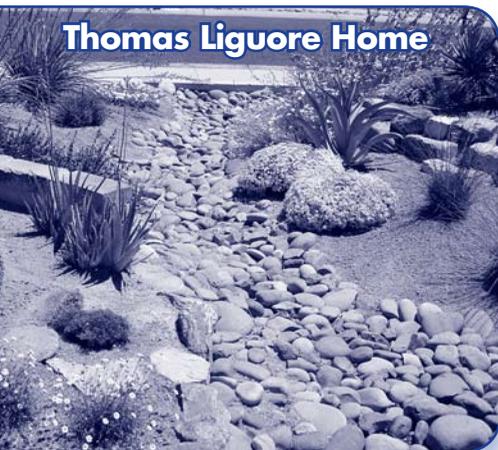


# Xeriscape Contest Winners

The Tucson region's best at creating beautiful yards with low-water use vegetation and water saving



**Thomas Liguore Home**

techniques were honored this month by the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Tucson Botanical Gardens.

The top winners of the 8th Annual Regional Xeriscape Landscape Contest are:

## Homeowner Category

**Grand Prize and JD Dimeglio, Artistry in Landscaping Award** – Karen Martin and David Zavala Home

**First Place Homeowner** – Thomas Liguore Home

**First Place Professional Residential** – Scott Calhoun – Zona Gardens for the Newhouse Residence

## Public Works Category

**Grand Prize** – Tucson Department of Transportation – Water Harvesting, Median Alvernon Way and 29th St.

**Community Xeriscape Leader** – Lisa Shipek, Director Watershed Management Group

Space does not allow the listing of all award winners. Visit [www.azwater.gov/tama](http://www.azwater.gov/tama) and click on xeriscape contest to learn about all winners and their xeriscapes.

# Your Water. Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

Join the Campaign for

## Conservation!

It's an election year, and Pete the Beak, Tucson Water's Conservation mascot, is asking all Tucsonans to ***Elect to Save Water!*** In our desert community, it's the right choice and the smart choice. In fact, it's one of the most important choices we can make.

Pete's Conservation Campaign Platform is focused on making your landscape as water efficient as possible. His top priorities include:

### Harvest, store and use rain to water plants.

Your choices here range from simple hills and depressions that guide rainwater to your plants, to installing and connecting gutters and cisterns directly to your irrigation system.

Campaign for Conservation  
*continued inside*

# Join the Campaign for Conservation!

Campaign for Conservation *continued from front*

**Use grey water from your clothes washer, shower, tub, or bathroom sink.** You can elect to save by using a hose to send water from your clothes washer to your landscape plants rather than down the drain. Or, you might choose to simply collect water in your shower and use it to irrigate your potted plants.

**Landscape with native and low water use plants.** Once established, these plants need very little additional water to thrive in our desert environment. Ask for advice at your local nursery, or sign up to take a free Water\$mart Workshop and get hands-on training in designing and maintaining a lush, but low-water use landscape.

Visit [www.tucsonaz.gov/water/conservation.htm](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/conservation.htm) for more information on how you can benefit from all three planks of Pete's Conservation Campaign Platform.

Tucsonans have supported Pete's conservation messages for decades, and thanks to your choices, our per person water usage over the past five years has dropped by more than 10%. But, as we face continuing drought, both here and along the Colorado River, we all need to continue making the right choices each and every day.

Since Pete first encouraged the community to save water 32 years ago, Tucson's children have been his biggest supporters, and often convince their parents and siblings

to use water more wisely. Pete's *Beat the Peak Activity Book* features loads of fun games, puzzles and ideas for youngsters who want to get involved in the Campaign for Conservation. Kids who Elect to Save Water can become a Junior Water C. O. P. (Conservation On Patrol) and can write to Pete and let him know what steps they've taken. Look for the Activity Book on-line at [www.tucsonaz.gov/water](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water), or call Tucson Water at 791-4331 for a copy.

Pete's Campaign for Conservation provides a lot of help and encouragement to adults as well. Visit our web site to access informative booklets about ways to create desert-appropriate landscapes, find and fix leaks in your home or business, and reuse a portion of your water as grey water to keep your landscape green.

Our free Zanjero Program will send an experienced conservation specialist to your home to help you identify leaks and learn how to reduce your water use. Call 791-3242 for an appointment.

Election season is upon us, and it's our choice whether or not to join the Campaign for Conservation. If all of us Elect to Save Water, we can make a difference that really counts!



## On the Water Front

# Conservation is Catching On!

Tucson is nationally recognized for our commitment to water conservation. The leadership shown by our Mayor and Council is now being strengthened by the launching of a series of new water conservation strategies that will help our community become ever more water smart.

Your voices were heard loud and clear at the recent Conservation Town Halls sponsored by the Mayor and Council and held inside and outside the City limits. What you told us is that you support the water conservation programs that are in place today, but you also want the newly recommended programs to begin as soon as possible.

You can be assured that we heard you and are moving forward with these new conservation initiatives including:

- a rebate program for low water use toilets in homes, apartments, and businesses built prior to 1991
- strong incentives for apartment complexes to upgrade their irrigation systems, and
- helping restaurants and schools find water savings in their kitchens

We are also evaluating a program that could provide high efficiency toilets to low

income customers who cannot afford to take advantage of a rebate program. The City is also moving ahead with plans to increase the citywide use of rainwater harvesting and grey water re-use.

We will be giving you more information about the new water conservation program during the next few months and let you know how you can get involved. Thanks to all of you who took the time to participate in the town hall and conservation survey. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. You can find more information about water conservation and the new programs on our web site and we'll be happy to answer your questions and record your input as we continue this community conservation conversation.

Karen Masbruch  
Acting Director, Tucson Water



*Assistant City Manager, Karen Masbruch, is serving as Acting Director of Tucson Water and is facilitating the nationwide search for a new Director. Karen will be authoring the On The Water Front column during the interim.*

## Clearwater Quality Report -

*Most recent water quality data (April 7 - May 7, 2008)*

61	Sodium (mg/L) (April 30)
372.5	Mineral (mg/L) (April 7 - May 7 avg.)
196	Hardness (mg/L) (April 30)
7.18	pH (S.U.) (April 11-14, May 5-7 avg.)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria (April 10)
0.92	Chlorine level (mg/L) (April 7 - May 7 avg.)
87.0	Temp (deg F) (April 7 - May 7 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.

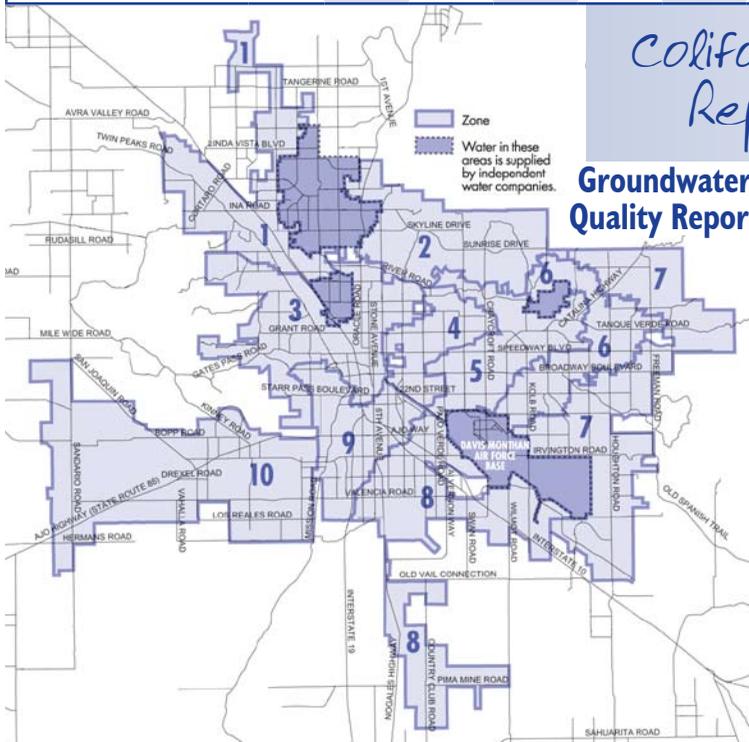
City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

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



# Groundwater Quality Report - April 2008

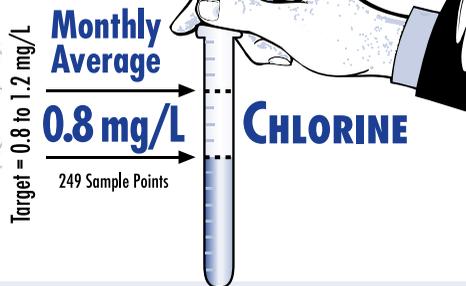
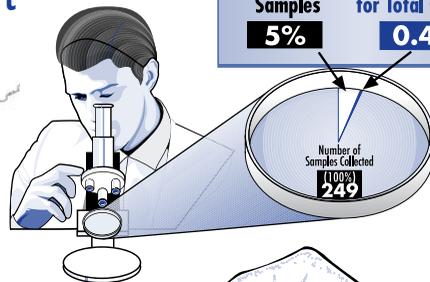
Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)* 77 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	53 49-56	60 57-62	54 30-61	46 31-61	53 31-62	55 41-62	37 24-60	43 41-50	51 40-62	45 38-55	50 24-62
Mineral Content (mg/L)* 249 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	351 188-584	439 418-449	404 220-462	349 193-446	395 176-451	412 305-445	302 180-442	340 221-447	330 204-440	311 198-447	370 176-584
Hardness (mg/L)* 77 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	260 185-359	188 173-197	176 88-202	139 70-197	163 72-196	177 138-197	134 89-189	173 98-241	135 75-201	102 72-161	162 70-359
pH (S.U.) 249 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	7.9 7.4-8.1	8.0 8.0-8.1	8.0 7.2-8.2	7.9 7.8-8.1	7.9 7.5-8.1	7.9 7.7-8.1	7.9 7.5-8.1	7.7 7.2-7.9	7.9 7.6-8.0	7.9 7.3-8.1	7.9 7.2-8.2
Temperature (deg F) 249 SAMPLING POINTS	Average Range	77 73-79	79 75-83	78 75-82	80 76-85	78 70-84	79 73-82	78 73-81	79 73-82	80 73-84	78 71-82	79 70-85



## Coliform Bacteria Testing Report - April 2008

### Groundwater Quality Report COLIFORM

EPA Standard for Positive Samples: **5%**  
Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform: **0.4%**



\* 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 April 2008: 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).