

## Water Conservation Vital to Future Sustainability of Our Region

There are three critical components of Tucson Water's Long Range Water Plan - maximizing the use of our current water supplies, seeking and acquiring additional water supplies, and continuing and enhancing our water conservation efforts.

Tucson Water is working on all three of these elements (see the article about new wells in this newsletter). We've begun sharing information with you and will soon be asking for your input. We'll work together on these components to determine how best to ensure our region's water future.

### Conservation Task Force

The discussion about the third component, water conservation, is also underway. The Community Water Conservation Task Force met for the first time in early June. This group of customers, brought together by Tucson Water, is made up of representatives from local businesses, neighborhoods, and the environmental community. The Task Force is meeting monthly to study, discuss, and make recommendations on the best and most equitable way to enhance our water conservation efforts.

How to best employ and pay for the latest in conservation technology and what kind of ordinances and policies might be most effective in enhancing conservation are just a few of the things that will be looked at by the Task Force.

We'll keep you up to date on this important work as progress is made.

### Beat the Peak

In the meantime, summer is here. It's the time we ask you to pay particular attention to your water use and to Beat the Peak. Check your home for water leaks – a leak in your toilet, sink, or outside irrigation system could be wasting hundreds of gallons of water. You can also make the rain work for you by building tree wells or creating small earthen berms to move rainwater



to your landscaping – simple water harvesting. Reusing greywater – water from your bathroom sink or shower, or your washing machine – can also be an effective way to “stretch” the use you get from your water.

A “Not So Extreme Makeover” like this in your home can save water and reduce your water bill. To learn more about water harvesting, greywater use, or other water saving ideas, call us at 791-4331 or visit our web site at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water).

### New Wells...

## Are the First Step to Using More Blended Water

*New Wells continued from front*

River water allotment is being recharged in the existing Clearwater Facility. Plans are in the works to build an additional recharge and recovery facility south of Clearwater.

This second phase of Clearwater will work essentially like the first – allowing Colorado River water to soak into the earth and down to the water table where it will blend naturally with groundwater. The wells will then recover the blend and it will be added to our water supply. Between the two phases, we'll make use of nearly 95% of our available River water.

That means more groundwater wells can be put on standby, further reducing the threat of subsidence and protecting our environment. The ultimate goal, which is a key element in Tucson Water's Long Range Water Plan, is to maximize the use of our renewable water supplies to help ensure the sustainability of our water resources and our community.

Watch this newsletter for more news on the Long Range Water Plan and the facilities Tucson Water is building in preparation to implement it. Check our website ([www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water)) for a summary of the Water Plan and more information about Clearwater Phase II.

# Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

### New Wells...

## Are the First Step to Using More Blended Water

Water wells, more than 1,000 feet deep, are being drilled in Avra Valley west of Tucson. It's the first step in the construction of Clearwater Phase II, the major project in Tucson Water's plan to maximize the use of our Colorado River water.



*Well drilling equipment dwarfs the operators who run it.*

Funded by the water bonds recently approved by Tucson voters, the wells will eventually pump a blend of recharged Colorado River water and native groundwater to Tucson Water customers. Right now about 45% of our Colorado

*New Wells continued on back*



# On the Water Front

Because of the time and cost involved in constructing new water system facilities and pipelines and the many regulations and legalities of water, Tucson Water has to plan years into the future to make sure we have enough quality water for our customers. Our Long Range Water Plan addresses much of this future planning as it looks at what our water needs will be, provides recommendations, and presents many of the details of system design, construction, funding, water quality and resource regulations, and much more.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you've read about two of the three key components of the *Water Plan 2000-2050*. Meeting the future needs of our customers through the year 2050 will take successful efforts in each of these areas - maximizing the use of our current allotment of Colorado River water and strengthening our water conservation efforts. The third component of the Plan is to acquire additional water resources for the future.

There are several ways in which Tucson Water is working on this third component. First, as a result of the resolution of the Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act, more than 8,000 acre feet (about 2.6 billion gallons) of additional Colorado River water should become available to us next year. Second, we're talking with other area water providers about working

cooperatively to import other water supplies into our area. Third, we're considering negotiating for more surface water with other entities and jurisdictions that have more Colorado River water than they can use.

Finally, some years in the future, we'll be looking at the potential for treating wastewater effluent to drinking water standards. This new resource could then be added to our groundwater supply.

All three key components of the Water Plan are underway. Together they will help us build a secure water future for our families and ourselves.

Dave Modeer  
Director, Tucson Water

## Clearwater Quality Report - June 2005

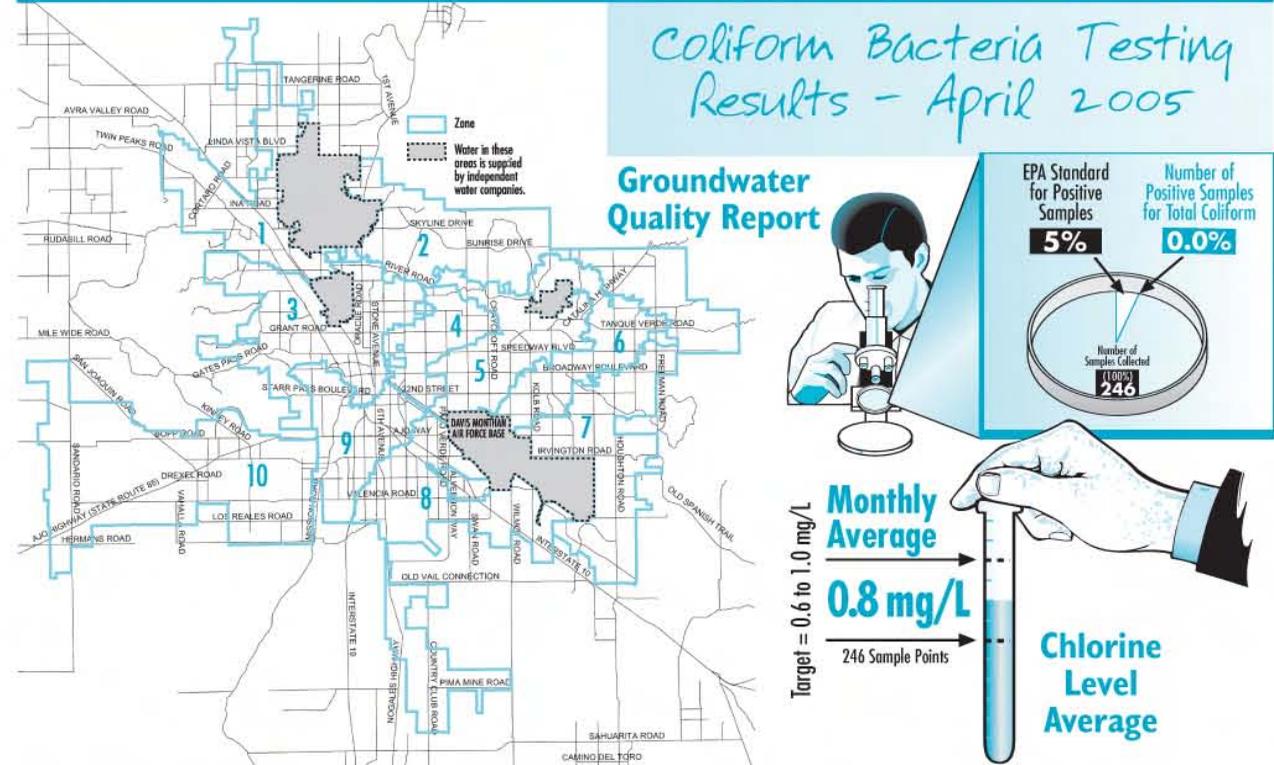
50*	Sodium (mg/L)
210.4	Mineral Content (mg/L)
127**	Hardness (mg/L)
7.76	pH (S.U.)
Neg*	Coliform Bacteria
0.81	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
80.9	Temp (deg F)

\* Values for May 2005  
\*\* Values for April 2005

# Groundwater Quality Report - April 2005

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	51	49	49	39	45	45	35	42	44	42	44
	Range	48-54	45-52	34-58	27-47	37-52	35-50	23-51	36-44	36-50	37-51	23-58
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	441	323	337	275	304	308	258	371	326	251	313
	Range	189-599	312-337	205-432	185-388	221-349	204-344	178-337	303-437	204-483	204-329	178-599
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	244	135	145	110	132	137	123	200	158	90	141
	Range	141-366	119-142	110-183	70-174	119-147	87-155	76-148	157-262	69-253	70-132	69-366
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7
	Range	7.3-8.1	7.5-8.1	7.4-8.2	7.4-8.0	7.3-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.3-7.7	7.3-8.0	7.3-7.8	7.3-8.2
Temperature (deg F)	Average	76	80	77	80	79	78	77	76	78	77	78
	Range	69-79	75-84	72-83	77-85	70-84	68-84	73-81	73-81	72-85	71-82	68-85

## Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - April 2005



"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).

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.

