

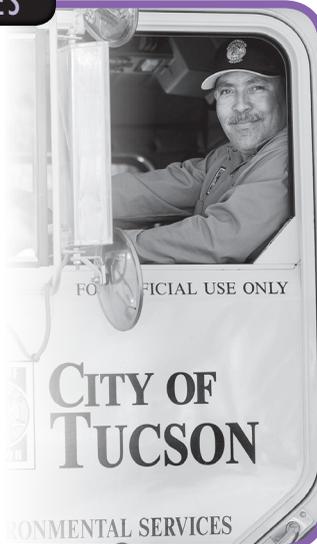
CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Trash Container Tips

Almost all Environmental Services (ES) customers have a green garbage container and a blue recycling container that ES services at the curb. Here are some collection day tips that will help to ensure smooth service and make you a considerate neighbor:

- Leave at least 3 feet between your container and any obstruction (parked cars, mailboxes, other containers). ES may not service a container unless it's safely accessible.
- Don't set your container under a tree or utility wires. Collection trucks need 15 feet of clearance above your container to prevent damage to our equipment, your tree or overhead utility lines.
- Close the lid on your trash container (recyclable container, too).
- After service, don't leave containers at the curb. (Leaving cans at the curb may result in a citation.) Bring containers back onto your property to prevent them from being knocked over by wind or animals – and help to maintain your neighborhood's appearance.

Go to [www.tucsonaz.gov/es/residential-trash](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/es/residential-trash) for more tips and information.



PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

A message from the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee:

Did you know....

The Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC) reviews, evaluates and recommends policies and procedures for the operation of the Wastewater Reclamation Department and provides guidance and recommendations regarding rate structure and new rates.

Monthly RWRAC meetings are open to the public.

For more information about meeting dates and times, visit: [www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation](http://www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation)

- Mark Taylor, Chair  
Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee



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](http://tucsonaz.gov/environmental-services)  
Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) (520) 724-6500 or visit [www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation](http://www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation)

ARE YOU WATER SMART?

What steps can I take to avoid a mosquito bite while outdoors?

- A. Use mosquito repellents
- B. Wear long sleeve shirts and pants outdoors
- C. Limit time outdoors at dawn and dusk

Answer:  
A, B and C all will help you prevent mosquito bites.

WATER Etc. Customer Question

How can Dispose-A-Med help me to get rid of unused and expired drugs?

Yes. The Dispose-A-Med program offers a free, safe, secure and confidential way to get rid of expired and unused prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines.

It's easy and convenient to dispose of medicines at take-back events and 11 permanent drop-off locations at police and sheriff stations and substations. There are also four Walgreens, all open 24 hours, with secure Dispose-A-Med boxes:

- 1880 E Irvington Rd, Tucson, AZ 85714
- 4685 E Grant Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712
- 7111 E Golf Links Rd, Tucson, AZ 85730
- 3800 W Ina Rd, Tucson, AZ 85741

Go to [disposeamed.pima.gov](http://disposeamed.pima.gov) for more information. Participate in Dispose-A-Med to protect public health, our environment and drinking water quality.



WATER MATTERS

inside this issue



Your Utilities: Wastewater & Environmental Services

2-3

Working with Water: Mosquito Abatement Program

4-5

Water Efficiency: Tips

6-7

Water Smart: Quiz & Question

8

Ricardo Garcia offers up the buzz on Tucson Water's successful Mosquito Abatement Program.

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



# WORKING WITH WATER



**Senior Engineering Technician Ricardo C. Garcia** works on Tucson Water's successful Mosquito Abatement Program. For eight years, Garcia has been trapping and tracking mosquitoes to reduce the population, prevent bites and protect public health. Here the Arizona native gives us the buzz about mosquitoes and what Tucson Water is doing at the Sweetwater Wetlands to *Fight the Bite*.

**Why have a Mosquito Abatement Program at the Sweetwater Wetlands?** "The Sweetwater Wetlands is a wildlife park and a reclaimed water treatment facility. There are approximately 30 acres of shallow and open water, cattails, and tons of migrating birds and animals. For a mosquito, it's a great place to breed, find food and lay eggs."

**How long has the program been around?** "Since 1996 at the Sweetwater Wetlands. I also track mosquitoes at Tucson Water's Clearwater Renewable Resource Facility, but that's usually during monsoons, when there are flooding and rainwater puddles."

**Are all mosquitoes a threat to public health?** "We monitor for all species at the Wetlands. Of particular interest are *Aedes aegypti* and *Culex tarsalis* since they can carry the Zika and West Nile virus, respectively."

## Mosquito Facts from Ricardo

- Only female mosquitoes bite for blood; male mosquitoes feed on nectar
- Blood is nutrition used to produce eggs
- The female lays eggs in still water
- It only takes about a week for a mosquito to grow from an egg to an adult

**How do you trap mosquitoes?** "Once a week during the summer, I set up six simple traps that include a net, a fan and dry ice. Mosquitoes are attracted to the carbon dioxide emitted from the dry ice and trapped in a canister covered by a net. I take the canisters to Dr. Frank Ramberg, a University of Arizona entomologist, who identifies and catalogs species, conducts counts and documents the information."

**Let's talk numbers...** "High activity months for mosquitoes at the Wetlands are late May to September, when it's hot and humid, and pregnant mosquitoes bite to lay eggs. In June and July, I can trap 1,000 to 3,000 mosquitoes per month. In December I may trap one mosquito."

**What is Tucson Water doing to stop mosquitoes at the Wetlands?** "One, Tucson Water staff apply granular larvicide that kills mosquitoes in the early stages. Two, we fog the Wetlands at night – especially in the summer – to eliminate adult mosquitoes. Neither method impacts the environment, plants, animals or other insects. Three, Tucson Water and the Tucson Fire Department do a controlled burn of a portion of the Wetlands to get rid of dead and dense vegetation, which makes applying the larvicide easier and more effective."

## Water Reliability

## EFFICIENCY HIGHLIGHTS

### What Tucson Water is Doing

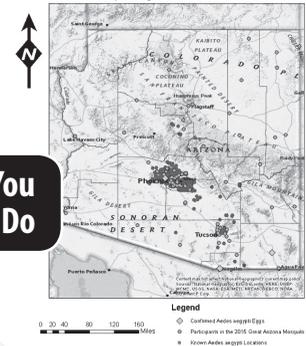
That bite could be more than just an itch!



Partnering with the Pima County Health Department to promote the **Fight the Bite** message to protect customers.  
[tucsonaz.gov/water/fight-bite](http://tucsonaz.gov/water/fight-bite)

### What You Can Do

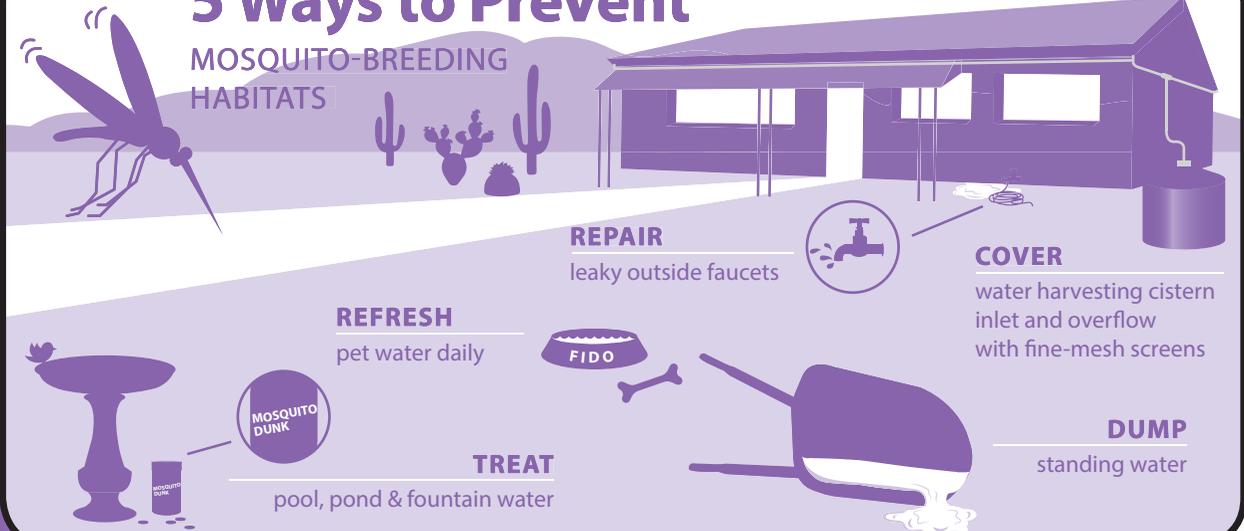
2015 Great Arizona Mosquito Hunt! Participating Schools & Results



Teachers and students in grades 9-12 register for the **2016 Great Mosquito Hunt** in August & September.  
[azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/mosquito-borne/index.php#hunt-home](http://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/mosquito-borne/index.php#hunt-home)

## 5 Ways to Prevent

### MOSQUITO-BREEDING HABITATS



CLICK

[tucsonaz.gov/water](http://tucsonaz.gov/water)

WATCH



CALL

English & Español:  
(520) 791-4331

TDD

(520) 791-2639

SOCIAL

