

## Beat the Peak – 2005

# Not So Extreme Makeover

*Not So Extreme continued from inside*

small earthen berms (like speed bumps) or swales (shallow depressions) to direct rainwater

to planted areas. Get your shovel and be ready when the summer rains begin.

It doesn't take an extreme makeover to save water. It's easy! So this summer, follow **Pete's** advice - give your home or business a "Not So Extreme Makeover" and **Beat the Peak**. For more information about summer water savings tips that are 'not so extreme,' but very effective, visit Tucson Water's web site at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water) or call 791-4331 and ask for water conservation brochures – *Water Harvesting*, *Homeowners' Guide*, *Gray Water*, *Xeriscaping*, and more.



*Phil D'Aquifer and Pete the Beak check a customer's backyard irrigation system.*

# Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

## Beat the Peak – 2005

# Not So Extreme Makeover

Turn on the TV today and chances are you'll see a show about home makeovers. This

summer, **Pete the Beak** and his crew will show you how a "Not So Extreme Makeover" on your home or business can save water without a lot of cost or effort. Just by following a few simple water conservation tips, you can **Beat the Peak**. Try these "Not So Extreme Makeover" water saver ideas today.



## Lose Your Leaks

Lower your water bill by fixing leaky faucets. Use a few simple tools, a few inexpensive parts, a little bit of effort



*Not So Extreme continued inside*

# Beat the Peak – 2005

## Not So Extreme Makeover

Not So Extreme  
*continued from front*

and you can save up to 50 gallons of water a day. You can find instructions in our *Homeowners' Guide* on the Tucson Water web site at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water).

### Fix The Flapper

Leaking toilets are a big water waster. Toilets use about 20% of all the water coming in to a standard Tucson home.

Having the flapper valve or float set too high can cause water to go down the drain. To check for leaks, place a few drops of food

coloring in the tank. Wait 30 minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. If it does, you may need to replace a bad flapper. By replacing a bad flapper, you can save up to 100 gallons of water a day.



### Perfect Timing

Check your irrigation system for leaks also, and don't forget to check the timer to see



*Phil, Pete and the Water Saver Crew can show you how a "Not So Extreme Makeover" can save water this summer.*

if you are watering too frequently or for too long. During the summer months, up to 60% of water usage occurs outside, so make sure your irrigation system is working properly and broken or missing emitters are replaced.

### Put the Rain to Work

Water harvesting is capturing and storing rainfall to irrigate plants and can be as simple as digging a shallow well around a tree or putting in some



*Not So Extreme  
continued on back*



# On the Water Front

Summer has returned to Tucson. It's the time of year when we remind you to be aware of how much water you use and to try some things around the house to reduce your water use.

**Beat the Peak**, our summer water conservation program, is mainly directed to children. Its feathered hero, **Pete the Beak**, takes a light-hearted look at saving water, but behind the fun and the puns are serious messages about water use.

We live in a desert and those of us who weren't born here are used to locations where water is more abundant. **Beat the Peak** and other Tucson Water conservation programs are designed to show our customers how important water is and how little changes in our daily behavior are needed to use less water than we might normally.

**Pete the Beak** reminds us each year that being careful with water doesn't have to mean making major changes in the way we live day to day. It doesn't have to cost a lot of money. Saving water just requires us to think about where we live and have some consideration for our environment. It also has the added benefit of potentially saving money by reducing your water bill.

Tucson Water works to provide you and your family with quality water and to make sure you can count on clean, safe water at your tap. It's easy for any of us to take that convenience for granted and not to remember how precious our water resources are. Without them our community couldn't be sustained.

So do your part this summer. Fix that dripping faucet this weekend. Look around the yard for places where you can direct rainwater to landscaping. If you have an irrigation system, check it for leaks. Even shutting off the tap while you brush your teeth or shave will save a little water. It all adds up to millions of gallons a year.

If you need advice, information, or help making your home more water smart, call us at 791-4331.

Dave Modeer  
*Director, Tucson Water*

## Clearwater Quality Report- May 2005

54	Sodium (mg/L)
203.8	Mineral Content (mg/L)
127*	Hardness (mg/L)
7.74	pH (S.U.)
Neg*	Coliform Bacteria
0.79	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
80.4	Temp (deg F)

\* Values for April 2005

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.

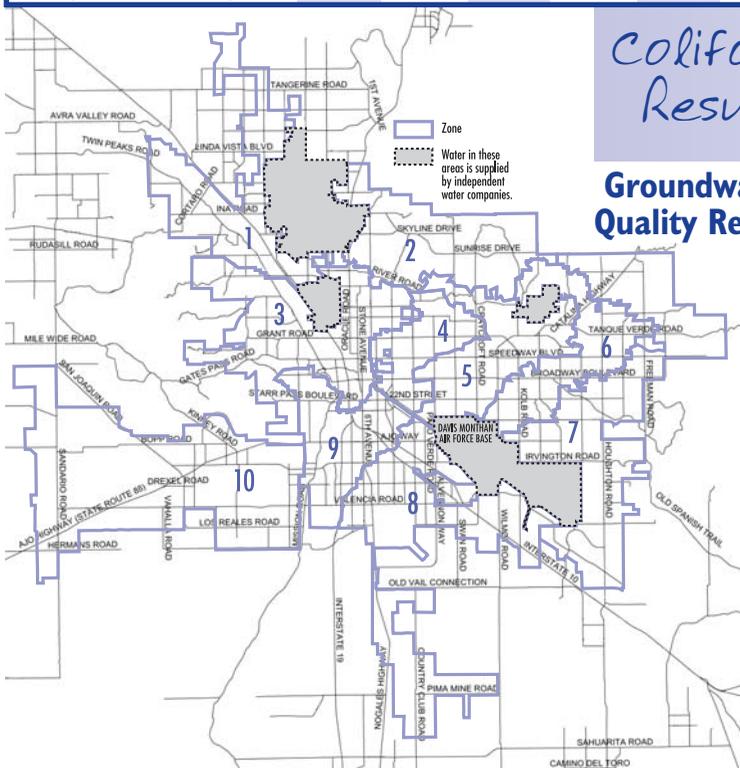


# Groundwater Quality Report - March 2005

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	56	50	46	47	42	43	33	42	49	43	44
	Range	39-96	47-52	27-54	31-52	25-51	27-52	26-50	37-48	40-56	39-51	25-96
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	389	328	335	299	292	288	246	395	332	245	311
	Range	214-579	293-365	201-431	186-352	167-359	217-333	179-335	306-472	200-467	207-319	167-579
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	125	132	146	128	119	124	114	220	157	96	138
	Range	75-231	120-141	108-193	86-154	63-151	100-143	89-143	193-281	75-257	77-132	63-281
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.8
	Range	7.3-8.2	7.8-8.2	7.6-8.1	7.6-8.1	7.4-8.2	7.2-8.2	7.3-8.2	7.2-7.9	7.4-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.2-8.2
Temperature (deg F)	Average	72	74	73	77	74	73	71	73	76	76	74
	Range	68-74	66-79	67-77	68-83	64-82	64-80	65-76	67-82	70-83	68-84	68-84

## Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - March 2005

### Groundwater Quality Report



EPA Standard for Positive Samples: **5%**

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform: **0.0%**

Number of Samples Collected: **245**

Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

**0.7 mg/L**

245 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).