



WaterSmart Business Program
Recognized for Wise Water Management
National Auto Collision Centers

National Auto Collision Centers (NACC) has three locations in Tucson and a commitment to the community and to the local environment.

Though not a major commercial water consumer, NACC nevertheless became interested in two City of Tucson programs for efficiency: **Green Business** and **WaterSmart Business** certifications. Sometimes it's all about tweaking the things one is already doing in order to maintain a good baseline for energy and utility costs. Tucson Water staff visited the three branches and followed up to help provide guidance on what could be done now and what might be considered in the future.



National Auto Collisions Centers repairs vehicles at its locations, then takes them to nearby local car washes for cleanup, then brings them back to NACC for final detailing before returning the vehicles to its customers.

This business practice is a good one, in that many of Tucson's local car wash sites have procedures in place for water efficiency and reuse.

Modest amounts of water are used in NACC's actual vehicle repair process, and it varies among the three locations because of business volume and the number of employees and customers. Thus, the site audits helped the owners evaluate the less-obvious things that contribute to overall water use, such as wash sinks, restroom facilities, shop area evaporative coolers, and the one washing machine.

"We want to continue to practice water efficiency in the areas we have control over," said owner Bill Jones. "Our hopes are to fully own two of our locations which would then allow us to extend the practice to outside. Tucson Water staff have mentioned that our main location could be ideal for rainwater harvesting."



The WaterSmart Business audits had an unforeseen benefit. The owner's young son accompanied Tucson Water's conservation specialist at one of the NACC locations and later performed flow tests and leak checks in the family home. This led to some water-efficiency steps there also.