

WATER MATTERS

inside this issue



Learn how Tucson Water is keeping drinking water safe from contaminants PFOA and PFOS.

(See Working with Water, pg. 4–7)

**Your Utilities:
Wastewater &
Environmental
Services**

2-3

**Working
with Water:
Keeping Your
Water Safe from
PFOA and PFOS**

4-7

**Infographic:
Water Quality
Testing**

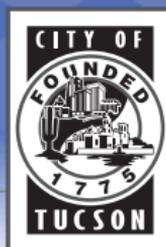
6-7

**Water Etc:
Find Water
Quality Info**

8



A proud part of the City of Tucson



WORKING WITH WATER



Keeping Your Water Safe from PFOA and PFOS

Tucson Water delivers safe, clean, and high quality water that meets state and federal regulations. The utility also voluntarily monitors the water system for hundreds of contaminants that are not regulated by federal, state, or local governments.

In 2016, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued an updated health advisory for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). The EPA issues health advisories for contaminants that it does not regulate, but which may pose a risk to public health. The current health advisory for PFOA and PFOS is set at 70 parts per trillion – one part per trillion is roughly equivalent to one drop of water in 20 Olympic-sized pools.

What are PFOA and PFOS?

PFOA has been used in the manufacture of consumer goods such as Gore-Tex™, Teflon™, and similar grease- and water-repellent products. PFOS is the key ingredient in Scotchgard™ and numerous stain repellents. Both chemicals have also been used extensively in firefighting and industrial applications. Most of the production and use of PFOA and PFOS has been discontinued in the United States.

Are PFOA and PFOS found in our local groundwater?

Yes, in some areas. PFOA and PFOS have been detected above the 2016 health advisory levels in six wells in Tucson Water's central well field. These wells have been taken out of service. Six additional wells have registered levels of PFOA and/or PFOS below the health advisory. These wells have been removed from regular service and placed on standby, to be used only in times of emergency or critical need.

Is my drinking water safe?

Yes. The majority of our drinking water comes from recharged and recovered Colorado River water, in which PFOA and PFOS have not been found. And, most of our local groundwater wells have also not been affected. Tucson Water takes a proactive, aggressive approach to protecting public health.

What is Tucson Water doing about PFOA and PFOS?

- ✓ Participating in a regional effort with local water providers, state and federal agencies to assess the scope and sources of contamination.
- ✓ Established an internal Tucson Water task force that is developing the most effective ways to test, contain, and remove PFOA and PFOS from all our water sources and drinking water.
- ✓ Shutting down any drinking water wells with PFOA and PFOS levels above the new EPA health advisory.
- ✓ Turning off and placing on standby any wells where PFOA and PFOS are detected at levels below the health advisory.

CALL

Public Information
English & Español:
(520) 791-4331

CLICK

tucsonaz.gov/
water

SOCIAL



TDD

(520) 791-2639

WATCH



WATER QUALITY TESTING

Tucson Water performs 14,000+ water quality tests a year

DELIVER & TRACK

Samples go to the Water Quality Laboratory

1 TAKE SAMPLES

600+ locations in neighborhoods, wells, reservoirs, & homes

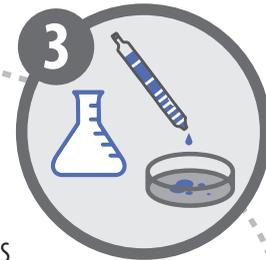


2



3 PERFORM ANALYSES

For organic, inorganic and radiological chemicals, and bacteria



ACCOUNTABILITY TUCSON WATER PROVIDES TEST RESULTS TO THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND WORKS WITH THE AGENCY TO ENSURE STATE AND FEDERAL STANDARDS. GO TO [TUCSONAZ.GOV/WATER/ABOUT-YOUR-WATER-QUALITY](https://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/about-your-water-quality) FOR REPORTS, TIPS, AND MORE.

4



4 RIGOROUS REVIEWS

To ensure accuracy of analytical & quality control results

5



5 TRANSPARENCY & REPORTING

to customers & the public

6



6 ONGOING MONITORING & INVESTIGATION

Tucson Water uses sample results to monitor changes & conduct investigations

Find out more:

- **Tucson Water PFOA and PFOS web page:** tucsonaz.gov/water/pfas
- **Tucson Water water quality reports:** tucsonaz.gov/water/water-quality-reports-and-publications
- **Tucson Water Quality Customer Support Unit:** (520) 791-5945 and CustomerSupportUnit@tucsonaz.gov
- **EPA:** epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos

How can I find out more about water quality?



Contact Customer Support

About tap water taste, odor, appearance, or water pressure at (520) 791-5945 or CustomerSupportUnit@tucsonaz.gov.



Access Info

Visit tucsonaz.gov/water/about-your-water-quality for annual water reports, monthly water quality reports, downloads, fact sheets, brochures, and more.



See For Yourself

Call (520) 791-4331 to schedule a tour of the Water Quality Lab or the Advanced Oxidation Process Treatment Facility.



Use Dispose-A-Med

Use Dispose-A-Med boxes and events to get rid of unused prescriptions & over-the-counter drugs. DisposeAMed.pima.gov



Attend a Meeting

Attend a Unified Community Advisory Board meeting to learn about water quality in the Tucson International Airport area. Visit tucsonaz.gov/water/1-4-dioxane



Get Social

Connect to Tucson Water on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Brush and Bulky Just got Greener!

Single family residential customers inside the city limits will no longer receive door hanger notifications for Brush and Bulky pickup service. For your collection date, download the free Recycle Coach app or visit tucsonaz.gov/es/brush-and-bulky.

Using RecycleCoach™ is easy.

- ① Download the FREE APP RecycleCoach™ Download on the App Store  
- ② Enter in your city, address and then set notifications/reminders
- ③ All the information you need, while making Tucson greener!



PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Need assistance paying your sewer bill? We can help!

You may qualify for a **25%, 50% or 75%**

reduction to the wastewater portion of your utility services statement.

To be eligible you must meet the following:

- Be a residential sewer customer
- Have a sewer bill in your name
- Meet combined household income requirements based on federal poverty guidelines

To schedule an eligibility appointment, please call the Pima County Community Action Agency at: **(520) 791-5443**

You must provide the following at your appointment:

- Picture ID
- Proof of income
- Your utility services statement

www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation/subsidy



WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Like us on Facebook!   Nextdoor

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) 724-6609 or visit pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation