

## Free Water\$mart Workshops Offered This Season

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.

### July 15, 2006 (Saturday)

Pima County Cooperative Extension  
4210 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson

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

### August 12, 2006 (Saturday)

Pima County Cooperative Extension  
4210 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson

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

### September 9, 2006 (Saturday)

Golf Links Public Library  
9640 East Golf Links Road, Tucson

9:00am–12:00pm Desert Landscaping

### September 30, 2006 (Saturday)

Tohono Chul Park (Desert Discovery Center)  
7366 N. Paseo Del Norte, Tucson

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

\*To register for a workshop, call Teri at (520) 626-5161. Registration is recommended for workshops and is **required** for “Hands-On Drip Irrigation” classes. Tucson Water helps sponsor the Water\$mart series each year. Visit [www.ag.arizona.edu/pima/low4](http://www.ag.arizona.edu/pima/low4) for more information.

# Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

## Water 101

### Administering Your Water Department

Business planning, communication, personnel, safety, security – these aren't the first services that come to mind when you think about your water utility, but like all businesses, Tucson Water needs these support services, grouped into the Director's Office, to operate efficiently.

Planning and maintaining a highly secure water system is one of the most important jobs at Tucson Water. The utility is a leader in water system and water quality security and is involved in water security planning at a national level. While water quality professionals check our water daily, security personnel are responsible for assuring secure facilities – like reservoirs, pump stations, and wells.

The Employee Services section manages personnel needs and is responsible for employee training. The section also arranges background checks on all new employees. Tucson Water is, as are other water utilities, considered to be critical infrastructure and must operate under guidelines outlined by the Homeland Security Act and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Public Information section makes sure customers are informed about what Tucson Water is doing, including construction or maintenance of

*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@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:TW_Web1@tucsonaz.gov)

# Administering Your Water Department

*Water 101 continued from front*

pipelines that might impact neighborhoods or traffic. The section's staff answers questions from the news media, responds to questions and concerns from customers, and conducts all outreach to schools and tours of Tucson Water facilities. Water conservation is also a part of public information providing conservation education and water savings assistance for customers.

The Safety Office focuses on the day to day well-being of Tucson Water employees and is working to implement the internationally utilized 5 Star Safety Program. Safety personnel train employees on safe work practices, monitor safety programs and procedures, and investigate

any accidents that occur. The goal is to have a 100 percent safe workplace for all 575 utility employees.

Also part of the Director's Office is the intergovernmental group that is responsible for regional cooperation, coordination, and planning with other water providers in the area and at the state level. There is also a section of professional management analysts who perform operational research and develop and implement programs to increase efficiency. Their responsibility is to constantly improve Tucson Water's operations and the service it provides to customers.

To learn more about the Director's Office or any other Division of Tucson Water, contact the Public Information Office at 791-4331.

## Best Xeriscapes Honored

*Xeriscaping* – is landscaping with low-water-use vegetation and water saving techniques – and a great way to have a beautiful yard and use water wisely. Each year the Arizona Department of Water Resources, Tohono Chul Park, Tucson Water, and others sponsor a contest to recognize the best local use of Xeriscape principles.

Winners for 2006 are:

### Homeowners

- ◆ Nancy Reid
- ◆ Barbara M. Cain

### Homeowners Professional Awards

- ◆ Sonoran Gardens Inc. for the Lewis Residence
- ◆ UA Pima County Cooperative Extension Service Master Gardeners – Xeriscape Demonstration Garden

### Commercial Winners

- ◆ Design Collaborations, Ltd.
- ◆ Novak Environmental, Inc.



*Sonoran Gardens Inc. took first place in the Professional Residential category for the Lewis Residence.*

### Professional Awards

- ◆ Design Collaborations, Ltd. – Tucson Museum of Art Entry Planter
- ◆ Novak Environmental, Inc. – Star Valley Medians
- ◆ Boxhill Landscape Design – Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson
- ◆ Grant McCormick, Brad Lancaster, Jeff Trent – Sonora Cohousing
- ◆ Mary Rose Duffield, RLA – Altholz Residence



# On the Water Front

*Drought.* Despite the unusual June rains we recently saw in our region, all of Arizona and much of the western United States remain in a long-term drought.

The City of Tucson has had a water emergency ordinance in place for more than ten years as part of our preparation for potential water shortages. Last year the Arizona Department of Water Resources received authority from the State legislature to require drought management plans from all water providers across the state. The mandatory drought management plans are due by January 1, 2007. Early this year, Tucson Water began the process of developing a plan specifically targeting drought management. The plan will build upon current emergency water ordinances and conservation practices while recognizing the unique attributes of our water system. Our staff has nearly completed a detailed drought management draft plan that recommends various methods of addressing water shortage issues.

Tucson Water planners surveyed thousands of our customers to get their perspective on water conservation and voluntary and mandatory water use management. This information was used in developing the response plan that will go to our Mayor and Council for consideration in the fall.

All efforts are being made to ensure that this plan is comprehensive and that it ties in with the existing emergency response plans of Tucson Water and the City of Tucson. It also takes into consideration our current plans for improving our water delivery system and the water resource planning we've done for the future.

Coordinating with other City Departments is also an important part of the plan. This ensures that City facilities will be ready and able to be the first customers to comply with any voluntary water use reductions – to lead by example.

It's also important to remember that we are fortunate in that we've been preparing for this kind of situation for many years. Our water system has a built in redundancy – we now have both recharged Colorado River water and groundwater as reliable sources of supply. That doesn't mean we can ever be extravagant with our use of water, but it does give us options for the future.

Creating and gaining approval of the drought management plan isn't the end of the process. We will conduct on-going reviews of our water system and water resource planning with respect to the drought plan to make sure we stay in compliance with its elements. We'll continue to concentrate on the reliability and sustainability of our water resources and the complex system that delivers quality water to you and your family.

Dave Modeer  
*Director, Tucson Water*

## Clearwater Quality Report - June 2006

- 55 Sodium (mg/L)
- 370 Mineral Content Average (mg/L)
- 157 Hardness (mg/L)
- 8.0 pH (S.U.) Average
- Neg Coliform Bacteria
- 0.80 Chlorine level Average (mg/L)
- 87.1 Temperature Average (deg F)

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.

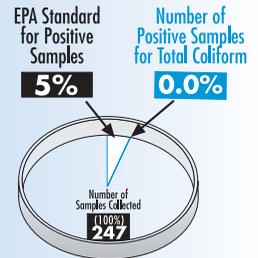
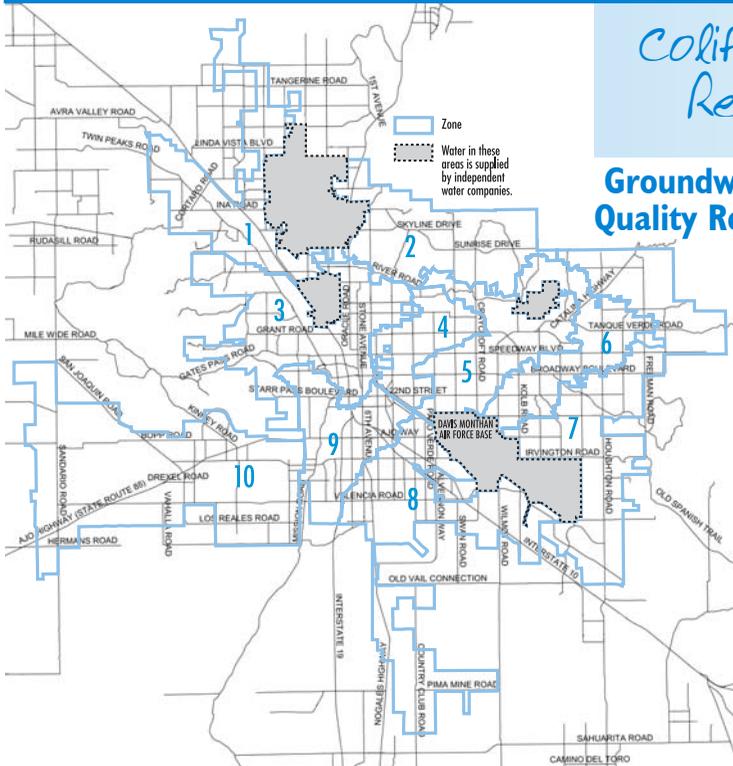


# Groundwater Quality Report - April 2006

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L) 77 SAMPLING POINTS	Average	49	46	57	39	43	46	33	43	48	43	45
	Range	46-53	41-52	32-66	32-52	30-50	37-53	24-46	37-47	38-59	42-45	24-66
Mineral Content (mg/L) 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average	414	323	402	292	295	306	256	375	319	219	320
	Range	219-626	284-367	207-483	189-401	162-372	214-376	180-343	304-438	213-457	214-221	162-626
Hardness (mg/L) 77 SAMPLING POINTS	Average	264	145	193	116	137	146	124	195	143	78	150
	Range	155-376	132-162	88-235	90-151	89-170	84-175	109-138	162-243	73-253	77-80	73-376
pH (S.U.) 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average	7.5	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.7
	Range	7.2-7.9	7.6-7.9	7.4-8.0	7.6-8.1	7.1-8.1	6.9-8.1	7.0-8.0	7.4-7.7	7.3-8.0	7.8-8.0	6.9-8.1
Temperature (deg F) 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average	77	78	76	79	78	78	79	77	78	76	78
	Range	73-80	75-82	72-82	73-84	73-84	71-83	73-84	71-81	72-84	71-81	71-84

## Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - April 2006

### Groundwater Quality Report



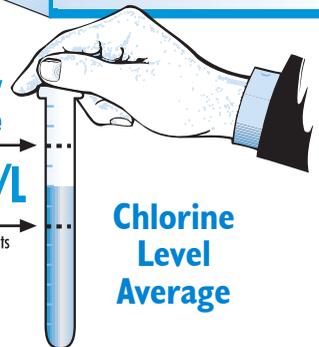
Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

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