

On The Water Front

Tucson Water is working closely with Pima County and the City Manager's Office on Phase II of the City/County Water and Wastewater Study – a collaborative effort to define a sustainable water future for the Tucson Water and Pima County Wastewater service areas. Phase II meetings started in April and will continue through August 2009.

Phase II of the Study will focus on analyzing technical reports and developing a common set of water resource goals for the City and County service area. Specific Phase II topics include:

- ☑ Agreement on population growth, water, urban form, land use planning, and infrastructure
- ☑ Integrating land use planning with water resources and infrastructure for each jurisdiction
- ☑ Increasing reclaimed water for turf irrigation
- ☑ Developing renewable water sources for the City/County area
- ☑ Developing a consolidated drought management plan
- ☑ Implementing consistent water conservation standards
- ☑ Respect for the environment

The public is invited to attend the Study's joint City/County Oversight Committee meetings:

Thursday, June 25, 2009, 5:00 PM–9:00 PM – Randolph Golf Course Clubhouse, Copper Room, 600 S. Alvernon Way

Thursday, July 16, 2009, 5:00 PM–9:00 PM – Tucson Association of Realtors (TAR), 2445 N. Tucson Boulevard

Thursday, August 20, 2009, 5:00 PM–9:00 PM – Tucson Association of Realtors (TAR), 2445 N. Tucson Boulevard

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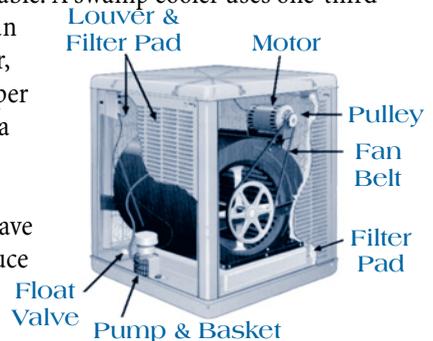


Your Water Connection

News & Tips for Tucson Water Customers
May 2009 www.tucsonaz.gov/water

Maintain Swamp Coolers to Save Water & Money

Except during Tucson's humid, short-lived monsoon season, evaporative cooling is the most energy-efficient way to keep the interior of your desert home comfortable. A swamp cooler uses one-third the energy of an air conditioner, plus, with proper maintenance, a swamp cooler will keep you comfortable, save water and reduce your monthly bill.



Ready Your Cooler for Summer

- 1) Uncover the swamp cooler and reconnect the water line.
- 2) Open the cooler. Check the bottom tray, inspecting for cracks, split seams, rust and mineral build up. If needed, gently scrape off mineral deposits and rust with a wire brush or putty knife. If you see cracks, coat the tray with a quarter inch of sealant and dry.
- 3) Next – check the tension of motor's fan belt. There should be about an inch worth of tension when depressed. Lightly oil the bearing on the blower assembly, and the motor if it has an oil receptacle.
- 4) Install new cooler pads per the manufacturer's guidelines *Swamp Coolers 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

YOUR UTILITIES

Pima County –

Report Odors On Line or By Phone

Did you know that there are two ways to report sewer odors or wastewater treatment plant odors? In the past, the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) has asked the public to phone in odor reports. However, PCRWRD recently implemented an on-line report form. You now can report sewer or wastewater treatment plant odors at <http://dot.pima.gov/wwm/apps/odorreporting/>. Please fill in as much of the requested information as possible using the on-line form, providing descriptive details about the odor, time of day and year, weather conditions and more.



Installing weir trough covers on the primary clarifiers at the Roger Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility is one of ten interim odor improvement projects by PCRWRD.

The public can still report odors by phoning (520) 326-4333. If you call to report an odor after regular business hours, you will receive a recording. Please tell us the location (address or cross streets), the date, and the time you

experienced odors. We always appreciate receiving your name and phone number so we can follow up with you. Sometimes we will ask for additional information which can be helpful in resolving odor issues.

Over the past few years, PCRWRD has constructed new odor control projects and installed new technologies to assist us in our odor reduction efforts. However, timely information from the public remains one of the most useful tools we have in the mitigation of sewer and wastewater treatment plant odors.

Your Utilities Services statement includes fees for your water, wastewater, and environmental services.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) –
For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 740-6500 or visit www.pima.gov/wwm.

City of Tucson

Environmental Services –

Three Easy Ways To Keep Tucson Litter Free!

City of Tucson Environmental Services (ES) sends collection trucks out five days a week to collect garbage and recyclables. You can help us provide better service and keep your neighborhood and our community clean by:



BAG AND TIE YOUR TRASH

By putting your garbage in a bag and then securely tying it off before you place it in your garbage container, you reduce odors and flies. You can also be assured that when your garbage is being collected, it won't fly out and litter your yard or alley.



DO NOT OVERFILL CONTAINERS

When you overfill your containers, there is a chance that not all your garbage will be emptied into the collection truck. If you always have more garbage than will fit in your container, take another look at what you're throwing away – maybe some items could be recycled. Check out the list of 20 plus recyclables at www.DoMoreBlue.com.



PULL YOUR CONTAINER FROM THE CURB AFTER SERVICE

Don't leave your containers at the curb. Not only is it a violation of ES Service Rules, containers left at the curb are unsightly and detract from your neighborhood's appearance. The containers can also get blown over on windy days and can block streets and sidewalks.

By remembering these three tips, you can help keep Tucson clean and litter-free.

Environmental Services –

To ask questions, learn more about ES, or schedule a Los Reales tour, call (520) 791-3171 or visit www.tucsonaz.gov/esd or www.tucsonrecycles.org.

Maintain Swamp Coolers to Save Water & Money

Swamp Coolers *continued from front*

- 5) Turn on the cooler and inspect the float valve, motor, and re-circulating pump and make sure cooler pads are being saturated evenly with water. Make sure the float valve is adjusted properly. An out-of-whack valve can cause water to run continuously, overflowing the bottom tray, damaging your roof and potentially creating mosquito problems.

During cool summer evenings, operate the swamp cooler fan without the pump so cool air is brought into your home without using water. When you use the cooler

during the day, turn the pump on for a few minutes before you turn on the fan to re-saturate cooler pads. Consider installing a thermostat so the swamp cooler doesn't operate beyond a pre-selected comfort level. A secondary evacuation pump will prevent water in the cooler from getting too full of minerals, resulting in improved performance and also extending the life of your cooler. Water that is drained from your cooler by this pump can be redirected and reused to irrigate nearby trees or shrubs.

Proper maintenance is vital to your cooler using water and energy efficiently. Service your evaporative cooler according to manufacturer's instructions, or use these basic guidelines. If you need more help, consult a do-it-yourself guide or cooler maintenance firm staff.

2009 Xeriscape Contest Winners

The Annual Xeriscape Landscape Contest conducted by the Arizona Department of Water Resources and the Tucson Botanical Gardens honors homeowners, professionals and others who design and create beautiful landscapes that demonstrate water efficiency, reduced costs and good maintenance practices. This year's contest winners were honored at an awards ceremony on April 25th at the "More Green Per Drop" Festival, a free day of workshops and fun activities at Tucson Botanical Gardens, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Homeowner Category – 3 awards total

- ◆ Grand Prize Winner – Thomas Staudt
- ◆ First Place Homeowner – Francine Shacter
- ◆ Second Place Homeowner – Kit and Carol Weaver

Professional Residential Category – 3 awards total

- ◆ J.D. Di Meglio Artistry in Landscaping Award – Jason Isenberg, Urban Organics Landscaping
- ◆ Grand Prize Winner – Diana Turner, Turner Designs LLC
- ◆ Judges' Award for Water Conservation – Greg Corman, Gardening Insights, Inc.

To learn about additional award winners and to see their xeriscapes, visit www.azwater.gov/tama and click on xeriscape contest.

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

On the Water Front *continued from back*

Visit www.tucsonpimawaterstudy.com to find committee meeting specifics, read reports, fill out an online comment form, sign up for e-mail notification, access past meeting audio and video, and read transcribed comments from others.

We hope you will participate in this truly collaborative study that promises to shape Tucson and Pima County's water and wastewater systems, resources and processes for generations to come.

Jeff Biggs, Director, Tucson Water

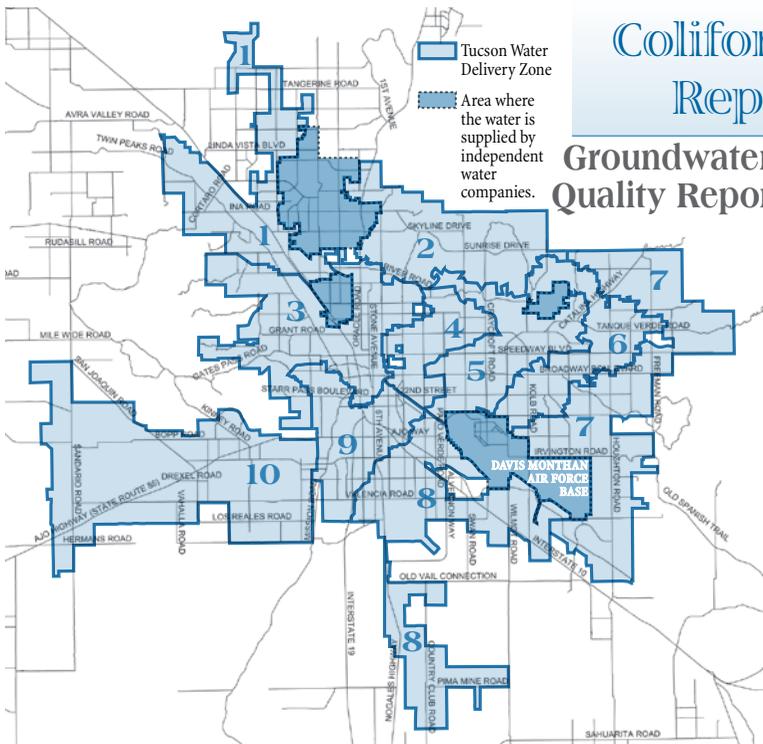
Clearwater Quality Report—

Most recent water quality data (March 9–April 9, 2009)

70	Sodium (mg/L) (March 24)
444.0	Mineral (mg/L) (March 9 – April 9 avg.)
264	Hardness (mg/L) (March 24)
7.46	pH (S.U.) (March 9 – April 9 avg.)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria (March 8)
0.69	Chlorine level (mg/L) (March 9 – April 9 avg.)
72.8	Temp (deg F) (March 9 – April 9 avg.)

Groundwater Quality Report - March 2009

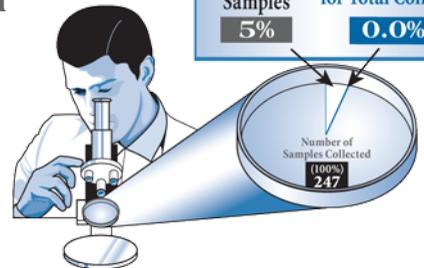
Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)*	Average	44	64	64	63	58	54	41	47	62	52	56
86 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	28-82	53-70	57-70	50-71	34-71	30-67	25-70	32-59	40-71	35-70	25-82
Mineral Content (mg/L)*	Average	395	515	501	495	418	464	307	494	432	306	441
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	179-522	444-544	440-540	280-552	175-551	266-536	177-532	287-551	204-552	205-547	175-552
Hardness (mg/L)*	Average	134	237	237	235	214	197	151	268	218	158	210
86 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	80-234	177-266	200-260	179-262	119-268	108-250	80-258	141-337	87-299	62-261	62-337
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.8
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	7.3-8.1	7.8-8.0	7.7-8.0	7.8-8.0	7.3-8.0	7.4-8.0	7.7-8.0	7.4-7.8	7.4-7.9	7.7-8.0	7.3-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	74	75	74	75	73	74	74	73	76	75	74
247 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	70-77	69-79	70-78	68-79	66-80	67-78	69-78	69-78	69-80	70-80	66-80



Coliform Bacteria Testing Report - March 2009

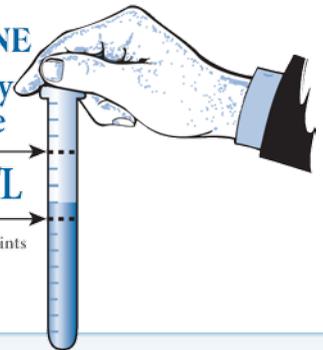
Groundwater Quality Report COLIFORM

EPA Standard for Positive Samples	Number of Positive Samples for Total Coliform
5%	0.0%



CHLORINE Monthly Average

Target = 0.8 to 1.2 mg/L
0.9 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 March 2009: 210 mg/L divided by 17.1 = 12.28 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.