

CITY OF TUCSON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Safe & Easy **Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste**

Tucson's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program provides drop-off sites where you can take discarded, unused, or leftover portions of household products labeled WARNING, CAUTION, POISONOUS, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, CORROSIVE, REACTIVE or EXPLOSIVE. Tucson's HHW team will safely recycle, reuse or dispose of materials.

**Los Reales Landfill**, 5300 E. Los Reales Rd.  
Monday – Saturday, 8:30 am – 5 pm

**Sweetwater Facility**, 2440 W. Sweetwater Dr.  
Friday, 8 am – 2:30 pm

**1st Saturday each month**, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd.  
enter by turning north on Prudence from Speedway  
1st Saturday, 8 am – noon

Never put hazardous products in regular garbage, flush, or put down a drain – use the HHW Program and help to protect people, pets and the environment.

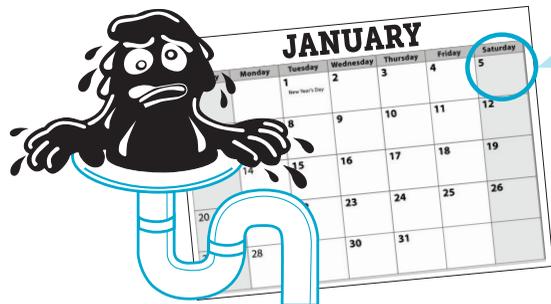


PIMA COUNTY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**IT'S THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GREASE COLLECTION EVENT!**

**Saturday, January 5, 2019**



Pouring grease down the drain can clog sewer lines, so save your used cooking oil and grease and bring it to us!

The event will be held at several area locations across Pima County from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Keep an eye out for December's **Wastewater News** for a complete list of locations or visit: [www.pima.gov/grease](http://www.pima.gov/grease) for more details.



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](http://tucsonaz.gov/environmental-services)  
**Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD)** (520) 724-6609 or visit [pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation](http://pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation)

**WATER Etc.** **What is Tucson Water doing to protect the quality of aquifer water?**

**Monitoring water** pumped out of the aquifer at points where it enters the distribution system and throughout the entire drinking water system.

**Applying federal Safe Water Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulations** to protect public health. We also treat non-enforceable federal drinking water Health Advisories as enforceable standards.

**Operating the Tucson Airport Remediation Project/Advanced Oxidation (TARP/AOP) Treatment facility to remove pollutants** TCE and 1,4-dioxane from groundwater and prevent them from further spreading into our aquifer.

**Actively monitoring for new contaminants** that could threaten our water supply.



**Working with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality** to minimize aquifer contamination from historic unlined landfills, old disposal dry wells, and leaking underground storage tanks.

**Collaborating with regulators, key stakeholders, and water utilities** to proactively identify, monitor, and address emerging contaminants with changing standards.

**WATER MATTERS**

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**Water Etc.: Protecting Aquifer Water Quality**

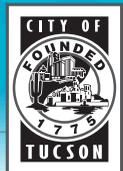
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Find out how recharging 47 billion gallons of Colorado River water a year has helped to restore Tucson's aquifer. Key findings from the **2018 Status and Quality of the Aquifer**.

(See *Working with Water*, pg. 4-7)



A proud part of the City of Tucson



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

# WORKING WITH WATER

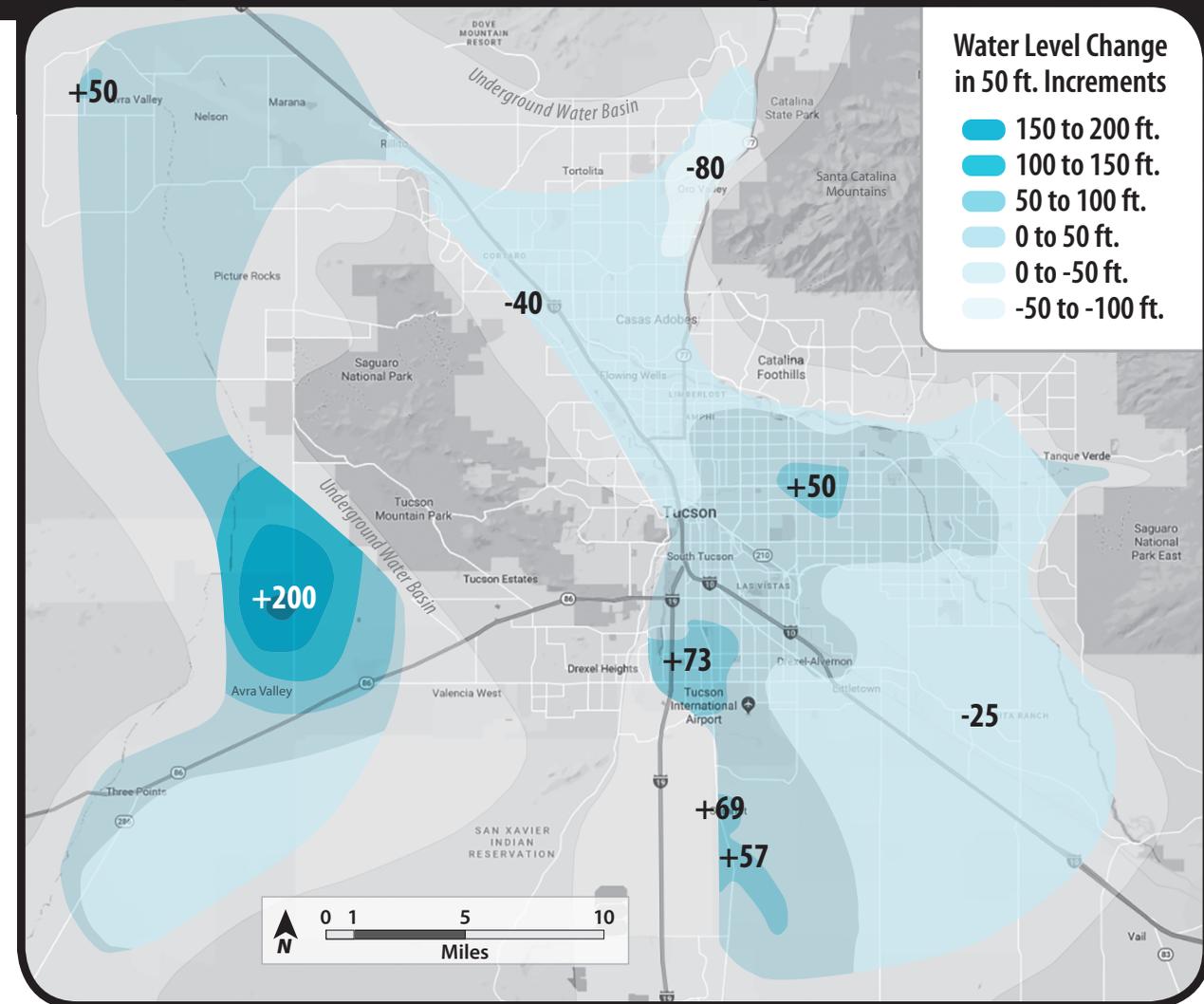
Tucson Water's *1998 Status of the Aquifer* report profiled a desert community with a bleak water future: **Tucson was the largest American city solely reliant on pumping groundwater to meet its drinking needs**, water tables were falling, and the ground was sinking in places because of overpumping—a phenomenon called subsidence. The *2018 Status and Quality of the Aquifer* report shows how Tucson reversed those trends to create a sustainable water supply for our community. Here are some key points from the 2018 report:

- 1) Since 1998, **Tucson Water has dramatically reduced dependence on groundwater** by retooling how we treat and deliver Colorado River water, expanding the use of reclaimed water, bringing rain/stormwater into our water portfolio, and reducing drinking water use through innovative conservation programs, education, and incentives.
- 2) **We invested in two massive projects and are participating in a third to recharge Colorado River water in local aquifers.** Two are in Avra Valley, west of the Tucson Mountains, and one is near the Santa Cruz River, south of Tucson. Today, most of the water we serve is from these facilities.

**aquifer** *noun*  
 aqwi·fer | \ˈa-kwə-fər  
 a naturally occurring rock or sediment basin that stores water

- 3) Because Tucson Water now recharges more water than we recover or pump out, **we have more than four years of Colorado River water stored in the aquifer** (2017). This water is available if there is a shortage on the Colorado River in the future.
- 4) **Aquifer water levels are improving.** The water table has risen more than 200 feet in Avra Valley and more than 50 feet in central and southern Tucson.
- 5) Beginning around 2005, **there has been a substantial reduction in subsidence rates** in the central Tucson area in tandem with rising water levels. This helps protect land and buildings from damage.
- 6) **Conservation and efficiency programs have helped manage demand** and improve the aquifer. The total amount of drinking water used in 2017 was the same as 1987 – even with 200,000 more Tucson Water customers.
- 7) Local and renewable, **reclaimed water is treated wastewater used primarily for irrigation at golf courses, schools, and parks.** Tucson Water has more than a year of reclaimed water stored in the aquifer (2017), and we are expanding our capacity to store more in the future.

## Aquifer Water Level Changes, 2000-2016



8) **Our aquifer is robust and our water future is sustainable**, using renewable water resources first, only tapping into non-renewable groundwater as a backup.

### Learn more:

- **Online:** [tucsonaz.gov/water](http://tucsonaz.gov/water) to access the *2018 Status and Quality of the Aquifer* report, maps, graphics, and statistics
- **Hard copy:** (520) 791-4331 or [pico@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:pico@tucsonaz.gov) to request that a report be mailed to you

CALL

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

CLICK

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

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WATCH

