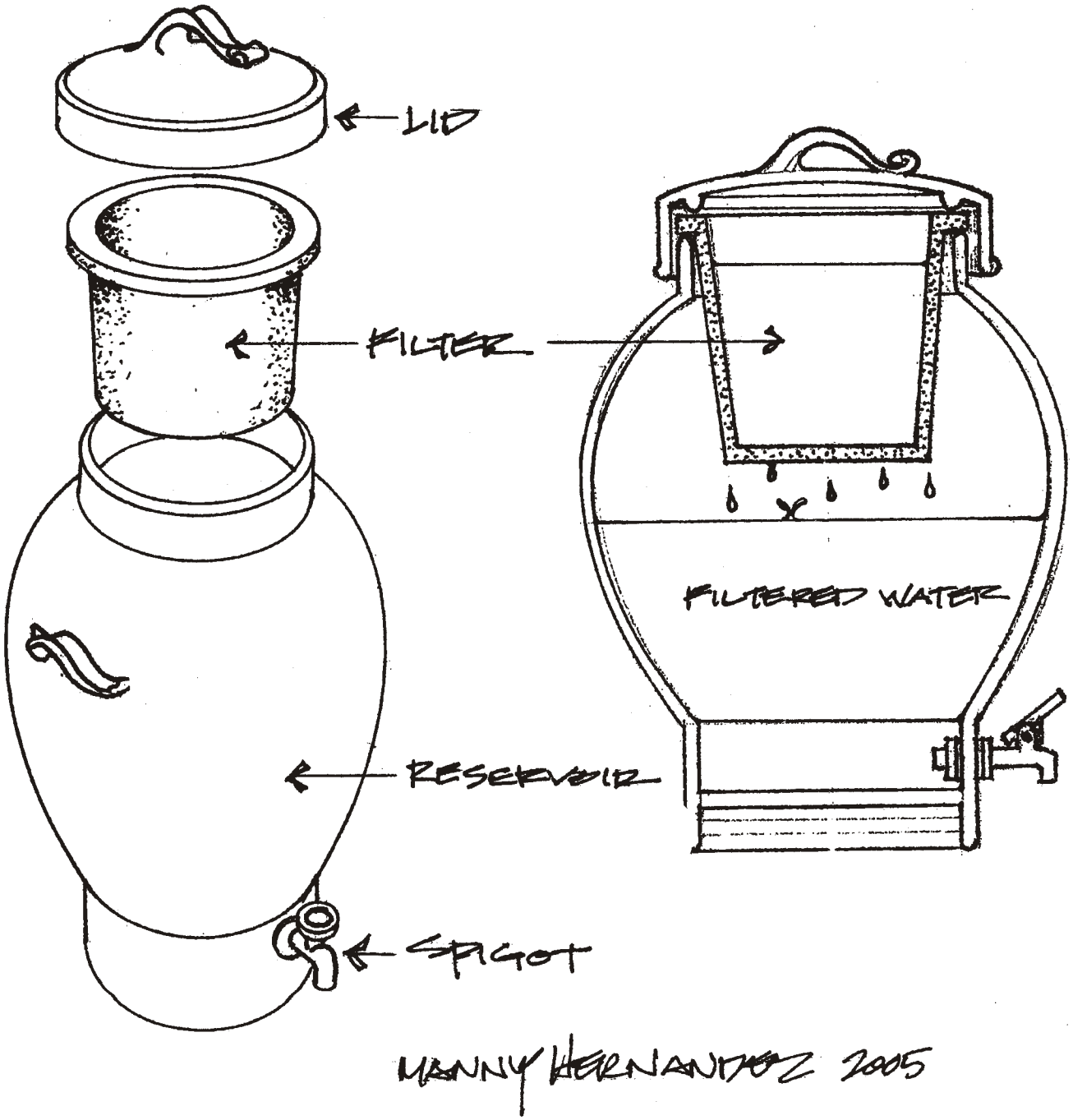
Ceramic Water Filters



The Ceramic Water Filter provides a low-cost way of producing safe drinking water from contaminated sources such as open wells, ponds, canals, streams, or even floodwater. The filter has proven 99% effective in eliminating microbiological contaminants.

The filter is flower-pot shaped and made of porous clay designed to allow water to flow through at a rate of 1.5 to 2.6 litres per hour, sufficient for the drinking water needs of a family of four.

The clay filter unit is coated with colloidal silver solution, a proven anti-bacterial agent. The silver is not transferred to the water as it passes through the filter and so has no effect on filter users.

The clay filter element is set in a clay or plastic receiving vessel, which protects the filter element from damage and stores the purified water.

The filter unit is washed regularly using a soft cloth or brush to unclog the clay pores and maintain an acceptable flow rate. Eventually, progressive clogging will cause a permanent reduction in filter flow rate, so the clay unit must be replaced after one or two years (depending on the quality of the input water).

The filters can be produced by local potters. The purifier was originally developed in Guatemala in 1981 and has been promoted extensively since 1998 by Potters for Peace, an NGO active in Nicaragua.

Potters Without Borders

We are a new Canadian based NGO currently involved in appropriate ceramic technologies. Through our affiliation with Potters For Peace we are researching Ceramic Water Filter technology as part of a solution to waterborne disease.

We are committed to an open source philosophy, all of our publications are available to any interested parties.

We provide support for field technicians responding to direct requests to develop filter manufacturing facilities overseas.

We are the Canadian part of an international non-profit network providing socially responsible assistance to pottery groups and individuals.

We offer technical training and consulting services and facilitate research, development, and commercial application of technology in the field of ceramics in developing countries.

You Can Help!

Your membership provides the basis for our work

- $15 basic/student membership
- $25 contributing/family
- $50 sustaining
- $100 or above

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Solutions for Point Of Use Water Purification:

Ceramic Water Filters