

Conservation Corner

Save Water – Save Dollars

Tucson Water customers are wise water users – understanding that water is a precious natural resource. In order to help you be better conservationists, Tucson Water offers information, assistance and encouragement in a variety of ways. The City of Tucson's Water Ordinances help make sure conservation continues to be an important part of our City's future.

Two of those ordinances focus on requirements for new development in the Tucson area.

The City's Plumbing Codes require that low-flow fixtures and aerators be installed in all new homes and businesses constructed inside the City limits.

The Xeriscape Landscape Ordinance requires that low-water-use landscaping be used at all newly constructed commercial and multi-family residential buildings and severely limits the amount of high water-use landscaping that can be used in the design. There are no such requirements for single-family residential construction, but Xeriscaping is becoming very popular nonetheless, demonstrating our community's strong water conservation ethic in neighborhoods across the city.

Next month we'll take a look at two other ordinances that focus on water waste enforcement and preparation for a possible water emergency.

Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

Water 101

Planning for our Water Future

“Resource Planning Tool” Helps Manage Our Water Resources – Now and In the Future

Water 101 is presenting the ‘tools’ Tucson Water is using to complete its Long-Range Water Resource Plan. This plan looks ahead 50 years to what Tucson will be like, how much water we'll need, where that water will come from and what its quality will be. One way our people look into the future is with the **“Resource Planning Tool”**.

Tucson has three primary water resources – groundwater, Colorado River water and reclaimed water (treated wastewater used for irrigation). The amount we use from each of those resources is carefully monitored and managed by Tucson Water's planners and hydrologists. As our demand for water grows, one of the utility's tasks is to plan how to use those resources efficiently – today and in the future.

Water 101 continued inside

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

Water 101

“Resource Planning Tool” Helps Manage Our Water Resources - Now and In the Future

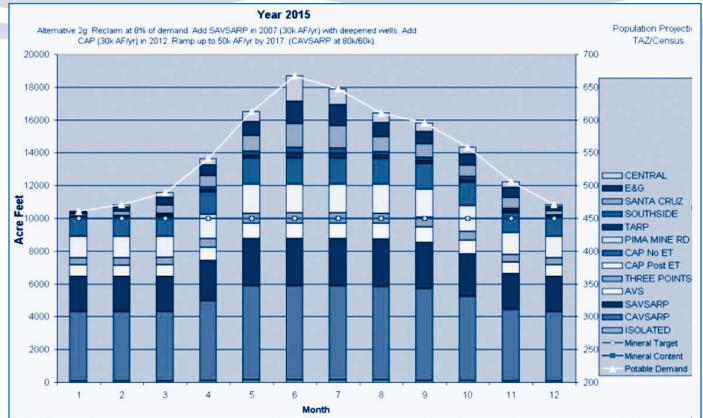
Water 101 continued from front

Tucson Water’s “Resource Planning Tool” is a sophisticated computer program that allows us to determine how our water resources should be used to make sure we have enough for all our needs in the coming decades.

For example, the planning software is used to look at situations in which we reduce groundwater pumping and increase our reliance on other water sources. Or, by adjusting the average number of gallons of water used by each of us each day, we can look at how conservation and other strategies might impact future demand. This kind of information is very valuable as we create the Long Range Water Resource Plan and make decisions that affect our community’s future.

The “Resource Planning Tool” also allows us to analyze the role current underused water resources might play in our future. Effluent is being considered as one possibility, and the tool lets our experts see what an increased use of this resource would mean to our future water supply. Exploring many different possibilities is an important part of ensuring Tucson has enough water for everyone in the years ahead.

Information generated with the “Resource Planning Tool” will play a vital role in Tucson Water’s Long Range Planning process. The Plan will ensure we all have enough quality water in the future.



This “Resource Planning Tool” graph shows how our many water resources might be used to meet both annual demand and our customers’ water quality preferences in the year 2015.

Summer/Fall 2004 Water\$mart Workshop Schedule

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.

August 28, 2004

Pima County Cooperative Extension
4210 N. Campbell Avenue

9:00am–12:00Noon Hands-On Drip Irrigation*

1:00-3:00pm Irrigation Timers

September 18, 2004

Tobono Chul Park (Desert Discovery Center)
7366 N. Paseo Del Norte

9:00am–12:00Noon Desert Landscaping

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



On the Water Front

It seems like the hotter it gets the more we all think about water.

This summer, as our hydrologists and planners work to complete our Long Range Water Resource Plan, we've been encouraged by the number of customers who've told us they are glad we're planning for the future. But there are also some who've asked why we need to take the time and trouble to look at what Tucsonans' water needs will be in 2050.

Is it worth it to plan ahead? More than two decades ago, some very smart and forward-thinking people at Tucson Water began developing our Reclaimed Water System. Back then it was an innovative idea and Tucson was one of the first cities in the country to begin using treated wastewater for irrigation.

Right from the start, the Reclaimed System saved precious drinking water – drinking water that before had poured onto golf courses and parks all through the summer and could now be saved for household use. Over time our Reclaimed System grew, supported by voters in several bond elections.

Today reclaimed water makes up about 8% of all the water we deliver and saves about

3.25 billion gallons of drinking water each year. It keeps almost all of the golf courses in our service area and many of our parks, schoolyards and street medians green. Water professionals from all over the world come to Tucson Water to learn more about how to develop Reclaimed Water Systems in their cities and countries.

If we hadn't looked to the future and planned our Reclaimed Water System back in the early 1980s, our water supply situation would be very different today.

So when we start to talk with you about our Long Range Plan and ask for your opinion, you'll better understand why we're always planning ahead. It's the smartest, most cost effective way to make sure we all have enough quality water for the future.

Dave Modeer
Director, Tucson Water

Clearwater Quality Report- July 2004

50*	Sodium (mg/L)
257.0	Mineral Content (mg/L)
121*	Hardness (mg/L)
8.13	pH (S.U.)
Neg*	Coliform Bacteria
0.85	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
80.0	Temp (deg F)

* Values for June 2004

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.



Groundwater Quality Report - May 2004

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	57	47	48	40	44	44	38	42	44	45	44
	Range	33-92	43-49	28-58	30-50	35-53	32-51	23-52	38-44	40-51	40-54	23-92
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	400	307	301	257	278	284	251	354	298	238	291
	Range	228-557	291-319	194-396	186-310	196-319	209-311	181-310	287-445	212-500	214-311	181-557
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	222	127	135	105	113	120	119	182	128	94	128
	Range	102-336	116-146	80-212	87-125	92-132	98-128	106-134	139-266	71-294	74-126	71-336
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.4	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.7
	Range	7.1-7.8	7.5-8.1	7.5-8.0	7.3-8.0	7.0-8.1	7.1-8.1	7.3-8.0	7.1-7.6	7.3-8.0	7.5-7.9	7.0-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	81	84	82	85	83	82	81	82	85	84	83
	Range	76-87	79-86	75-92	82-89	76-90	74-85	76-85	77-85	78-88	80-87	74-92

Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - May 2004

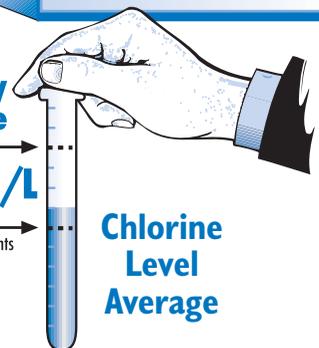
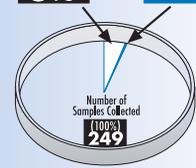
Groundwater Quality Report

EPA Standard for Positive Samples

5%

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform

0.38%



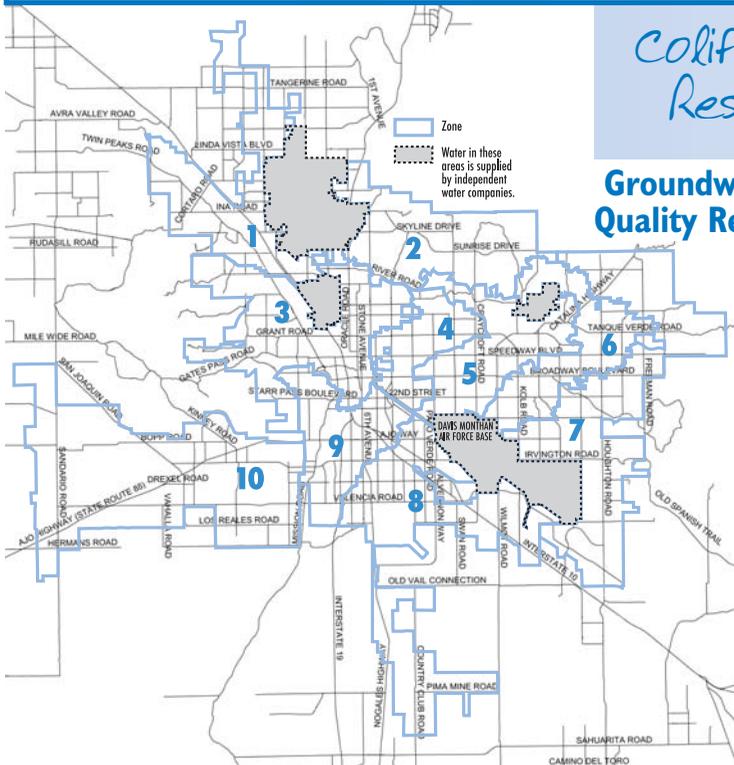
Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

Monthly Average

0.7 mg/L

249 Sample Points

Chlorine Level Average



*"mg/L" means milligrams per liter;
1 mg/L = 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 website at www.cityoftucson.org/water.