

# Your Water Connection

News & Tips for Tucson Water Customers

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## Water 101 **Drink Up!**

*This month in Water 101* we take a break from technical issues to offer some facts about the importance of drinking water. According to the American Water Works Association...

- 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated.
- Lack of water is the number one trigger of daytime fatigue.
- Just a 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen or a printed page.
- In a University of Washington study, one glass of water shut down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters.
- Without enough water during the school day children exhibit a pattern of lethargy, temper tantrums, academic underachievement, poor behavior and illness. Proper water intake results in greater alertness, particularly in the afternoon.
- Even mild dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%.

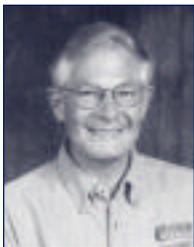
So drinking enough water everyday is important for all of us.

Have a question for *Water 101* or a suggestion for a topic? Call us at 791-4331 or email to

[TW\\_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us](mailto:TW_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us).

January 2004

<http://www.cityoftucson.org/water/>



# On the **Water Front**

## 2003—A Year of Progress and the Unexpected

With a new year upon us it's a good time to look back at the year past and some of the major projects and issues that we've experienced. As with every year, there were things we planned and things that were a surprise, but the team at Tucson Water, as always, was ready to deal with whatever occurred.

We reached a major milestone in May when we celebrated the completion of the Clearwater Renewable Resource Facility. Clearwater now provides nearly half of all the water we deliver and has allowed us to put more than 60 groundwater wells on stand-by. Reducing our groundwater pumping lets our water table and environment begin to recover from decades of over-pumping.

### **Complete!**



*Recharge basins at the Clearwater Facility.*

We also began a number of pipeline projects to expand our Reclaimed Water system. Using treated wastewater for irrigation saves billions of gallons of drinking water every year. These new reclaimed lines will carry water to parks, schools, and street medians that formerly used groundwater.

The potable water system also saw improvements this year, with new reservoirs being constructed and old water mains replaced. Our Maintaining the Mains

program made progress too. Last winter we completed this preventative maintenance on water mains in the northeast part of Tucson. This winter we're working on the southeast side.

In June, we dealt with one of those unexpected situations. The failure of a well caused a small amount of mercury to be released into the water system serving a portion of an east side neighborhood. Tucson Water professionals reacted quickly, switching the homes to a new water source, keeping the customers and regulatory agencies informed, and quickly began to clean up the mercury. The neighbors were inconvenienced, but otherwise there were no health or environmental problems. This was the only well in our water system with a mercury seal on the pump.

This past fall, we again reacted quickly to an unplanned issue when the

*Continued on Back*

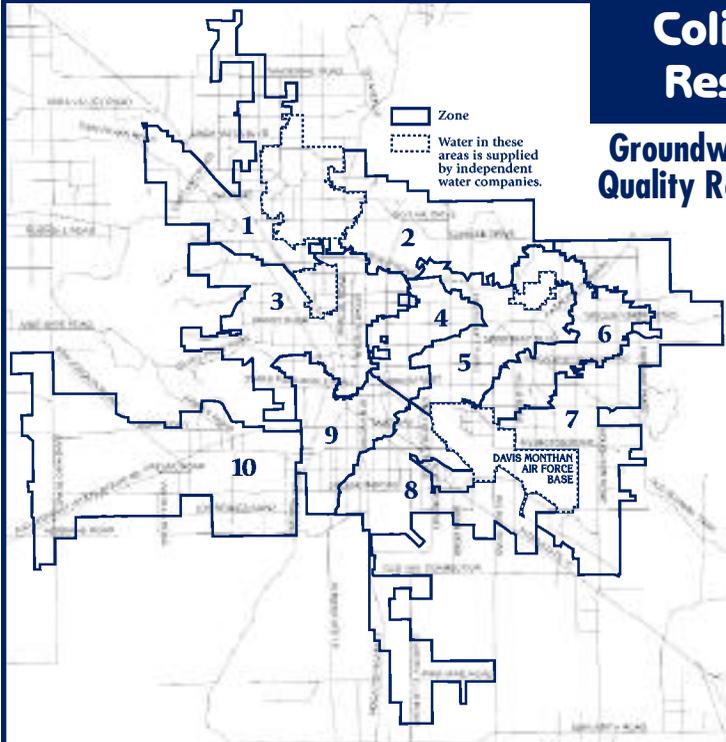
### **Clearwater Quality Report - December 2003**

<b>48</b>	Sodium (ppm)
<b>291.6</b>	Mineral Content (ppm)
<b>110</b>	Hardness (ppm)
<b>8.2</b>	pH (units)
<b>Neg*</b>	Coliform Bacteria
<b>0.77</b>	Chlorine level average (ppm)
<b>83.1</b>	Temp (deg F)

*\* Values for November 2003*

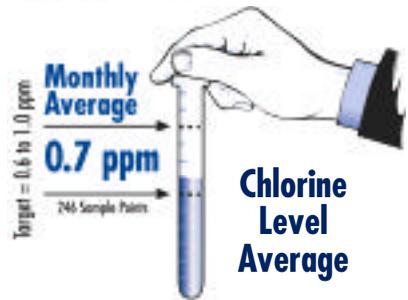
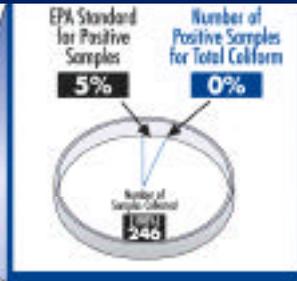
# Groundwater Quality Report - October 2003

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (ppm)	Average Range	49 45-53	48 47-49	44 29-54	40 29-48	41 26-48	43 35-48	31 22-46	43 42-44	46 41-56	43 42-43	42 22-56
Mineral Content (ppm)	Average Range	402 195-574	291 275-310	302 196-374	243 186-287	268 196-321	275 210-304	241 182-291	368 303-444	293 213-401	229 214-285	284 182-574
Hardness (ppm)	Average Range	252 138-311	122 115-132	129 92-167	98 72-109	111 96-124	115 84-133	110 85-140	191 165-262	102 75-133	78 75-82	122 72-311
pH (units)	Average Range	7.5 7.3-7.8	7.9 7.6-8.1	7.8 7.4-8.1	7.8 7.6-8.1	7.6 7.1-8.1	7.7 7.1-8.1	7.7 7.3-7.9	7.5 7.3-7.7	7.6 7.4-7.9	7.8 7.5-8.0	7.7 7.1-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average Range	82 77-88	86 82-90	85 77-89	86 81-90	85 79-90	84 74-91	85 80-91	83 78-85	85 80-91	86 83-88	85 74-91



## Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - October 2003

### Groundwater Quality Report



**Chlorine Level Average**

**“PPM” means one part per million;  
1 ppm = 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons**

To give you a more accurate measurement of the water quality in your neighborhood, the Tucson Water service area has been divided into 10 zones based on differences in water pressure and water quality. For a detailed description of the zone boundaries, call 791-4331.

With the exception of chlorine and coliform bacteria, none of the water quality parameters reported here have U.S. Environmental Protection Agency primary standards set for them. For more information about primary and secondary water quality standards, visit Tucson Water’s web site at [www.cityoftucson.org/water](http://www.cityoftucson.org/water).

Conservation Corner –  
Save Water/\$ave Dollars

## Water Conservation Tips

### Leak-Proof Your Home for the Winter

Water conservation professionals tell us that this time of year when water use is low is a good time to check your home for leaks and get ready for the high water use days of summer. Here's a great way to see if you have a leak you don't know about.

Turn off all the water in your home. Don't forget to close the valve to the hot water heater. Then go to your water meter and see if it is still running. If it is, there is a leak somewhere or you have forgotten to turn something off. To further isolate a leak, turn off the water valve at your house and see if the meter continues to run. If it does, there's a leak between the water meter and your house.

Usually, it's the leaks you know about but put off fixing that are most common around the house. Think about how much water, and money, can go down the drain. Leaks in the toilet can waste 100's of gallons of water a day. A dripping faucet can easily leak 50 gallons a day.

Don't forget about the water you use outside – where more than 60% of our water use occurs – and check your irrigation system for leaks and missing emitters.

*The Homeowner's Guide to Using Water Wisely* is a fact-filled booklet including more information on fixing leaks and saving water. It's available on-line at our web site - [www.cityoftucson.org/water](http://www.cityoftucson.org/water).

## Water\$mart Workshop Schedule

– Spring 2004

Learn to be more Water\$mart at one of these FREE workshops conducted by the University of Arizona Pima County Cooperative Extension Low 4 Program and sponsored by Tucson Water.

### *January 24, 2004*

Pima County Cooperative Extension  
4210 N. Campbell Avenue

9:00 AM–Noon      Hands-On Drip  
Irrigation\*

### *February 24, 2004*

Tohono Chul Park  
Desert Discovery Center–7366 N. Paseo Del Norte

9:00 AM–Noon      Desert Landscaping

### *March 20, 2004*

Tohono Chul Park  
Desert Discovery Center–7366 N. Paseo Del Norte

9:00 AM–Noon      Hands-On Drip  
Irrigation\*

1:00 PM–3:00 PM      Irrigation Timers

### *April 24, 2004*

Tohono Chul Park  
Desert Discovery Center–7366 N. Paseo Del Norte

9:00 AM–Noon      Desert Landscaping

1:00 PM–3:00 PM      Water Harvesting

### *May 8, 2004*

Pima County Cooperative Extension  
4210 N. Campbell Avenue

9:00 AM–Noon      Hands-On Drip  
Irrigation\*

1:00 PM–3:00 PM      Irrigation Timers

\* Participants must register for Hands-On Drip Irrigation class by calling (520) 622-7701.

# On the **Water Front**

*Continued from Inside*

gasoline pipeline owned by Kinder-Morgan broke on the City's west side. We checked to make sure there was no contamination of the drinking water supply - which there was not - and we continue to monitor that situation to make sure our water is safe and clean.

**Complete!**



*Building a new reservoir.*

As the new year begins, you can be sure the employees of Tucson Water will continue to be at your service, working to make sure you and your family have enough safe, quality water for your needs everyday.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "David V. Modeer".

David V. Modeer  
Director, Tucson Water

Visit the Tucson Water Web Site at <http://www.cityoftucson.org/water>

*Your Water Connection* is produced by Tucson Water. To receive a copy, or to receive this information in Spanish, call 791-4331 or mail your request to:  
Tucson Water, Customer Information, P.O. Box 27210, Tucson, AZ 85726-7210.

City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor, llame al 791-4331.

