

## Choosing Pathways to Our Water Future

Water 101 continued from front

### Decision #2 – All Recharge or Treatment Plant Restoration

The second question we must answer is: **“Should Tucson Water recharge and recover all of our Colorado River water allotment, or restore the existing water treatment plant to treat and blend a portion of this supply on the surface?”**

We now use our Colorado River water by recharging it, allowing it to blend with native groundwater and pumping it back out of the ground at the Clearwater Facility. We'll be expanding that facility to accept most of our available river water. The decision we need to make is how to use what's left of our Colorado River water allotment. Two options are available:

**1** Tucson Water could expand the Clearwater Facility even further to accept all of our Colorado River water for recharge, blending and recovery.

**2** Or, Tucson Water could bring the existing Hayden-Udall Water Treatment Facility back into service to treat the remaining Colorado River water and mix it with the Clearwater blend before being delivered to customers.

#### More Information on the Way

Both options provide a method to make use of all of our Colorado River supplies. Expanding the Clearwater facility provides the option of storing extra surface water for the future. Restoring and using the Treatment Plant is less expensive than increasing the size of the Clearwater project. In the months to come, we'll be sharing the relative costs with you, along with other information that will help in making informed choices on these decisions.

We'll give you more information in the April 2005 *Water 101*. For more detailed information about *Water Plan 2000–2050*, visit the Tucson Water website at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water) or call 791-4331.

## Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

### Water 101

*Water 101* is a regular column where we explore an aspect of our water system in response to questions from Tucson Water customers. Recently we began a series of articles about Tucson Water's Long Range Plan, and last month we began focusing on the Plan's Critical Decisions that we as a community must make as we plan our water future. **If you have a question you'd like to have answered here, or if you have a suggestion for a topic, please call us at 791-4331 or email [TW\\_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us](mailto:TW_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us).**

### Choosing Pathways to Our Water Future

Tucson Water's *Long Range Water Plan 2000-2050* was developed to address a wide range of potential future water situations and determine a number of possible pathways that could lead to them. These different pathways each have a series of Critical Decisions. The first set of Critical Decisions, which must be made before or during 2006, will determine how we use Colorado River water. Last month, we talked about Decision #1 – deciding the future mineral content of our water.

*Water 101 continued on back*

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)

## Conservation Corner

# New Reclaimed Line Will Save More Drinking Water



How do we save millions of gallons of precious drinking water a year? Switch an irrigation customer from drinking water to Reclaimed Water. Next month, Tucson Water will begin construction of a new Reclaimed Water main from the Udall Park area to the 49er's Country Club. Completion of the line will allow the golf course at 49er's to begin keeping its turf green with treated effluent.

49er's is one of the very few golf courses in the Tucson Water service area that is not currently irrigated with Reclaimed Water.

Along the way, the new Reclaimed line will also serve a number of other new 'customers', including six schools who now use drinking

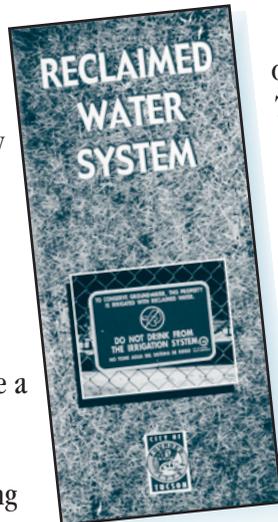
*The 49er's Reclaimed Water Line will run 8.5 miles across the east side of Tucson to carry treated effluent to the 49er's Golf Course and a number of other customers.*

water to irrigate their properties. Other potential customers along the route will be contacted to determine their interest in switching to this renewable supply.

More than 600 schools, parks, golf courses, and others customers now use Reclaimed Water from Tucson Water's system, which, when it was created in the 1980's, was one of the first Reclaimed Water systems in the nation.

**In an average year, about 3.5 billion gallons of Reclaimed Water is delivered by Tucson Water. Each of those saves one gallon of drinking water that would otherwise have been used for irrigation.**

More information on Reclaimed Water is available online at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water), and click on Planning & New Development.





# On the Water Front

As you know, we have several decisions to make concerning our water as part of our *Long Range Water Plan 2000–2050*. Decision #2 must be made during the next year, no matter what choices we make about the mineral content of our future water. That issue, Decision #1, was discussed in last month's *Your Water Connection*.

Decision #2 involves deciding how we use a large part of our Colorado River water allotment. There's a review of the options open to us in this newsletter, but there is still some more information you will need to make an informed decision on this issue. I want to assure you that we are working hard to determine the estimated differences in cost between the two options. We'll share that information with you soon.

Watch for announcements of Town Halls and Open Houses that we're hosting at various locations around the region. If you belong to a group or organization that would like to see a presentation about the Long Range Water Plan, call us and we'll be glad to make arrangements for that. We also offer tours of our water

facilities, including the Reclaimed Water Plant and the Clearwater Facility. Call 791-4331 to arrange for either a presentation or a tour.

The entire Water Plan is lengthy and very expensive to print, so we are offering an Overview that we'll be glad to provide to you. You can also view a copy of the entire Water Plan or the briefer Overview version on our website at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water).

I encourage you to call or email with any questions you have regarding the Plan. There's an email link to our Public Information Office on our website. We'll look forward to hearing from you.

Dave Modeer  
*Director, Tucson Water*

## Clearwater Quality Report- February 2005

56*	Sodium (mg/L)
205.1	Mineral Content (mg/L)
144*	Hardness (mg/L)
8.1**	pH (S.U.)
Neg*	Coliform Bacteria
0.85**	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
81.9**	Temp (deg F)

\* Values for January 2005

\*\* Values for December 2004

Visit the Tucson Water Web Site at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/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

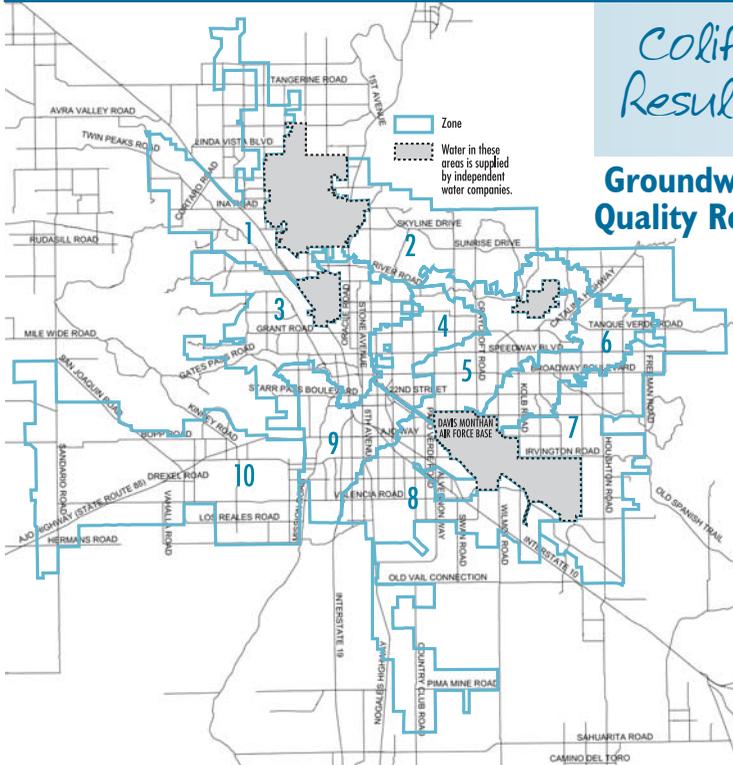
Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor, llame al 791-4331.



# Groundwater Quality Report - December 2004

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	55	44	48	45	44	42	31	44	47	42	43
	Range	35-90	41-50	32-77	31-52	30-52	28-51	26-46	38-49	38-54	39-43	26-90
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	430	314	325	270	291	288	234	359	316	212	299
	Range	175-584	284-340	184-449	188-391	189-371	208-364	181-340	303-449	205-531	198-217	175-584
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	163	140	146	118	122	132	108	187	153	78	136
	Range	58-276	113-165	66-194	71-174	88-138	81-192	87-118	116-264	75-254	77-80	58-276
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.5	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7
	Range	7.2-7.9	7.4-8.0	7.3-8.1	7.4-8.0	7.1-8.1	7.2-8.1	7.2-8.0	7.3-7.8	7.3-8.0	7.4-7.8	7.1-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	68	71	72	74	73	72	71	73	74	73	72
	Range	64-72	66-78	63-77	64-81	65-82	64-78	63-76	64-78	65-79	67-82	63-82

## Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - December 2004



### Groundwater Quality Report



EPA Standard for Positive Samples

**5%**

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform

**0.4%**

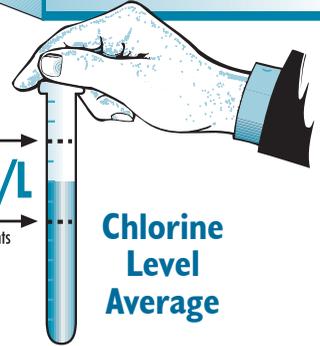


Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

**Monthly Average**

**0.8 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.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water).