

Drought Report Provides Local, Timely Info

Conservation Corner continued from inside

Southern Arizona, and is the only Southern Arizona water provider using Colorado River water as a renewable drinking water supply, monitoring regional drought indicators is critical. For example, when the Colorado River Compact was negotiated, average annual flows were estimated to be 18 million acre-feet. Today, 14 million acre-feet is considered by many western water professionals to be a more accurate annual flow.

The local water system indicators include:

- 1) Forecasting whether the current water system can deliver enough water to meet the demand of Tucson Water customers during peak times;
- 2) Assessing any changes in groundwater levels by analyzing well water production and water levels; and
- 3) Forecasting reclaimed water production and system capacity.

Finally, researching trends concerning the gallons of drinking water used per person per day provides information about whether specific drought response measures are working and if customers are reacting to news stories and conservation tips. Our gallon per person per day indicator has been trending downward since 2002, even though our population has increased and we've been in a sustained drought.

Drought reports keep customers informed with factual, local information and offer tangible ways to react to changing drought levels. To find out more about Tucson Water's Drought Response Plan, go to www.tucsonaz.gov/water/drought-intro.htm or call the Tucson Water Conservation Office at 791-4331.

Monthly drought reports are available at the Arizona Department of Water Resources website at www.azwater.gov/dwr/drought/DroughtHome.html.

Your Water. Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

Water 101

Protect Our Water: Protect Our Environment

The Household Hazardous Waste Program is a free and easy way to get rid of nearly any automotive or household item with a label that reads acid, flammable, caustic, poison, toxic, caution, danger or warning. Whether it's a can of paint, a used car oil filter, or half a bottle of weed killer, common products can become a hazard to the environment – and our precious groundwater -- when disposed of improperly. Hazardous materials should never be poured down the drain, flushed down the toilet, tossed in the trash, or stored for long periods of time. Drop off your hazardous materials at a designated site for free, safe and easy disposal or recycling. That's right, recycling. For example, computers may be refurbished and distributed, or metal computer components harvested. Latex paint is recycled and distributed free-of-charge on a first come, first serve basis.

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

Protect Our Water: Protect Our Environment

Water 101 *continued from front*

Main Drop-Off Site:

2440 West Sweetwater Drive – Open every Friday and Saturday, 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Three Satellite Sites – First Saturday Program

- Eastside City Hall: 7575 E. Speedway Blvd.
- Tucson Water: 1102 W. Irvington Rd.
- Park & Ride Lot, Ina Rd. and Via Ponte: one block west of Oracle Rd.

Open first Saturday of each month, 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Five Special Sites for Antifreeze, Oil, Batteries & Paint Disposal

- Los Reales Landfill – Monday-Saturday, 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Sunday, 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Sahuarita Landfill – Thursday-Sunday, 7:30 AM to 4:45 PM
- Tangerine Road Landfill – Open daily, 7:30 AM to 4:45 PM
- Catalina Transfer Station – Open daily, 7:30 AM to 4:45 PM
- Ryan Field Transfer Station – Open daily, 7:30 AM to 4:45 PM

The Household Hazardous Waste Program is a joint project of the City of Tucson and Pima County and is administered by the Tucson Fire Department. For more information, go to www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw/ or call 888-6947. Details and guidelines about the Free Latex Paint Program are available by calling 888-6947, press 2.

Bring Us Your Household Hazardous Materials

Please deliver materials during hours of operation. All waste should be put in a secure container, identified and labeled.

Automotive Fluids

Engine Oil Filters

Auto Batteries

Rechargeable Batteries (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Li-ion, Pb)

Small Button Batteries

Lithium Batteries

Medications

Cleaning Products

Drain Openers

Cooking Oil

Mercury Containing Products

Fluorescent Lamps

Light Tubes & Compressed Light Bulbs

Paint Products – latex paint, stains, oil based paint, thinners, drippers

Solvents

Hobby Chemicals

Pesticides

Lawn & Garden Products

Pool Chemicals

Propane Cylinders

Computer Equipment & Peripherals

Printer Cartridges – ink jet and toner

Items Labeled: Acid, Flammable, Caustic, Poison, Caution, Toxic, Danger or Warning

We will not accept these items: business or commercial wastes, commercial gas cylinders, explosives, ammunition, infectious and radioactive wastes.



On the Water Front

Our groundwater is truly a precious resource and protecting it has become a tradition of the Tucson region. Most of us realize how important it is to not waste water. We also need to remember that we can help protect it from contamination by properly disposing of household hazardous wastes and chemicals. Not only are we then being good stewards of our desert environment, but we're also ensuring that we maintain this water resource as a safe and secure option in the face of our on-going, long-term regional drought.

And remember, there's also a cost associated with groundwater contamination as we have seen from the millions of dollars spent to clean up portions of the water table that were polluted decades ago.

I encourage you to be as wise with your household waste disposal as you are with your water use and protect our groundwater for the future.

Dave Modeer, Director, Tucson Water

Conservation Corner

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With proper planning, drought is not an emergency situation. Tucson Water's Drought Preparedness and Response Plan ensures that the necessary planning, monitoring and response measures are in place to avoid drought emergencies for Tucson Water customers.

Three teams of Tucson Water staff conduct the rigorous annual monitoring and reporting included in the Plan. The System Assessment Team includes Tucson Water professionals who conduct hands-on data gathering and analyze regional and local water system indicators. The Drought Monitoring Team consolidates the assessment team's data with key regional indicators from state and federal agencies to develop the Annual Drought Monitoring Report. And, based on the Report, the Management Team determines the specific drought response stage declaration, change or termination needed

and communicates that recommendation to public officials. Tucson Water is currently in a Stage 1 drought response which stresses public education and efficient operation of City-maintained facilities.

What are the local and regional indicators that Tucson Water professionals use to determine potential impacts from drought on our water system and supplies?

Since Tucson Water is the largest water provider in

Conservation Corner continued on back

Clearwater Quality Report - Most recent water quality data (Dec. 10, 2007 - Jan. 6, 2008)

| | |
|-------|---|
| 55 | Sodium (mg/L) (Dec. 11) |
| 388.4 | Mineral (mg/L) (Dec. 10 - Jan. 6 avg.) |
| 163 | Hardness (mg/L) (Dec. 11) |
| 7.99 | pH (S.U.) (Dec. 10 - Jan. 2 avg.) |
| Neg | Coliform Bacteria (Dec. 4) |
| 1.08 | Chlorine level (mg/L) (Dec. 10 - Jan. 6 avg.) |
| 81.0 | Temp (deg F) (Dec. 10 - Jan. 6 avg.) |

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.

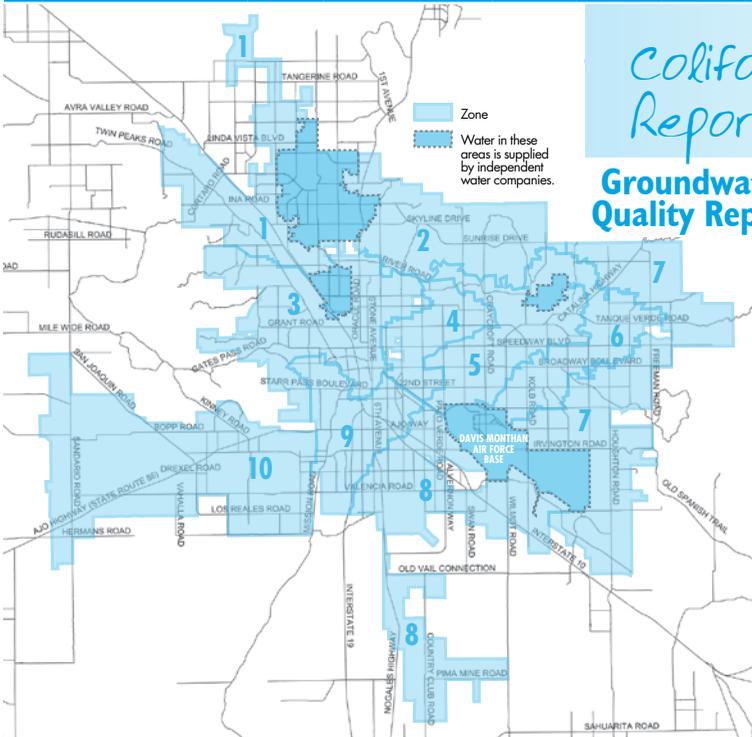
City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

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



Groundwater Quality Report - December 2007

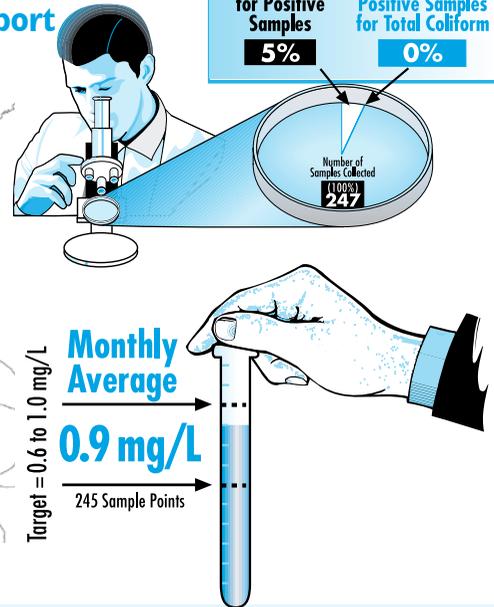
| Water Quality Zone | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | System Wide |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sodium (mg/L)* 86 SAMPLING POINTS | Average Range | 52 41-70 | 61 57-62 | 60 57-62 | 56 33-63 | 58 52-62 | 58 46-62 | 45 29-62 | 46 39-62 | 50 37-62 | 50 40-61 | 54 29-70 |
| Mineral Content (mg/L)* 247 SAMPLING POINTS | Average Range | 351 212-561 | 429 420-441 | 428 396-444 | 402 221-435 | 401 340-430 | 407 269-431 | 303 180-427 | 403 341-448 | 367 207-555 | 285 205-427 | 386 180-561 |
| Hardness (mg/L)* 86 SAMPLING POINTS | Average Range | 115 76-191 | 186 172-198 | 188 171-198 | 168 84-196 | 177 157-196 | 180 147-195 | 147 97-192 | 206 173-234 | 190 69-326 | 125 74-185 | 174 69-326 |
| pH (S.U.) 247 SAMPLING POINTS | Average Range | 7.9 7.4-8.2 | 8.1 8.0-8.4 | 8.1 7.2-8.5 | 8.0 7.9-8.5 | 8.0 7.1-8.9 | 8.0 7.9-8.2 | 8.0 7.8-8.2 | 7.8 7.3-8.3 | 7.9 7.4-8.5 | 7.9 7.0-8.3 | 8.0 7.0-8.9 |
| Temperature (deg F) 247 SAMPLING POINTS | Average Range | 71 66-75 | 72 56-80 | 74 66-78 | 74 66-80 | 72 61-81 | 74 63-81 | 72 63-78 | 72 64-78 | 74 68-80 | 74 66-80 | 73 56-81 |



Coliform Bacteria Testing Report - December 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 December 2007: 174 mg/L divided by 17.1 = 10.18 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.