



3. Recycled Water... Good for Our Community

- An additional water resource is essential to the future of Tucson Water's plan for water reliability.
- It makes financial sense, since we already have a significant investment in the water that is not being used.
- Our primary water resource – Colorado River water delivered via CAP canals – is being impacted by drought and the stress of long-term climate change.
- Recycled water would help to grow our economy by assuring a reliable water supply for businesses and corporations considering relocation or expansion into our community.



For more information about the Recycled Water Program and the water you receive today from Tucson Water:



(520) 791-4331
(520) 791-2639 TDD



www.tucsonaz.gov/water



Why Recycled Water?



**RECYCLED
WATER**
PROGRAM



**TUCSON
WATER**

www.tucsonaz.gov/water



Specially treated and purified wastewater could be Tucson's next renewable water resource.



2. Is Recycled Water Safe?

Yes. Tucson Water would use various stages of treatment to assure that recycled drinking water is safe for our customers.

There are normally four stages, or barriers, of water treatment:

- Preliminary Treatment
- Primary Treatment
- Secondary Treatment
- Advanced Treatment

Each stage removes a different and unique level of particles, pollutants, microorganisms, bacteria, etc. The water is then safe to mix with other water supplies and delivered to our customers.

These stages of treatment can include technologies like oxidation, filtration, membrane bioreactor, microfiltration, reverse osmosis, UV treatment and activated carbon. Another extremely effective barrier would be a natural one, the earth. The water quality that is achieved by all of these stages is one that is just as pure, if not more pure, than water that is pumped from the natural water table.

Let's look at the facts.

1. What Exactly is Recycled Water?

Tucson Water has been delivering recycled water since 1984. Known as reclaimed water, it is wastewater treated for irrigation use. We deliver reclaimed water for irrigation to nearly 1,000 sites, saving drinking water. These sites include:

- 18 golf courses
- 50 parks
- 65 schools (including the University of Arizona and Pima Community College)
- More than 700 single family homes



But we still have a large amount of treated wastewater that goes unused, so recycled water could be another renewable water resource.

A new recycled water program would allow Tucson Water to utilize this unused portion to replenish groundwater and eventually supplement drinking water supplies.

A number of advanced treatment processes are available today to make this water safe for drinking. Tucson Water will be sharing information about those processes and asking customers for input before final decisions are made.

