

Tips to Treasure It

Finding Your Water Mark is as Easy as 1 + 2 + 3

June 2006

www.tucsonaz.gov/water

Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

What's your Water Mark? 6? 10? 18?

Here's an easy way to measure how effective your water conservation efforts are. Just add up the conservation index numbers and get your *Water Mark* total. A *Water Mark* of 5 is helpful. When you hit 10, you're making a real difference. Anything above that makes you a true desert dweller!

Here's Tucson Water's handy guide to finding your *Water Mark*.

To Save Water...	1 + 2 + 3 Water Mark
Xeriscape your Yard (switch to low water use plants – save 100s of gallons a day)	3
Lose your Leaks (save up to 50 gallons a day)	1
Don't Douse the Deck (sweep, don't hose off the sidewalk or driveway – save up to 100 gallons)	2
Investigate your Irrigation System (repair leaks & missing emitters; reduce watering times)	3
Tame your Toilet (save 100 gallons a day – repair leaking toilets)	2
Go with the Low-Flow (install low-flow fixtures and shut off the tap when shaving or brushing teeth)	1
It all adds up.... what's your Water Mark?	Total _____

Get more water saving tips. Call Tucson Water at 791-4331 or visit our web site – www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

Water Mark measurements are estimates. Your total water savings will depend on a number of factors such as how many bathrooms you have, the size and type of landscaping in your yard, the number of people in your household, etc.

Water – Treasure It! and Beat the Peak

Ar-r-r Mateys!... What's



a Pirate doing in Tucson? Looking for and finding treasure! That's what *Captain Pete the Beak* has been doing for 30 years – treasuring water and helping Tucsonans find ways to conserve this precious resource.

Thirty years ago, Tucson Water began the *Beat the Peak* program – which makes it one of the longest running, and most successful water conservation programs in the country. Each summer *Pete the Beak*, our Conservation Duck mascot, reminds us that in our desert community, every drop counts. Thanks in part to Pete's messages, and to the Tucson region's deeply held environmental ethic, our customers have one of the lowest per-person water usage rates in the southwestern United States.

Water – Treasure It! *continued inside*

Have a question for Water 101 or a suggestion for a topic? Call us at 791-4331 or email to

TW_Web1@tucsonaz.gov

Water -

Treasure It! and Beat the Peak

Water - Treasure It! continued from front

But we can't just take it easy when it comes to water conservation. On the contrary, we must continue to seek new ways to become more water efficient. We've been telling you about our

Community Conservation Task Force, a group of volunteers representing a wide range of community interests - including customers, environmentalists, educators, business owners, landscapers, builders, apartment complex managers, and many others. The Task Force has been evaluating a number of conservation strategies to find those that can make our community even more water efficient. The Task Force soon will be finalizing their recommendations and asking Tucson's Mayor and Council to consider a number of new



conservation efforts. We'll let you know what those recommendations are in the future.

Don't Douse Your Decks -

Hosing off sidewalks and driveways can use 10 gallons per minute - using a broom uses 0.

In the meantime, it's up to each of us to do all we can to use water wisely. In our desert community, water is indeed our most valuable treasure. For tips and educational information about how you can save water at

home and at work, call us at 791-4331 or visit our web site at www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

You can also call 791-3242 for an appointment with one of our Zanjeros, water conservation specialists that will come to your home to help you find ways to save.

Remember, water is our treasure.





On the Water Front

For 30 years our Beat the Peak summer water conservation campaign has called attention to the need for all of us to use water wisely during the hottest months of the year.

Pete the Beak's adventures are generally intended to reach out to children and students and teach them at an early age the importance of water conservation. Every year we distribute tens of thousands of Beat the Peak water conservation activity books to classrooms across our region and Pete makes appearances at dozens of school and community events to call attention to this important environmental issue.

Within every one of Pete's lighthearted stories, there is a serious message – that water is precious to desert dwellers, that every drop counts, and that you can make a difference.

This year our water situation is more serious than ever before. The long drought means we'll all need to use more water, especially outside on landscaping.

The 500 Tucsonans who work at Tucson Water are committed to providing a reliable

supply of quality water to you and your family. But this summer, we're asking you to do all that you can to conserve. Follow some of the *Treasure It!* tips included in this newsletter. Visit our website, www.tucsonaz.gov/water, and get a copy of the *Homeowner's Guide to Using Water Wisely* for detailed instructions on how to lose your leaks, reduce outside water use, and much more. Call our Zanjeros water conservation specialists for free help and advice about making your home or business water smart.

You can add up your water savings as easy as 1 – 2 – 3 and be doing your part to protect our water table and our environment. Thank you.

Dave Modeer
Director, Tucson Water

Clearwater Quality Report May 2006

- 54 Sodium (mg/L)
- 320.7 Mineral Content Average (mg/L)
- 172* Hardness (mg/L)
- 7.9 pH (S.U.) Average
- Neg* Coliform Bacteria
- 0.73 Chlorine level Average (mg/L)
- 88.9* Temperature Average (deg F)

* Values for April 2006

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

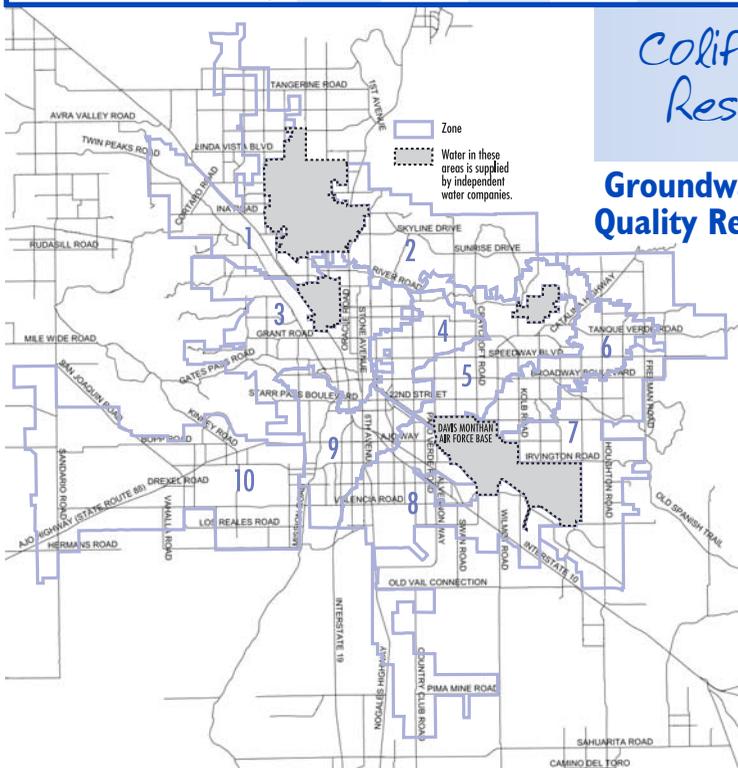
Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor, llame al 791-4331.



Groundwater Quality Report - March 2006

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	58	42	52	33	35	38	31	41	48	41	41
86 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	35-118	37-46	30-69	30-43	23-42	27-43	27-37	39-44	42-56	40-42	23-118
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	432	300	377	215	239	257	236	361	309	213	288
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	187-571	247-330	199-502	191-310	164-339	212-292	181-301	230-587	211-453	209-216	164-587
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	157	136	175	98	108	117	109	172	164	74	133
86 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	63-231	117-156	80-244	72-148	74-167	87-134	95-121	79-264	74-243	73-75	63-264
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.5	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.7
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	7.3-8.1	7.6-7.9	7.5-8.0	7.7-8.0	7.1-8.0	6.9-8.1	7.0-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.4-8.1	7.8-8.1	6.9-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	72	74	72	74	73	74	72	73	74	74	73
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	70-74	68-80	68-77	66-81	67-81	69-78	65-78	65-80	70-80	65-82	65-82

Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - March 2006



Groundwater Quality Report

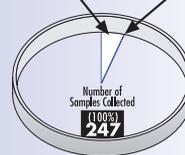


EPA Standard for Positive Samples

5%

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform

0.0%

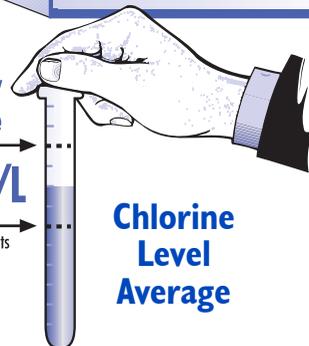


Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

Monthly Average

0.8 mg/L

247 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.