Build Your Own Hand Washing Station

Cooperative Extension

Meredith Melendez, Mercer County Agricultural Agent
Wesley Kline, Cumberland County Agricultural Agent

This simple hand washing station costs less than $25 and is easily transportable into the field, to farmers markets and anywhere that proper hand washing should take place.

Parts needed:

1. A 5 gallon water container with spigot
   These can be found online or at sporting goods stores for about $15.00
2. Two 24” bungee cords with hook ends
   These can be found at hardware stores for about $2.00 each
3. A simple plastic paper towel holder
   These can be found at most home goods stores including dollar stores for less than $5.00
4. Hand washing soap, pump or bar
5. Roll of paper towels
6. A bucket to capture grey water
7. Trash can or bag to collect used paper towels

Proper hand washing includes:

1. Wet hands with running water
2. Apply liquid, bar or powder soap
3. Lather hands well, rubbing hands vigorously for at least 20 seconds. Scrub all surfaces including the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under fingernails.
4. Rinse hands well with running water
5. Dry hands with a disposable towel
6. Dispose of towel in a closed container