

# RECLAIMED WATER

Email: TW\_reclaimed @tucsonaz.gov

Winter 2009

## Discharges Must Be Reported

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Rules prohibit the discharge of reclaimed water from the site where it is used. (Arizona Administrative Code Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 6, R18-9-704). Discharges are defined as reclaimed water or reclaimed

water mixed with stormwater that runs off the site where it is applied. If reclaimed water leaves your site for any reason, including a broken irrigation pipe or malfunctioning of the irrigation system, you must report this runoff to Tucson Water within 24 hours.

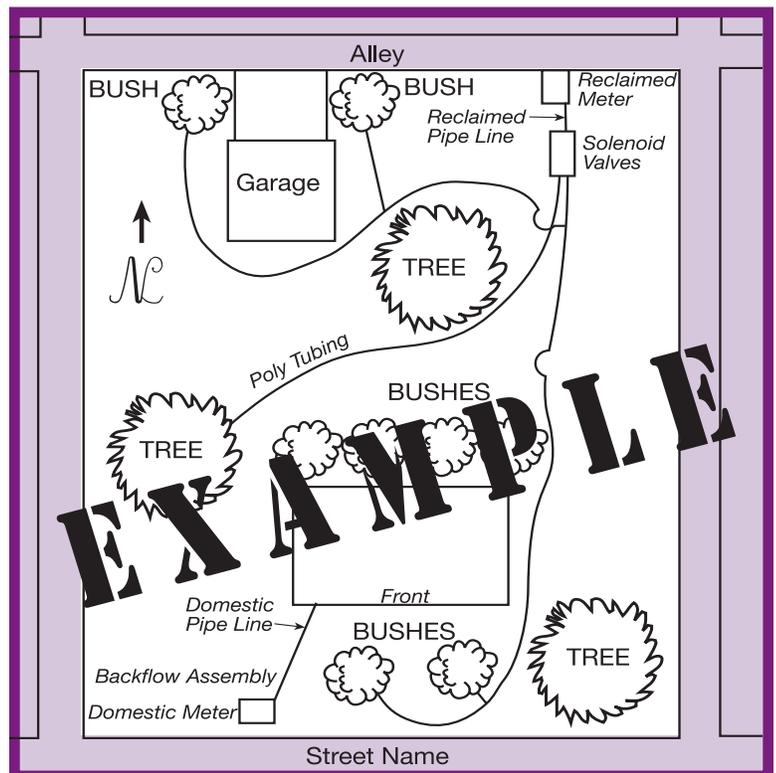
### Reporting Can Be Done in Two Ways:

1. Go to [http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/report\\_recl.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/report_recl.htm) and complete the on-line reporting form, or
2. Call the Tucson Water Backflow Prevention/Reclaimed water Section at 791-2650.

Failure to report discharges could result in the termination of your reclaimed water service.

## Irrigation System Plan Requirement

Before reclaimed water service is initiated at a property, a Reclaimed Water User Agreement must be signed. By Signing the Agreement, the owner and the person paying the water bill commit to following the rules that govern the use of reclaimed water. One of the rules is that a copy of the conceptual plans of the on-site reclaimed water system must be maintained on the premises. These plans must show the locations of the property lines, all structures on the site, reclaimed water lines, and turn off valves. If you don't have plans, use the example on the left to assist you in preparing your plan. Use the format on the following page to draw your reclaimed water system.

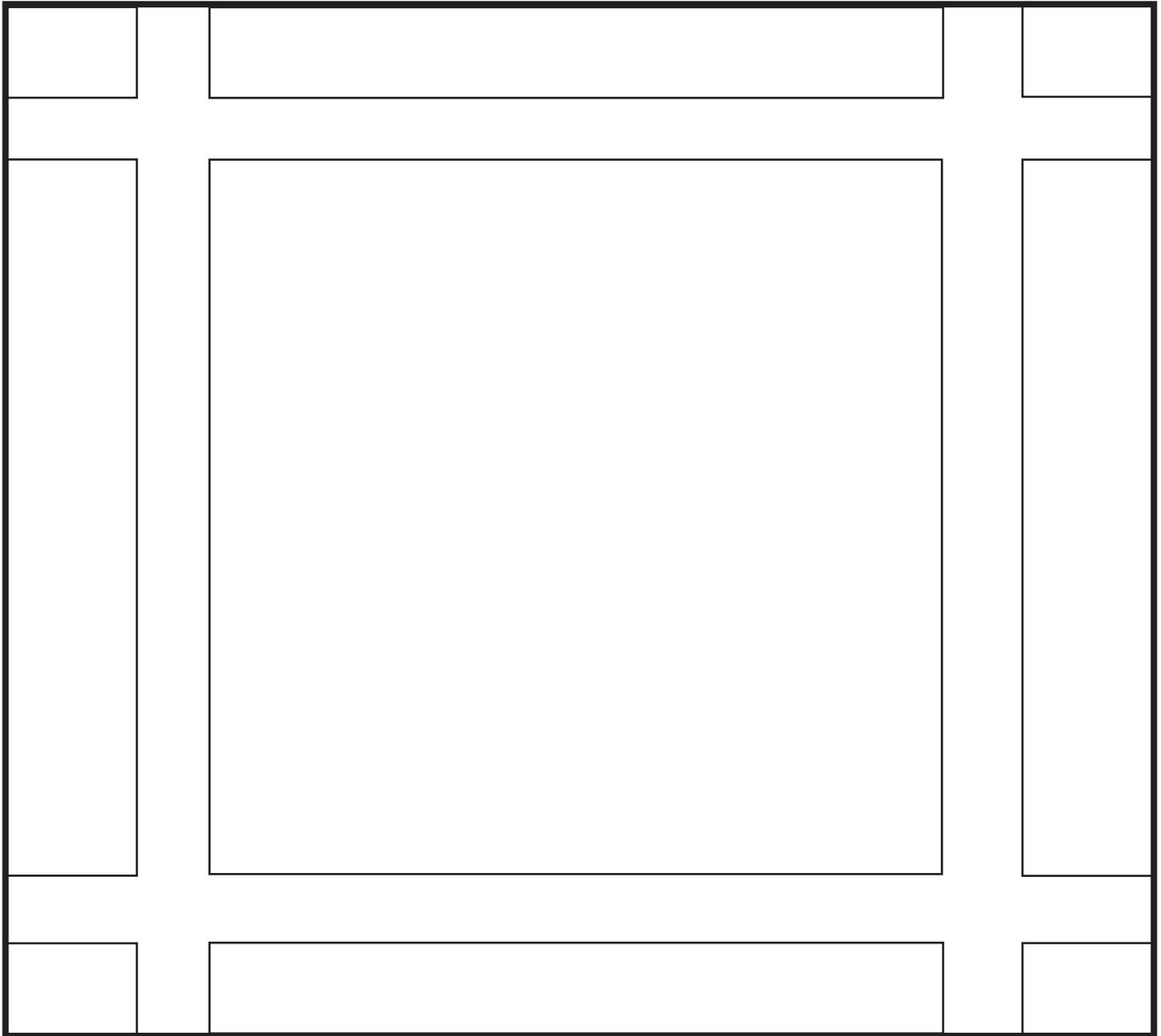


## Draw Your Own Plan:

# RECLAIMED WATER IRRIGATION SYSTEM SITE MAP

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**State regulations require this plan to be kept at the site  
where reclaimed water is used.**

# Reclaimed Water Customer Checklist

An annual inspection of your reclaimed water system will ensure you are in compliance with your signed reclaimed water user agreement and that you are using reclaimed water safely. Use this checklist as a guide to help you inspect your property. In the future, we will be implementing a program requiring periodic inspections of all sites with reclaimed water service. If you have any questions, call your area Cross Connection Control Specialist. See the map on our website [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm) to locate the specialist for your area.



**1. Review the ADEQ Reuse Rules and Your Reclaimed Water User Agreement** – As a reclaimed water customer, you are responsible for ensuring that your site is in compliance with the ADEQ Reuse rules. The rules are available online at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm).



**2. Check the Backflow Prevention Assembly** – All sites having reclaimed water service are required to have a backflow prevention assembly to protect the drinking water supply. You receive a letter annually advising you of the test requirements for this assembly; however, it is a good idea to check it periodically to make sure that it is not leaking or otherwise damaged.



**3. Identify and Label Irrigation System** – Reclaimed water irrigation systems must be identified with purple pipe or pipe labeled as “reclaimed water” pipe. Control valves and valve boxes must also be identified. Repaint any faded reclaimed meter and control box lids with purple paint. If you have added to or modified your irrigation system, check the rules for system identification at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm).



**4. Check Operation of Irrigation System** – Observe your irrigation system while it is running to ensure that there is no ponding, or over-spray onto other properties. Are there leaks in the irrigation system that should be repaired?



**5. Draw a Conceptual Plan of the Irrigation System** – Plans of your reclaimed water system must be kept on-site and available for inspection. If you don't have a plan of your irrigation system, draw your own (professional plans not required) or use the form at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed.htm). Laminate the plan to minimize wear.



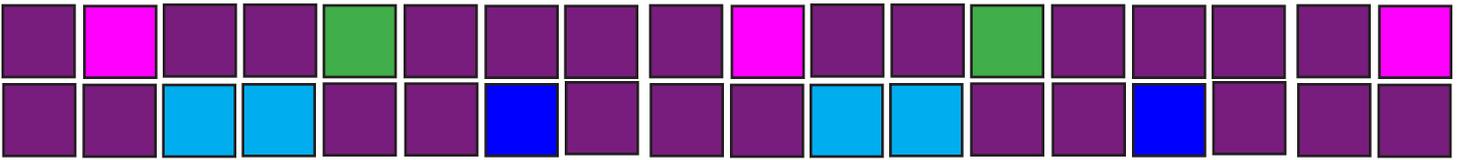
**6. Ask about Thermal Expansion Protection** – Ask a qualified plumber about thermal expansion due to the creation of a closed plumbing system when a backflow prevention assembly is installed on the potable water system.



**7. Check Signs** – Are all of your signs still in their proper place? Do any need to be replaced because of vandalism or wear? If you need new signs, call your Cross Connection Control Specialist.



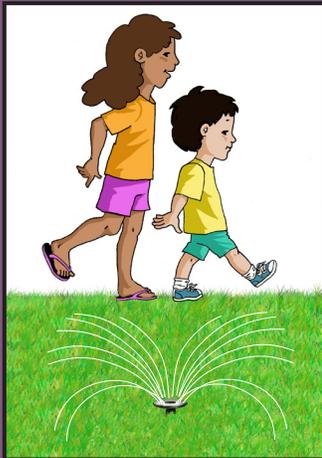
**8. Report Reclaimed Water Discharges** – You must report when reclaimed water leaves your property (i.e. an irrigation line breaks or overspray from sprinkler heads). Did you have any discharges in the past year? Did you report them by using the form at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/report\\_recl.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/report_recl.htm)?



## Our New Reclaimed Logo

After much thought and discussion, a new reclaimed water logo has been chosen. The small cup-shaped flower of the Globemallow (*Sphaeralcea Ambigua*) was selected for its low water requirements and the ability to 'reclaim' sandy washes and rocky hillsides. It is the most drought resistant member of the Mallow family and in wet years spectacular orange displays can be seen. The spring of 2007 was a good wildflower year, and the I-10 corridor between Tucson and Phoenix was resplendent with orange and purple blossoms.

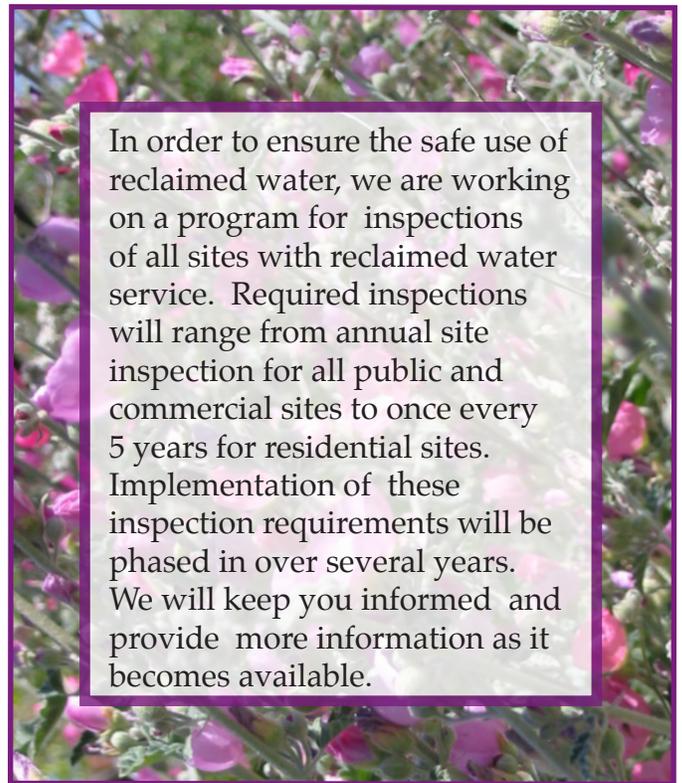
**We're using water wisely  
by irrigating with  
reclaimed water**



**Please Don't Drink the Water  
From the Sprinklers**



**Por Favor, No Beba  
el Agua del Aspensor**



In order to ensure the safe use of reclaimed water, we are working on a program for inspections of all sites with reclaimed water service. Required inspections will range from annual site inspection for all public and commercial sites to once every 5 years for residential sites. Implementation of these inspection requirements will be phased in over several years. We will keep you informed and provide more information as it becomes available.

This fun, eye catching sign was designed to identify the use of reclaimed water at schools and parks. The logo of each school district that has facilities using reclaimed water is on the sign with a 24/7 phone number for the reporting of any reclaimed water concerns. Look for this colorful sign at a location near you!



City of Tucson TTY#: 791-2639  
Si usted desea este documento escrito en español,  
por favor llame al 791-4331.