

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Say goodbye to plastic bags



Single-use plastic bags are a problem for our landfill and for the environment.

- Nearly 4 million TONS of plastic bags are produced each year, and 90% of them are thrown away.
- Americans use and throw away 100 billion plastic bags every year.
- A single plastic bag can take up to 500 years or more to degrade.

Reduce your use of plastic bags and properly recycle the ones you have.

- Do not put plastic bags in your Blue Barrel. Our local recycling facility has to shut down about three times a day to cut plastic bags from equipment.
- Return plastic bags to special recycling bins at your grocery store. Plastic bags can be used to manufacture composite lumber, crates, pallets, and plastic pipes.
- Use your own reusable bags when you shop.

Single-use plastic bags may be oh-so-convenient, but stash a few reusable bags in your car or backpack to use at the store – and do something good for the planet.

BYE BYE, PLASTIC BAGS!

PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

We live in the desert where **WATER** is a precious resource.

Pima County has been in a drought for **17** years,

so remember to **CONSERVE** water!

Using less water will also **SAVE** you money on your water and sewer bill!

PLEASE CONSERVE!



PIMA COUNTY
WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Like us on Facebook!

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

Environmental Services (ES) (520) 791-3171 or visit tucsonaz.gov/environmental-services
Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) (520) 724-6500 or visit www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation

ARE YOU WATER SMART?

Outdoor water use accounts for _____% of a residential customer's water consumption.

- a. 17% b. 27% c. 37%

b. Water use outdoors accounts for 27% of residential customer consumption.

Answer:



Customer Question

How can Tucson Water help me to conserve water at my business?

Our new Commercial Efficiency Program offers free water savings audits and customized rebates to help all commercial customers reduce water, sewer and energy bills. During the audit, Tucson Water's efficiency experts will look at fixtures, appliances and processes, cooling towers and any other water uses. Afterward, each customer receives a recommendations report and a customized rebate is developed to provide money-saving opportunities to increase water efficiency.

For more information or to schedule a free water savings audit, email pico@tucsonaz.gov or call (520) 791-4331.



WATER MATTERS

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Report water waste on a commercial property and Water Conservation Inspector Jonathan Waychoff will investigate, educate and follow up.

(See Working with Water, pg. 4 & 5)



tucsonaz.gov/water

WORKING WITH WATER



Meet **Jonathan Waychoff**, a **Tucson Water Conservation Inspector** or "Water Cop." He's worked the commercial property water efficiency beat since July 2014, ready to investigate water waste complaints and educate violators about making improvements. Waychoff offers a quick look at the team and their mission:

My primary customers are associated with commercial properties: malls, commercial and retail centers, businesses, HOAs, golf courses, apartment complexes. Basically any property that has a master meter for drinking or irrigation water. I work a lot with property managers and landscapers.

There are two commercial Water Conservation Inspectors, one working east of Country Club Road and one working west of Country Club.

Our job is to educate about conservation and enforce the Water Waste Ordinance. We investigate reports of water waste. We look for evidence of water waste on Tucson's streets. We also conduct on-site water efficiency reviews for commercial customers. Our priority is eliminating waste and educating about efficient water use.

3 Ways You Can Report Commercial Water Waste

1. Use the SeeClickFix app.
 2. Call (520) 791-2514 and leave a voice mail with the issue, date, time and location.
 3. Email waterwaste@tucsonaz.gov with the date, time, location and problem. You can attach a photo.
- Conservation Inspectors never give out the contact information of those who report potential violations.

Our day starts at 5 a.m. when people are watering and irrigating – there's less traffic and it's easier to spot reflections from pools of water. Most people stop irrigating after 9 a.m. so our focus is on other tasks. Summer is our busiest time of the year.

In fiscal year 2015, the Inspector Team documented 772 water waste issues – and that doesn't include follow-up visits or efficiency audits.

When I visit a site with a violation, I contact the landscaper or property manager to let them know what's happening. I find the source and place violation flags to identify the location. I'll take photos or shoot video to send to property managers and landscapers, for court purposes and for future reference. We track the issue in our database and follow up in 72 hours.

The biggest water wasters for commercial properties are related to irrigation: water line breaks, damage to sprinkler heads, stuck valves staying open and aging systems bubbling underground. Sometimes the fix is as simple as teaching folks how to adjust an irrigation timer for the season, soil and plants.

I carry a badge and the court authorizes me to write citations. Water waste violations carry the potential for fines and stopping service. In two years, I've written one warning citation.

Did you know that it's been illegal since 1984 in Tucson to allow water to escape from private property onto public property or another person's property? The Water Waste Ordinance reinforces the message that it's unlawful to waste water here.

Water Reliability

EFFICIENCY HIGHLIGHTS



What Tucson Water is Doing

To minimize leaks and lost water, Tucson Water visually and electronically monitors for leaks, staffs hundreds of maintenance employees to make upgrades and repairs, and invests in the latest leak detection technology.

What You Can Do



Monitor water consumption on your paper Utility Statement or online statement (onlinebiller.com/tucson/index.html), to compare month-to-month usage and same month last year for unusual low or high volume.

Report Water Waste with SeeClickFix

DOWNLOAD



SEE

WATER WASTE



CLICK

A PHOTO & UPLOAD



FIX

TUCSON WATER FOLLOWS UP



CLICK

tucsonaz.gov/water

WATCH



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TDD

(520) 791-2639

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