

## PIMA COUNTY

## Sanitary Sewers and Storm Water Systems

Many people living in Pima County may have lived in communities with combined sewer systems. These systems carry both raw sewage and storm water to wastewater treatment facilities where the comingled flows are treated. In Pima County, there are no combined sewer systems.

Except for small areas in the Town of Sahuarita and the Town of Marana, the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department owns and operates all the public sanitary sewers in the county. We are responsible for more than 3,400 miles of sanitary sewer pipes.

Pima County also owns and operates its own storm water collection system. The storm water collection system allows storm water that collects on streets and properties in unincorporated areas of the county to flow into storm water systems that carry these flows to area rivers and washes. Each incorporated jurisdiction in Pima County is responsible for operating and maintaining its own storm water system.

Storm water systems are designed and constructed to manage rainfall. Sanitary sewers are designed to handle the community's sanitary sewage as well as storm water that infiltrate the system through vent holes in manhole covers. However, during extreme rain events, the sanitary sewers may become inundated resulting in a sanitary sewer overflow.

If you see raw sewage flowing out of manhole after a storm – or at any time – please contact PCRWRD at (520) 724-3400. A PCRWRD crew will resolve any sanitary sewer system issues and clean up the spill. You can help PCRWRD to keep our public sanitary sewer system working in top shape while protecting our environment.



## CITY OF TUCSON

*Bag & Tie Your Trash*

## Help Keep Tucson Clean



Tucson prides itself on the beauty of our desert, the unique vegetation, and the clean environment. Unfortunately, too much litter is detracting from the views that we value so much. Our streets, sidewalks, and medians are littered with trash. Plastic bags, aluminum cans, bottles, cigarette butts, and paper are all part of the problem. One easy step that we can take to help clean up our streets is to bag and tie trash before it's put out for collection.

Loose trash in a garbage container can blow away as it is being dropped into collection vehicles or can escape from a knocked over container. When you bag and tie your trash, you help to:

- **Control windblown litter.** Windblown litter causes accidents, gets caught in our washes and vegetation, doesn't degrade, and is expensive to clean up.
- **Eliminate odors and flies.** Garbage from our homes, particularly food waste, diapers, and paper products, should be bagged to control odors which attract flies and other pests.

If you don't want to purchase trash bags, reuse plastic bags from the grocery store or retailer. When plastic bags are reused to bag trash and other waste, they will not blow away and won't contribute to the litter problem. If you have a shared alley container, your neighbors will appreciate your efforts, and if you have curbside trash service, bagging and tying trash will keep your container clean.

**Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, wastewater, and environmental services.**

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) – For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 724-6500 or visit <http://www.pima.gov/wwm>.

Environmental Services (ES) – Learn about how ES is protecting our groundwater and the environment at [tucsonaz.gov/esd](http://tucsonaz.gov/esd) and (520) 791-3171.