

Summer/Fall 2005

Water\$mart Workshop Schedule

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

August 13, 2005

Pima County Cooperative Extension
4210 N. Campbell Avenue; Tucson

9:00am–12:00pm Hands-On Drip
Irrigation*
1:00pm–3:00pm Irrigation Timers

September 10, 2005

Golf Links Library
9640 E. Golf Links Road; Tucson

9:00am–12:00pm Desert Landscaping

October 1, 2005

Pima County Cooperative Extension
4210 N. Campbell Avenue; Tucson

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

October 12, 2005

Northwest YMCA
7770 N. Shannon Road; Tucson

9:30am–12:30pm Desert Landscaping
1:00pm–3:00pm Water Harvesting

November 5, 2005

Pima County Cooperative Extension
4210 N. Campbell Avenue; Tucson

9:00am–12:00pm Hands-On Drip
Irrigation*
1:00pm–3:00pm Irrigation Timers

* Participants **MUST** register for Hands-On Drip Irrigation class by calling (520) 622-7701. Registration for the other classes is recommended but not mandatory.

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. This month we let you know how to obtain more information about water quality in the Tucson area. **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.**

EMPACT Program Provides Water Quality Information



Want to know more about what's in your water? Then you need to know about Tucson Water's EMPACT program. It's your resource for detailed drinking water quality information. Through the *EMPACT News* newsletter, brochures, library displays, and many other materials and resources, the EMPACT program provides Tucson Water Customers with accurate, timely information about their water.

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

EMPACT Program Provides Water Quality Information

Water 101 continued from front

EMPACT stands for *Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking* and was started several years ago with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Although EPA funding has come to an end, Tucson Water has continued the program to provide customers with detailed information about local water quality issues.

This information is available to you in a variety of formats. The EPA grant allowed Tucson Water to create a number of automated water quality monitoring stations that send their reports to the utility's web site where you can see the test results at any time. The program's brochures offer information about substances commonly found in water. The newsletter often takes a close look at emerging water quality issues at a national or regional level.

One of the keys to the success of the program is a group of community partners who work with Tucson Water to help ensure that the information that's made available to customers is thorough, accessible and relevant. These organizations have worked with Tucson Water for a number of years



Cover of the July/August 2005
EMPACT News

The EMPACT Team and Their Sites on the Web

- Tucson Water – select the Water Quality link at www.tucsonaz.gov/water
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality – select Water Quality link at www.azdeq.gov
- City of Tucson Citizen and Neighborhood Services office www.tucsonaz.gov/dnr
- Pima County Health Department www.pimahealth.org
- Pima County Wastewater Management www.pima.gov/wwm
- Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce www.hispanicchambertucson.org
- Tucson-Pima Public Library www.lib.ci.tucson.az.us
- Tucson Unified School District, David T. Smith Science Resource Center instech.tusd.k12.az.us
- University of Arizona, National Science Foundation, Water Quality Center and University of Arizona Soils, Water and Environmental Sciences Department wqc.arizona.edu
- University of Arizona Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center coep.pharmacy.arizona.edu
- University of Arizona, Water Resources Research Center www.ag.arizona.edu/AZWATER/

and are committed to adding a perspective from their particular areas of expertise to the program.

Tucson Water provides a number of ways for you to learn more about the drinking water quality in your home or at work. Basic water quality information appears monthly in this bill insert, but there's much more on the Water Quality section of our website, www.tucsonaz.gov/water. You can also download EMPACT brochures and newsletters in the Publications section of our website. To put your name on the mailing list to receive free *EMPACT News* newsletters in English or Spanish, please call 791-5080 ext. 1372, or email Dan.Quintanar@tucsonaz.gov, or call the Public Information Office at 791-4331.



On the Water Front

Next time you're at a football game, imagine the field covered by a column of water nearly twice as high as the tallest skyscraper in Tucson. That's how much water Tucson Water delivered in a single day earlier this summer... more than 168 million gallons! That day was a record for us, but it's not unusual for us to deliver more than 150 million gallons a day during the hot dry summer months.

The Clearwater Facility, where our Colorado River water is recharged to blend with groundwater, provides about half of the water we use. The remainder still comes from groundwater wells in and around our community. We're now using about 45% of our available Colorado River water supply. Projects are now underway, funded by the recently approved water bonds, that, when complete, will let us start using almost all of this renewable resource.

We're also using those water bonds to expand the Reclaimed water system, taking highly treated wastewater to more golf courses and schools and saving millions of gallons of drinking water that otherwise would be used for irrigation. In the next year, 49er's Country Club golf course will be switched to reclaimed water, allowing several wells in the Tanque Verde Creek area be put on standby and helping to protect that riparian area.

Using renewable supplies doesn't mean we still don't have to use water wisely. This summer, follow some of the suggestions presented in our Beat the Peak campaign and make your home more water smart. It doesn't take an 'extreme makeover'. Harvest some of the water from the monsoons and then plan on doing the same when our winter rains arrive. Water conservation is important year round here in the desert. Please visit our web site for more water saving ideas.

Dave Modeer
Director, Tucson Water

Clearwater Quality Report- June 2005

46	Sodium (mg/L)
185.6	Mineral Content (mg/L)
127*	Hardness (mg/L)
8.26	pH (S.U.)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria
0.84	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
80.1	Temp (deg F)

* Values for April 2005

Visit the Tucson Water Web Site at 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

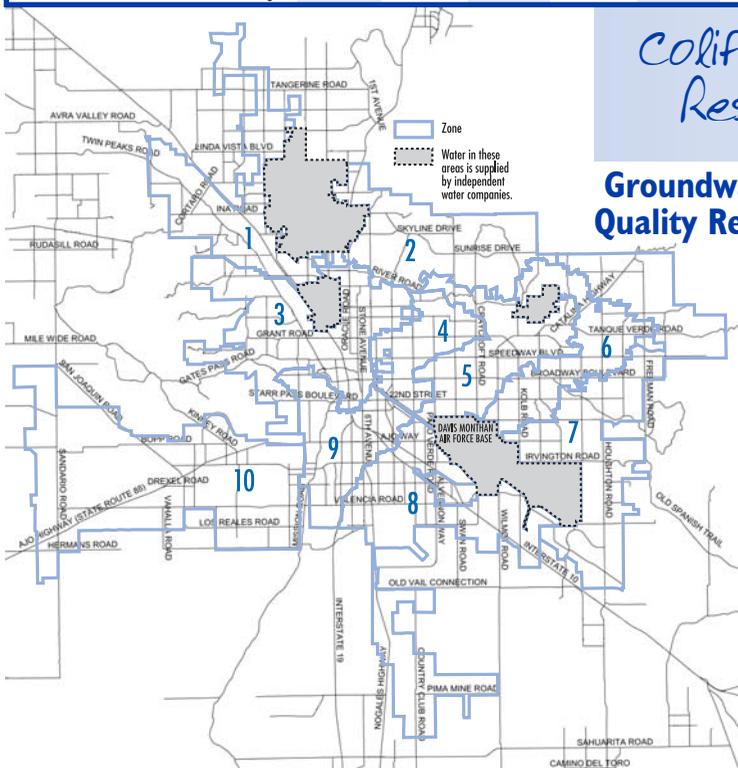
Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor,
llame al 791-4331.



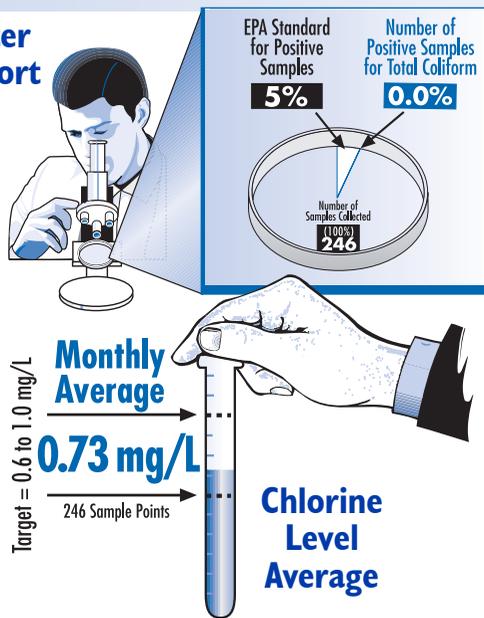
Groundwater Quality Report - May 2005

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	62	48	48	41	45	45	36	43	45	45	45
83 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	48-87	46-51	28-60	32-51	26-51	31-51	22-50	39-47	40-51	41-51	22-87
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	425	319	309	264	298	303	259	366	328	256	306
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	170-588	300-339	196-411	184-346	214-351	207-344	184-338	325-430	211-472	213-345	170-588
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	260	133	144	113	135	138	125	203	137	101	140
83 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	210-341	123-148	84-194	79-141	97-150	102-156	105-146	161-271	75-279	76-139	75-341
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.5	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.9	7.8
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	7.3-8.1	7.4-8.0	7.0-8.1	7.5-8.1	7.4-8.0	7.3-8.0	7.3-8.1	7.4-7.7	7.4-8.0	7.7-8.0	7.0-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	80	84	80	85	82	82	81	81	84	83	82
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	75-86	79-86	74-90	80-90	75-87	73-87	75-86	75-85	76-90	78-87	73-90

Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - May 2005



Groundwater Quality Report



"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.