

Register for Water\$mart Today

With spring in the air, it's time to sign up for Water\$mart classes, a water conservation program that teaches homeowners techniques for creating attractive, water-efficient landscaping compatible with our desert environment.

All Water\$mart classes are taught by local experts and landscape professionals at the **Pima County Cooperative Extension, 4210 N. Campbell Avenue in Tucson**. Six Water\$mart classes will be held between April 2 and May 17.

All workshops are free. Classes are popular and seating is limited so advance registration is strongly recommended; last year some 500 area residents attended Water\$mart workshops! To register for classes or for more info, contact Teri at (520) 626-5161. More information is also available at <http://ag.arizona.edu/pima/smartscape/>

April 2, 2008 (Wednesday)

9:00 am – 11:00 am Harvesting Rainwater for Landscape Use

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm Principles of Xeriscape

April 26, 2008 (Saturday)

9:00 am – 12:00 noon Hands-On Drip Irrigation

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Irrigation Timer Use

May 17, 2008 (Saturday)

9:00 am – 12:00 noon Hands-On Drip Irrigation

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Irrigation Timer Use

Water\$mart classes are sponsored by Tucson Water and are an important, ongoing program to conserve precious groundwater in our urban desert environment.

Clearwater Quality Report -

Most recent water quality data (February 7 - March 4, 2008)

60	Sodium (mg/L) (Feb. 21)
383.4	Mineral (mg/L) (Feb. 7-Mar. 4 avg.)
191	Hardness (mg/L) (Feb. 21)
7.76	pH (S.U.) (Feb. 7-Mar. 4 avg.)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria (Feb. 21)
0.92	Chlorine level (mg/L) (Feb. 7-Mar. 4 avg.)
83.2	Temp (deg F) (Feb. 7-Mar. 4 avg.)

Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

Another Clearwater Phase II Milestone

Three Additional Recharge Basins Completed



Our region took a major step toward water sustainability in March with the completion of three of the Clearwater Phase II's nine recharge basins literally years ahead of schedule. The three basins cover approximately 60 acres of City-owned land in Avra Valley, south of Phase I of the Clearwater Renewable Resource Facility.

Why is the completion of recharge basins so important? One, recharging water offers a

Clearwater Phase II 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

Another Clearwater Phase II Milestone

Three Additional Recharge Basins Completed

Clearwater Phase II continued from front

renewable resource in our desert community; and Colorado River water placed in recharge basins soaks into the ground and blends naturally with the native groundwater. Ultimately the blended water is recovered or pumped out of the ground and delivered to Tucson Water customers. Two, by the end of 2008 when all of Clearwater's 20 recharge basins are in use, Tucson Water will have the facilities to recharge all of our yearly Colorado River water allocation of 144,191 acre-feet.

Against a backdrop of drought conditions in the southwest and with the approval by Mayor and



Council, the construction of Clearwater's recharge basins was moved from 2011. The accelerated construction schedule and manpower focus mean that all of Clearwater's recharge basins will be in operation by the end of 2008 – a major accomplishment in ensuring renewable water in our community for the future.

New 'Pay-by-Phone' Service Now Available

Tucson Water has introduced a new way for customers to access account information and pay for the items included on your utility services statement. You can now call our Customer Service Office at 791-3242, access account information and pay for all billed services at your convenience, 24 hours a day. You can pay your bill using a Visa, MasterCard or electronic check.

In addition to Tucson Water's new 'pay-by-phone' service, you can also pay your bill via four other methods: mail, automated bank draft, in person at select City Offices and Western Union locations, and on-line via the Tucson Water website at www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

5 Ways to Pay

- Pay Your Bill Securely Online – www.tucsonaz.gov/water/online-account.htm
- Automated Bill Payment – To sign-up for this service, pick up or download the Automatic Bill Payment form, and mail the completed form to Tucson Water, Customer Service, P.O. Box 27210, Tucson, AZ 85726-7210
- Pay by Mail – Your city services statement includes a pre-addressed envelope for your convenience. In the event you do not have one of these available, payments should be mailed to City of Tucson, P.O. Box 28811, Tucson, AZ 85726-8811
- Pay Station Locations – Customers may also pay their bills in person at any of the following City of Tucson offices: City Hall, 255 W. Alameda St.; Development Services Center, 201 N. Stone Ave.; Eastside City Hall; 7575 E. Speedway Blvd; Patrick K. Hardesty Midtown Multi-Service Center, 1100 S. Alvernon Way; Price Service Center, 4004 S. Park Ave.; Southeast Council Office, 8123 E. Poinciana Dr.; Tucson Water, 310 W. Alameda St.
- **New 'Pay-by-Phone' Service – See the information on the left.**

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.





On the Water Front

Tucson Water is committed to providing our customers with a pure, safe and sustainable source of water. That's why I want to address two topical issues:

Drugs in Tucson's Water?

Last month, the local Tucson press picked up on a national Associated Press story about the traces of drugs found in water supplies in 24 major US metropolitan areas. We'd like to provide you with information specific to Tucson.

In 2002, in response to reports that low levels of drugs, hormones and personal care products were being found in treated wastewater and some surface waters around the country, Tucson Water conducted water quality testing at various locations where groundwater could have been influenced by either wastewater discharged from Pima County's wastewater plants or where Colorado River water is being recharged in Avra Valley. Those tests revealed extremely low levels of three prescription drugs in only one well close to the Santa Cruz riverbed. In 2003, that well was deepened beyond the recharge zone of the wastewater.

Detected levels are at least thousands of times smaller than a single dosage – you would have to drink, at minimum, thousands of glasses of water in order to ingest enough of these drugs to reach a single dose that would be prescribed by a doctor. Current medical science does not have any evidence that compounds at these levels have any impact on human health.

Each year, Tucson Water conducts tens of

thousands of tests on our water quality; we publish test results, available in a yearly written Water Quality report or on our web site – www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

What Do You Think About Conservation?

Tucson's Mayor and Council have committed to funding efforts to reduce water use and preserve a more secure water future for our community. There are many options for how to support water conservation and how to fund programs that will lead to significant water savings. The City is very interested in learning your opinions about these various options.

To learn more about the community's perspective toward water conservation, the City and Tucson Water are hosting a series of **Town Hall meetings** in April and May. You'll find a list of these meetings on the Tucson Water web site or by calling 791-4331.

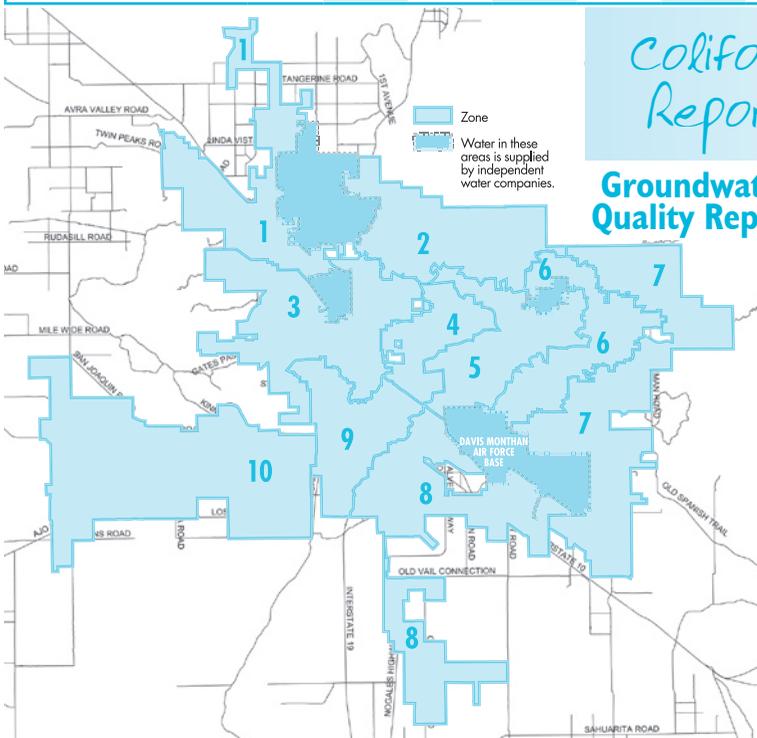
A brief survey is also available on the web site (www.tucsonaz.gov/water) for you to provide your opinions. Plus, you will be able to review the new conservation programs recommended by the Community Conservation Task Force and find out how conservation fits into our water future.

As always, your input, opinions and concerns are important to us. We look forward to learning from you and working with you to shape a better 'water' future for our community.

Dave Modeer
Director, Tucson Water

Groundwater Quality Report - February 2008

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)* 84 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	55 52-57	59 56-63	58 54-63	54 33-61	56 43-62	59 54-63	42 26-58	54 42-62	49 37-60	45 38-56	54 26-63
Mineral Content (mg/L)* 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	407 244-477	428 410-437	440 390-484	400 193-434	404 316-435	408 291-432	296 180-426	418 349-470	391 200-526	265 203-431	392 180-526
Hardness (mg/L)* 84 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	181 172-190	186 170-202	191 172-227	162 76-197	173 122-194	186 169-203	142 79-187	198 174-228	175 60-290	107 73-169	172 60-290
pH (S.U.) 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	8.0 7.7-8.2	8.1 8.0-8.2	8.0 7.8-8.1	8.0 7.9-8.1	8.0 7.8-8.1	8.0 7.7-8.2	8.0 7.7-8.3	7.9 7.5-8.1	7.9 7.5-8.0	7.9 7.7-8.1	8.0 7.5-8.3
Temperature (deg F) 247 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	68 64-73	70 61-77	69 63-75	73 62-78	70 60-80	70 60-78	68 61-75	70 62-79	72 64-80	70 64-79	70 60-80

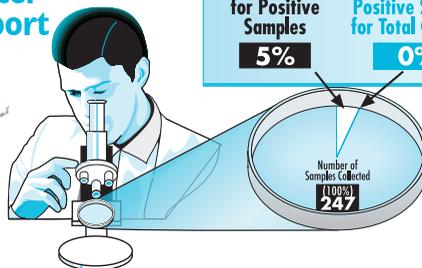


Coliform Bacteria Testing Report - February 2008

Groundwater Quality Report

EPA Standard for Positive Samples
5%

Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform
0%

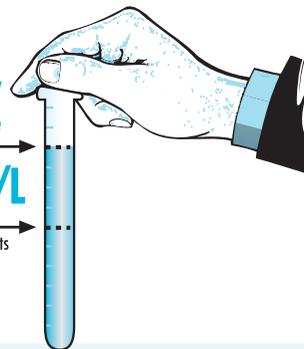


Target = 0.6 to 1.0 mg/L

Monthly Average

1.0 mg/L

247 Sample Points



* 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 February 2008: 172 mg/L divided by 17.1 = 10.06 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.