

Your Water CONNECTION

2 Simple Ways to Prepare For Cooler Temperatures

In Tucson, fall means shorter days and a welcome break from hot temperatures. It's also a great time to prepare for winter and perhaps conserve water and save on utility bills:

- * Pipes can and sometimes do freeze. Protect exposed plumbing, including backflow assemblies, and make sure you know the location of the main shut-off valve in case of an emergency. Review Tucson Water's **Winter Prep Tip Sheet** online at www.tucsonaz.gov/water/winter-prep. If you'd like to request a paper version of the Tip Sheet, call (520) 791-4331 or send an e-mail to pico@tucsonaz.gov and we'll send it to you via mail.
- * Pima County calculates your average annual sewer charges based on your water use during December, January, and February – typically the three lowest consecutive months of water use. Fixing leaks and using water efficiently from December through February can potentially mean a lower sewer bill. For more information or to request a recalculation, contact Pima County Customer Service at (520) 724-6609.



In this edition of **Your Water Connection**, you'll get an update about construction of Tucson Water's Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) Treatment Facility. Construction crews are busy at the site, with the AOP Facility slated to be operating in January 2014.



The new AOP Treatment Facility will be operational some 18 months after groundbreaking.

The new AOP Facility will offer a proven, state-of-the-art-technology that literally removes 100% of contaminant 1,4-dioxane and other constituents

from water. AOP technology is also cost-effective and sustainable for the long run – replacing the current treatment method of blending several water sources with water from the nearby Tucson Airport Remediation Project.

Day in and day out, Tucson Water meets all federal drinking water standards and delivers water that is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing. Investing in the latest technology, advanced processes and new infrastructure ensures that Tucson Water will continue to provide customers with high quality water for many generations.

Look for information in the future about a ribbon cutting at the new AOP Facility.

Alan Forrest,
Tucson Water Director



PIMA COUNTY

Recycle Used Cooking Oil the Friday after Thanksgiving

On Friday, November 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. please join the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department and our community partners – EDG Fuels, Greecycle, Pima Association of Governments and the Town of Sahuarita – for the ninth annual Day-After-Thanksgiving Grease Collection and Recycling event.

Ordinary cooking grease can clog sewer pipes and act as a magnet for grit and other debris. Eventually the buildup of grease can clog sewer lines and may result in a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO). An SSO is the backup of raw sewage into the street, the environment, or into homes and other buildings.

To avoid a grease-related SSO, don't pour grease down your drain. After cooking, allow grease and oils to cool, and then pour them into a can or jar. It is safe to dispose of such oils in the trash, but it is better to bring them to one of five collection sites at the Day-After-Thanksgiving Collection and Recycling event:

2013 Day-After-Thanksgiving Collection Sites

Friday, November 29, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

East—O'Reilly Chevrolet, 6160 E. Broadway Blvd.

Midtown – City Council Ward 3 Office,
1510 E. Grant Road

Northwest – Pima Vocational High School,
5025 W. Ina Road

South –Tucson Water Plant #2, 1102 W. Irvington Road

Sahuarita, 375 W. Sahuarita Center Way

The grease and oils you drop off will be recycled into biodiesel, a cleaner burning fuel that can help us decrease our dependence on crude oil. For more information, please contact us as (520) 724-6500 or <http://www.pima.gov/government/WastewaterReclamation/grease>.

CITY OF TUCSON

November 15

America Recycles Day

With Americans pledging to increase their recycling habits on November 15, America Recycles Day, it's a great time to focus on some easy ways you and your family can recycle more locally. Up to 37% of what is put into our trash, could actually be recycled instead.

Remember no sorting is required, so fill your Blue Barrel to the brim with:



- ✦ **All plastics – just no plastic bags or Styrofoam**
- ✦ **Junk mail, phone books, catalogs and magazines**
- ✦ **Cans – aluminum, steel and tin cans**
- ✦ **Paper – newspaper, writing paper, copy paper, brown paper bags**
- ✦ **Glass food and beverage bottles and jars**

So think about what you throw away and ask “Can this be recycled?” Grab more opportunities to recycle and make a difference: help to save our desert environment, energy and precious natural resources.

Fact: Instead of recycling, the average household throws away about 13,000 pieces of paper a year – mostly junk mail and packaging. Each ton of paper recycled in our community can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill space, 4,000 kilowatts of energy, and 7,000 gallons of water.

Go to DoMoreBlue.com or go to the recycle infoline at (520) 791-5000 for more information on ways to make every day a recycling day.

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

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRRWD) – For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 724-6500 or visit <http://www.pima.gov/wwm>.

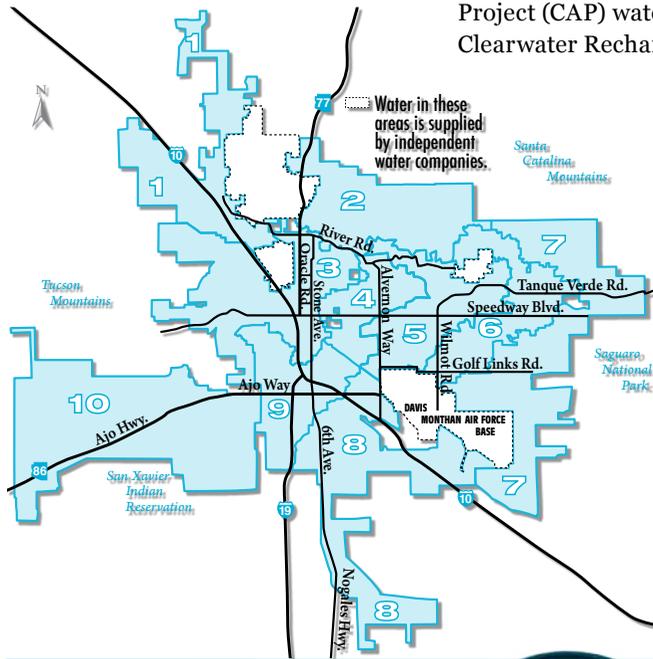
Environmental Services (ES) – Learn about how ES is protecting our groundwater and the environment at tucsonaz.gov/esd and (520) 791-3171.

Water quality report

September 2013



More than 20,000 individual water quality tests are performed annually on the drinking water derived from two sources: 1) groundwater and 2) the blend of recharged Central Arizona Project (CAP) water and groundwater from the Clearwater Recharge and Recovery Facility.



Groundwater Source Report – About 95% of the water we deliver comes from renewable water supplies. These test results reflect the main distribution system, divided into 10 zones:

test results

*mg/L means milligrams per liter
1 mg/L = 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons
SP = Sample Points

Zones	Sodium (mg/L*) 87 SP	Mineral Content (mg/L*) 247 SP	Hardness (mg/L*) 87 SP	pH Level (S.U.) 247 SP	Temperature (deg°F) 247 SP
1	65	479	199	7.5	85
2	64	477	225	8.0	86
3	63	446	218	7.9	86
4	56	388	198	7.9	87
5	53	431	193	7.9	86
6	60	469	219	7.8	86
7	57	407	208	7.9	87
8	53	460	264	7.6	85
9	63	449	224	7.8	85
10	61	389	184	7.9	87
Avg	59	439	215	7.8	86

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has primary standards for levels of coliform bacteria and the disinfectant chlorine.

coliform

EPA standards for positive samples

Positive results
247 samples



chlorine

EPA Standard
Max. 4.0 mg/L

Tucson Water
target
average
0.8 to 1.2
mg/L

Actual Average
247 samples 0.8 mg/L

Clearwater Report – More than 50% of our total water supply is a blend of recharged CAP water and native groundwater from Clearwater. Using this recovered blended water means that we reduce groundwater pumping.

Sodium	64 mg/L	(Sept. 4, 2013)
Mineral Content	473.1 mg/L	(Sept. 11 – Sept. 18, 2013 avg.)
Hardness	227 mg/L	(Sept. 4, 2013)
pH	7.36 S.U.	(Average)
Coliform Bacteria	Negative	(Aug. 29, 2013)
Chlorine Level	1.04 mg/L	(Sept. 11 – Sept. 18, 2013 avg.)
Temperature	79.2°F	(Average)

To obtain water quality information, go to tucsonaz.gov/water and click on the Water Quality tab for maps, reports, and more. Call (520) 791-4331 to schedule speakers, ask for an Annual Water Quality Report, or to request brochures.

Construction Progress Report

New Water Treatment Facility

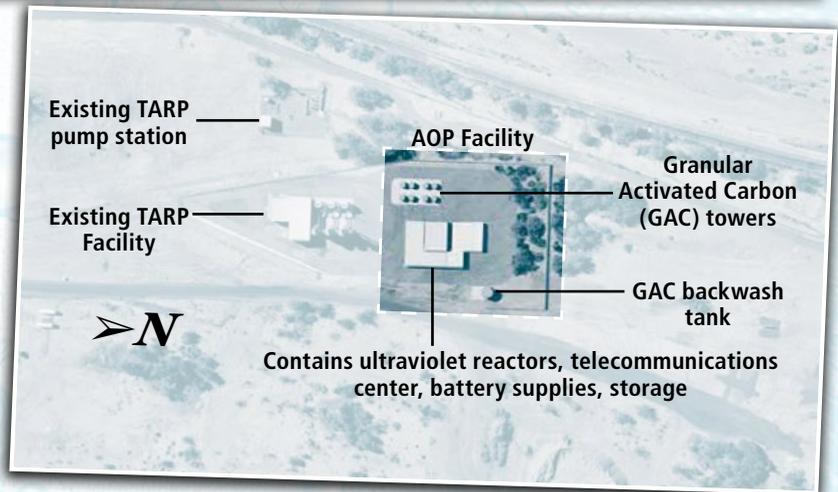
“Construction of the Advanced Oxidation Processing (AOP) Water Treatment Facility is on schedule. The Plant will be operational in January 2014,” said Tucson Water Administrator Jeff Biggs. Biggs, who has 34 years working for municipal water utilities across the nation, believes that the AOP Facility and its water treatment technology represents a key investment in water quality and water reliability. “AOP is cost-effective and proven – it removes 100% of 1,4-dioxane and other constituents from the groundwater.”

According to Biggs, the construction of the AOP project is on schedule and on budget, in part because of the positive support and ongoing involvement of neighbors and community leaders. “The City Manager, the Mayor and Council, and Tucson Water staff have offered support throughout the process, ensuring that the design, construction schedule and funding for the AOP project meet the needs of the community. The Unified Community Advisory Board (UCAB) has been provided with regular updates and also supports the project.”



Construction of the new AOP Facility is at the northwest corner of I-19 and Irvington Road.

- Construction started September 2012
- Built adjacent to the Tucson Airport Remediation Project (TARP)
- Project on schedule and within budget
- 50 local subcontractors and workers are at the construction site daily
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality approved final Facility design and will approve construction
- City of Tucson Development Services inspects during construction
- AOP Facility in operation January 2014
- AOP Facility and existing TARP will purify 8 million gallons of water daily



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