The goal of the Water Waste Enforcement program is educational, even if a citation has been issued. The money used to pay a fine would be more effectively spent improving water use efficiency and eliminating waste.

To report a water waste violation:
Contact (520) 791-2514 or waterwaste@tucsonaz.gov

(520) 791-4331
(520) 791-2639 TDD
www.tucsonaz.gov/water/waste
youtube.com/tucsonwater
Scan

Esta información está disponible en Español. Por favor llame al (520) 791-4331.
Tucson Code 27-15
(the Water Waste Ordinance) defines waste or unreasonable use or method of use of water and prohibits:

1. Allowing water to escape from any premises onto public property, such as alleys or streets, or upon any other person's property.

2. Allowing water to pond in any street or parking lot to a depth greater than 1/4 inch or permitting water to pond over a cumulative surface area greater than 150 square feet on any street or parking lot.

3. Washing driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, or other impervious surface areas with an open hose or with a spray nozzle attached to an open hose except when required to eliminate conditions that threaten the public health, safety, or welfare. This restriction does not apply to residential customers.

4. Operating a misting system in unoccupied non-residential areas.

5. Operating a permanently installed irrigation system with a broken head or emitter, or with a head that is spraying more than 10% of the spray on a street, parking lot, or sidewalk.

6. Failing to repair a controllable leak, including a broken sprinkler head, a leaking valve, or a leaking faucet.

7. Failing to meet the 50% rainwater harvesting requirement for landscape irrigation.

The full text of all Tucson Code Ordinances related to water waste and enforcement can be found online at tucsonaz.gov/water/waste

Water Waste Enforcement Process

Tucson Water Conservation Inspectors investigate reports of water waste. When a violation is observed, a warning will be given to the customer. After initial investigation by the inspector, the source of water waste must be stopped. Within five business days, they will verify that the problem has been corrected. If the water waste continues after the first warning, a citation can be given at any time.

Inspectors also assist customers in taking steps to increase water use efficiency. If the irrigation system has multiple problems, Tucson Water recommends a landscape irrigation audit be conducted and an action plan be developed.

Citation Process

A citation may be issued or the responsible party may be given time to correct the problem. If the violation is not corrected within the specified time, a citation will be issued. A minimum fine of $250 per violation may be imposed for a first-time offense.

Subsequent violations are subject to a minimum fine of $500 per violation and a maximum fine of $2,500.

Tucson Water seeks fines primarily in cases where repeated water waste is occurring, where property owners or managers are unwilling to make necessary improvements, or where violations are intentional.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Download the “See Click Fix” app, then you can snap a picture to report water waste.