

Table of Contents

‘Worse and worse.’ Time to address Eastern Kentucky’s water woes, officials say.

.mcclatchy-embed{position:relative;padding:40px 0 56.25%;height:0;overflow:hidden;max-width:100%}.mcclatchy-embed iframe{position:absolute;top:0;left:0;width:100%;height:100%}

Jessica and Tim Taylor of Martin County, Kentucky collect rainwater to get by when their city water is turned off. That happens too often, they said, and they hope some state or federal agency will come and help during times without water.

By Will Wright | Alex Slitx | Marcus Dorsey

In Eastern Kentucky, dealing with an absence of reliable, clean drinking water has become a part of daily life for many families. A series of stories published by the Herald-Leader earlier this week, titled *Stirring the Waters*, featured a family in Martin County who are often forced to collect rainwater to get by during long outages. Other residents said they are afraid to drink the water that comes out the tap, leaving them to spend upwards of \$50 a month on bottled water for drinking and cooking. Now, some state and local officials have called for increased regulation and accountability of water districts. “It’s a big issue and one that needs to be addressed,” said State Rep. Chris Harris, (D-Forest Hills), who represents Martin County and some of Pike County. “This problem has manifested itself in Martin County and a few other small districts across the state, but it’s going to get worse and worse.” Read more here:

<https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/article223048640.html#storylink=cpy>

Last updated on December 17, 2018.

Print

Table of Contents

NEWS

News & publications

The news about recent activities for needed peoples.

[More News](#)

23 Oct 2025

A New Home and New Opportunities for Service: Terri's Journey with AppalReD Legal Aid

When Terri Buskey moved to Kentucky two years ago, she knew she wanted to...

[Continue Reading about A New Home and New Opportunities for Service: Terri's Journey with AppalReD Legal Aid](#)

21 Oct 2025

Why Boo Shea Still Shows Up for Justice: Even in Retirement

This Celebrating Pro Bono Week, we're celebrating Beverly "Boo"...

[Continue Reading about Why Boo Shea Still Shows Up for Justice: Even in Retirement](#)