features I may want?

- If I rent, do I want my agreement to include an option-to-buy provision?

- Does the dealer offer a maintenance contract or other after-sales services like salt delivery and filter change service that I need?

If you've done the "homework" outlined above, you'll feel more confident about the water expert you have chosen, and will soon be on your way to clearer and more efficient water for the whole family. For additional information about selecting water treatment providers and products, visit [www.culligan.com](http://www.culligan.com) or call 1-800-CULLIGAN to locate a dealer near you.