



## ~ Your Berkey in the Backcountry ~

### **How do I prime the Black Berkey Purification Elements, in the field, when water pressure is unavailable?**

Before travelling to the field or using your Berkey in an area without water pressure, we recommend that the purification elements be primed beforehand using the priming button method explained in the included instructions. This will ensure a 100% flow rate.

If this procedure is not an option, we recommend 1 of 3 methods:

1. Using a Sport Berkey Purification Bottle, prime the elements as instructed in the home tap method, exchanging the tap for the straw of the bottle. Pumping the bottle, purified water is forced through the straw into the element. Ensure the element sweats (beads) for 60 seconds all around, feels heavy, and full of water.

*or*

2. Using a 750ml or 1 L plastic bottle of safe, potable water, use the priming button method, but using the opening of the bottle as your tap. Squeeze the bottle, forcing clean water into the element. Ensure the element sweats (beads) for 60 seconds all around, feels heavy, and full of water.

*or*

3. Fill the lower chamber with water. Place the purification elements upside down, underwater, with the stems facing upward. The stems should not be underwater. Put a ceramic coffee cup (or something else that will hold them underwater) on top of each element stem to force the element underwater. Let the elements soak in the water for 6-8 hours until they fill up. When the elements are full they will be significantly heavier. Remove elements and keep stems facing up. Wash and dry lower reservoir. Assemble your Berkey while keeping the stems of the elements facing upward. **Let the water from the first purification cycle that is collected in the lower chamber run to waste. Refill the upper chamber with water.**

It is important to keep as much water inside the purification elements as possible. This is because the water that drips out of the purification element also hydraulically "Pulls" new water into the element as it begins to work like a siphon. Thus, in addition to the "Push" of gravity, there is also a hydraulic "Pull" and this drastically improves flow.

~ Your Black Berkey elements are now primed and your Berkey Purifier is ready for use ~

**NOTE:** In circumstances with heavy sediment, the best practice is to allow sediment to settle in a bucket before pouring into your Berkey and/or pre-filter through a coffee filter or layers of cloth.