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July Water Matters

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Water Matters



Your 2025 Water Quality Report Is Here

Every year, Tucson Water publishes a Water Quality Report that shows what's in your drinking water and how we keep it safe.

The 2025 report confirms that Tucson Water continues to meet or exceed all federal and state drinking water standards. Our team conducts thousands of water quality tests each year to monitor the water delivered to homes and businesses across our community. Staff monitor water quality at 171 wells, 63 reservoirs, 275 sampling locations, and 125 homes throughout our service area.

Guided by our One Water 2100 Plan, Tucson Water manages groundwater, Colorado River water, recycled water, and stormwater as one integrated water system. Tucson Water serves more than 750,000 customers, using a mix of water sources to help ensure a reliable, sustainable supply for our community. Much of Tucson's Colorado River water is stored underground for future use and recovered when needed, helping protect water quality and strengthen our water future.

We're also taking steps to address emerging contaminants such as PFAS. Tucson Water has monitored for PFAS since 2018 and continues to meet current drinking water requirements while preparing for future regulatory changes. New treatment upgrades at the Tucson Airport Remediation Project and planned remediation efforts in northwest Tucson will help remove PFAS from groundwater and protect local water supplies.

Protecting water quality starts long before water reaches your tap. Through our Sentry Program, Tucson Water looks for emerging contaminants and evaluates new treatment technologies. We're also developing a Source Water Protection Plan to help prevent pollution from reaching our aquifer in the first place.

[Read the Report](#)



Colorado River Update: Planning Today for Tomorrow's Water Security

By John Kmiec, Director, Tucson Water

The Colorado River remains one of the Southwest's most important water resources, and discussions among the seven basin states, federal agencies, tribes, and water users continue as negotiations move forward on the river's long-term management. While these discussions are complex, Tucson is well-positioned for the future because we have planned ahead for decades. Decades of planning, investment, and community support have helped Tucson build a diverse water portfolio that can adapt to changing conditions.

This work is not done alone. Tucson Water continues to work closely with our federal and state partners, including the Bureau of Reclamation, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Governor's Office. Together, we are committed to strong collaboration that helps ensure Tucson, Southern Arizona, and communities across our great state remain resilient and prepared for the future.

That same commitment is reflected in Tucson Water's One Water 2100 Plan, which recognizes that every drop has value. By making the most of our groundwater, Colorado River supplies, stormwater, and recycled water resources, we are creating a more sustainable water future. Recycled water, in particular, continues to play an important role in supporting residential, commercial, industrial, and environmental needs while reducing demand on potable water supplies.

Water has always been a precious resource in the Sonoran Desert. As we often say, **Tucson has enough water to thrive – but not enough to waste.** By continuing to plan ahead, invest wisely, and work together, we can continue to ensure a reliable water future for generations to come.

One Water Tucson

Save Water Outdoors this Summer

July is Smart Irrigation Month making it a great time to take steps to become water-wise outdoors. Smart irrigation technologies can help reduce water waste, lower utility bills, and [keep landscapes healthy](#).

From basic, low-cost tools to advanced smart technologies, the following options can help you water more efficiently, save money, and support a thriving landscape.

Low-Tech Solutions

- Mechanical Hose Timers – These battery-free devices automatically shut off water after a set time, helping prevent overwatering and wasted water.
- Rain Gauges – Measure how much rainfall your yard receives so you can reduce or skip irrigation after storms.
- Drip Irrigation Pressure Regulator Valves – These devices reduce excess water pressure, helping emitters distribute water evenly while preventing leaks and damage to the irrigation system.

High-Tech Solutions

- Smart Irrigation Controllers – These controllers automatically adjust watering schedules using weather data, site conditions, and other real-time information. Many can be monitored and controlled through smartphone apps.
- Soil Moisture Sensors – By measuring moisture levels in the soil, these sensors help determine when plants need water, reducing overwatering and preventing issues like root rot and other plant diseases.
- Irrigation Master Valves – Installed on the main irrigation line, these valves shut off water when the system is not running, helping prevent water loss from leaks or system failures.

Shop online or visit your local hardware, plumbing, or irrigation store to purchase these items. You can also request a free, personalized water conservation kit and order a free hose timer and rain gauge. Limited to one kit per property.

[Free Conservation Kit](#)

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City of Tucson Environmental Services



Go Plastic-Free this July!

This global movement helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution, so we can have cleaner streets, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free July?

Ways to reduce plastic use:

- Use refillable water bottle
- Bring reusable bags to grocery store
- Use containers for lunch instead of bags
- Say no to straws and plastic cutlery

[KnowWhereToThrow.com](https://www.knowwheretothrow.com)

Pima County Wastewater Reclamation



How is Your Sewer Bill Calculated?

Sewer bills are based on your household's water usage, calculated using the months that typically see the lowest water use: December, January, and February. If these are NOT the lowest consecutive months of water reusage, you may appeal your bill within 60 days of receipt.

However, you will only receive a credit for up to 60 days back on your bill. Thus, it's important to appeal your account in July, because that's when your sewer bill is recalculated.

Call (520) 724-6609 for more information.

[Submit an Appeal](#)



Water Matters is a monthly newsletter brought to you by Tucson Water

Tucson Water is a department of the City of Tucson



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