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TODAY'S LETTERS

Third source for fresh water

To the Editor:

We should not forget about a third source of water in the summertime, the fog. That's right, the fog. Almost every day in the summer months, we are blessed with a thick coastal fog.

I was watching the Science Channel a few years back, and they were doing a story on bringing water to some Third World country where drilling a well was out of the question. Instead, they constructed a simple spider web of string that captured the moisture from the fog. Why can't we do that on a much bigger scale?

I also saw a report about a very simple way of removing salt from seawater using this same principal. Large, steel pipes drew seawater up to the tops, where it was sprayed out into the air. The pure water would condense onto these cold pipes and drip down into a holding trough.

Are these ideas not good enough to at least explore their possibilities? It's time for us to be creative and use our imaginations to solve our water problems.

The county is still handing out permits to build, sinking more straws into our aquifer, and although I have read the requirements for conservation, including new toilets and a roughed-in gray-water system, I believe if they don't also include the rainwater harvesting ideas, we are shooting ourselves in the foot.

It's time to do your part to harvest and conserve this valuable resource. Put in your harvesting systems and your gray water. Go to the meetings, tell them to build the harvesting ideas, the gray water systems, and let's get on with it.

Ray Wells

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