

## Homeowners' Conservation Program Gains Recognition

Water\$mart, a homeowners' water conservation program conducted by the Pima County Cooperative Extension Program and sponsored by Tucson Water, was recently selected "Best of Tucson" by the staff of *Tucson Weekly*, winning in the category "Best Way to Learn the Ways of the Desert." The Water\$mart classes teach homeowners techniques and applications for water-efficient landscaping compatible with our urban desert landscape.

Water\$mart classes are scheduled on a Wednesday or Saturday at Pima County Cooperative Extension, 4210 N. Campbell Avenue. All classes are free except for a minimal \$10 charge for materials for the *Hands-On Drip Irrigation* workshops. Class topics include:

- *Harvesting Rainwater for Landscape Use*
- *Principles of Xeriscape*
- *Hands-On Drip Irrigation*
- *Irrigation Timer Use*

Ten class dates will be offered in 2008, with the year's first classes on *Harvesting Rainwater* and *Principles of Xeriscape* slated for Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

To register for classes, contact Teri at (520) 626-5161.

More information is available at:

<http://ag.arizona.edu/pima/smartscape/>

## Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

### Water 101

## Progress Report for 2007

Tucson Water wants to ensure that we have a safe, reliable water supply for today and the future. Key milestones achieved in the last year reflect our long-term commitment to water sustainability, reliability, and education:

### Clearwater II Means More Recharge

Phase II of the Clearwater Renewable Resource Facility on City land in Avra Valley kicked off in the summer of 2007. With 35 wells, 9 recharge basins, delivery pipelines, reservoir, plus booster stations, Phase II will complement the water recharge and blending operations at Clearwater I to the north. Completion of Clearwater will mean that we will be able to recharge nearly every drop of our annual Colorado River allocation – almost 47 billion gallons a year. That means more local water reliability and less groundwater pumping.



### Businesses Encourage Conservation

Some 26 business representatives are participating in the Business Incentive Program

*Water 101 continued inside*

Have a question for Water 101 or a suggestion for a topic? Call us at 791-4331 or e-mail to [TW\\_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us](mailto:TW_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us)

# Progress Report for 2007

Water 101 *continued from front*

Advisory Group, working with Tucson Water to develop a new water conservation program tailored to industrial, commercial and multi-family users. Many business and commercial water customers have already realized savings in water and money by retrofitting existing facilities and launching internal water efficiency programs.



water to about 900 sites: 15 golf courses; 41 parks; 49 schools (the University of Arizona and Pima Community College included); and more than 700 smaller customers.

## Replacing Old Meters

During 2007, Tucson Water replaced more than 12,000 aging residential and commercial water meters with new, more accurate models.

## You're Using Less Water

Continuing our 5-year trend, water usage per Tucson household dropped in 2007 – and that's in the midst of long term drought conditions! A combination of solid water conservation education and assistance programs, enhanced 'water waster' measures and enforcement, new xeriscaping and low water fixture ordinances, plus strong community involvement are helping ensure sustainability.



## Adding Reclaimed Water Users

Bottom line – the more reclaimed water used for irrigation, the more our precious drinking water is saved. In 2007, Tucson Water completed the changeover of the 49ers' Country Club golf course to reclaimed water, plus added Sunnyside District schools. In total we deliver reclaimed



## Plan Now to Prevent Cold Weather Leaks & Breaks

Winter in the desert can be cold. Tucson's average low temperature in December and January is 33 degrees so it's a smart idea to prepare plumbing for our colder months. Here are a couple of quick tips:

- 1** Wrap unheated pipes located in the garage or garden.
- 2** Disconnect outside hoses, wrap faucets and cover them with plastic or faucet covers.

- 3** Winterize and protect your irrigation system – replace tubing and emitter caps, flush emitters, and add a layer of mulch under plants.
- 4** Drain the cooler line. (Drip water into a bucket and re-use this greywater.)
- 5** Cover crawl space vents when temperatures dip to 20 or below. Remember to uncover vents when temperatures rise.



# On the Water Front

As 2007 comes to an end, it gives us a chance to review both the progress we've made this year toward water reliability and the challenges that need to be addressed in the coming year.

For Tucson Water, the keys to the future lie in planning and adaptability.

These two subjects are inseparable when one factors in such issues as the changing climate, the need to continue to reduce groundwater pumping in our region, the rising costs of construction materials and energy, and the goal of a sustainable region.

Our planning process is designed to be adaptable. Tucson Water's Long Range Water Plan uses scenario planning techniques, allowing us to modify the plan at key points based on decisions that are made by our customers and our Mayor and Council and on new information as that becomes available.

Flexibility is a part of our approach to operations also, allowing us to take advantage of opportunities and deal quickly with issues like changing government regulations.

Our construction of additional recharge capacity at Clearwater Phase II, our work with

customers in developing enhanced water conservation efforts, and our age-appropriate series of in-class and informal education programs are good examples of planning for the future now. We will need to continue this into 2008 and beyond.

Dry conditions in the Colorado River Basin states will continue to be a potential challenge, but one that we are well on the way to addressing here by putting all our Colorado River water to use. As we move forward with this and other projects, Tucson Water will be planning for the future with adaptability as a key component. We'll also continue to work closely with our Mayor and Council, our customers, and the other jurisdictions and water providers in the region to do our part to help ensure water reliability for all of us.

Dave Modeer  
Director, Tucson Water

## Clearwater Quality Report— Most recent water quality data (Oct. 8 – Nov 6, 2007)

59	Sodium (mg/L) (Oct. 19)
365.2	Mineral (mg/L) (Oct. 8 – Nov 6 avg.)
181	Hardness (mg/L) (Oct. 19)
8.05	pH (S.U.) (Oct. 8 – Nov 6 average)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria (Sept. 9)
1.14	Chlorine level (mg/L) (Oct. 8 – Nov 6 avg.)
86.1	Temp (deg F) (Oct. 8 – Nov 6 avg.)

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.

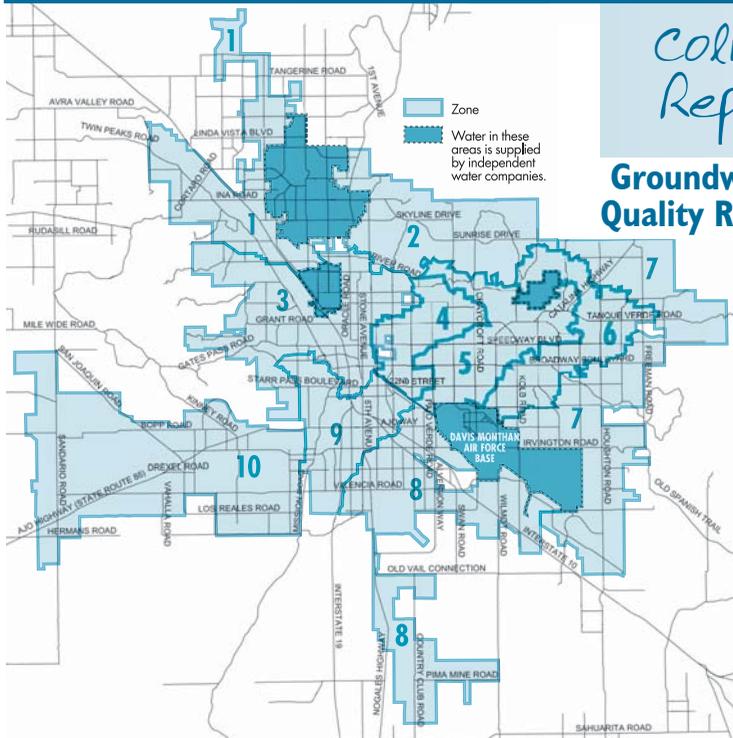
City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

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



# Groundwater Quality Report - October 2007

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)*	Average	52	58	51	50	52	48	41	41	50	40	49
77 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	37-63	51-63	18-62	34-62	46-59	38-54	27-58	36-43	33-62	32-48	18-63
Mineral Content (mg/l)*	Average	413	414	392	360	369	370	302	381	343	267	364
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	278-616	399-424	182-511	197-435	186-420	280-417	180-416	316-442	204-550	204-427	180-616
Hardness (mg/L)**	Average	190	183	172	152	180	162	142	183	142	88	162
77 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	176-216	163-201	94-249	77-203	154-208	128-201	82-200	151-246	60-205	57-136	57-249
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.8
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	7.3-7.9	7.8-8.1	7.3-8.1	7.7-8.1	7.5-8.0	7.2-8.0	7.3-8.1	7.3-7.8	7.3-8.1	7.8-8.0	7.2-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	81	85	85	84	83	84	83	82	84	85	84
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	74-86	82-89	78-89	80-87	76-87	75-90	78-90	79-88	80-89	81-88	74-90

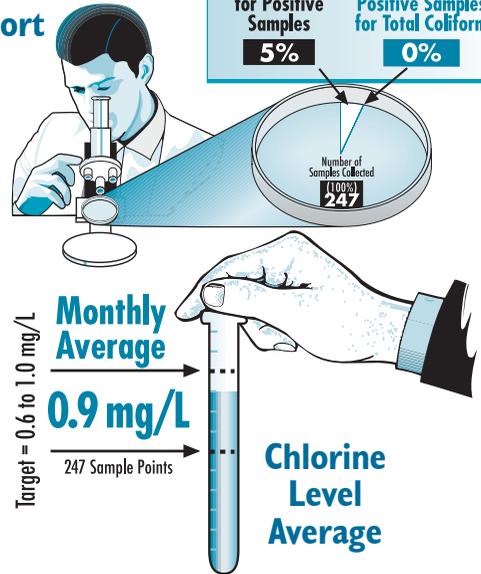


## Coliform Bacteria Testing Report - October 2007

### Groundwater Quality Report

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

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform: **0%**



\* mg/L means milligrams per liter; 1 mg/L = 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons

\*\* 17.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L) = 1 grain per gallon; Therefore, the system-wide hardness average as reported for October 2007: 162 mg/L divided by 17.1 = 9.47 grains per gallon.

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 Web site at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water).