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## Charging for tap water to support 3rd world

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### Features Articles

This Thursday, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will participate in the U.N.'s official "Water Day" by encouraging New York City restaurant-goers to pay \$1 for their tap water to raise money for third-world nations.

\$1 will help buy 40 liters of drinking water - enough to give one child safe drinking water for 40 days - or 100 water-purification tablets to provide clean water in crisis situations.

Restaurants all over the city - including Union Square Cafe, Asia de Cuba, Vesuvio Bakery and many small eateries - will be participating in the Tap Project by encouraging patrons to read about the project before placing a sticker on their checks to express their participation to their waiters.

More than 21 percent of children in third-world countries do not have access to clean water, according to the project's website, [www.tapproject.org](http://www.tapproject.org). Waterborne diseases are responsible for more than 80 percent of infant mortality and are the second largest killer of children under the age of 5.

Despite some fears that New York City water is unclean, many studies show that the city's tap water is actually cleaner than some bottled water, according to the project's website.

New York's upstate reservoirs form one of the largest unfiltered water supplies in the world. New York City consumes 1.3 billion gallons of water a day, according to the project's website.

Make a donation to the Tap Project at [www.tapproject.org](http://www.tapproject.org).