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Waterline Relocations Funded by the RTA Fee

Major road projects in the Northwest will continue through the rest of the year and into 2012. This means required waterline relocations will also continue prior to or during these road widening projects. We appreciate your patience and safe driving during these construction projects.

Currently, the waterline relocations are being constructed for the Magee Road expansion from Shannon Road to La Cañada Drive. The District will spend \$2.1 million to complete the waterline relocation, which is being done by Innova Engineering, LLC. Our work includes the relocation of approximately 18,000 feet of existing waterlines and is expected to be completed in November 2011. The County's widening of Magee Road from Shannon Road to La Cañada Drive, including the new intersection at La Cholla and Magee, is expected to be completed in early 2013.

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WORKSHOP OCTOBER 15TH

Metro Water is pleased to offer the workshop, **Making Your Landscape Water Wise**, on Saturday, October 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Val Little of the Water Conservation Alliance of Southern Arizona will discuss ways to reduce your outdoor water usage including water harvesting, graywater usage, irrigation practices, and plant selection. Come prepared to have your questions answered!

Registration is required and seating is limited.
There is a \$5.00 fee for this informative workshop
Register by calling Tullie at 575-8100. ■



Account Privacy

When you call about your account, for privacy purposes, we can only talk to the person whose name is on the account. In other words, even if your spouse or parent wants information, we cannot discuss the account without his or her name listed. If you would like someone else to be able to also discuss your water account with us, please contact our office to have those names added.

You can reach us at 575-8100. ■



Your Pima County Sewer Bill

Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department is responsible for your sewer bill and setting the rate for it. Pima County contracts with Metro Water District to include its sewer charges on our water bill.

Each July, Pima County recalculates your sewer bill based on the water you used in the previous months of December, January and February. These three months are representative of the period when outside water usage is typically at its lowest. Your sewer bill, reflected on the water bill, is most likely higher now because of a sewer rate increase that took effect in July. The Pima County Board of Supervisors approved a 10 percent sewer-volume increase and a 6.5 percent increase to the monthly service fee. The increase will raise the average monthly residential sewer bill from approximately \$34.28 a month to \$37.35 a month.

If you experienced a waterline leak due to freezing temperatures in February 2011, you may see a significantly higher increase in your sewer bill. If so, and for this year only, the County's Wastewater Department can apply water usage from the previous year, February 2010, to calculate sewer fees for fiscal year 2011/2012. Also, if you can show that other months were lower in water usage than December, January, and February, you can have those months used to calculate the three lowest months of water usage.

To file an appeal of your sewer rate, please call 740-6609 or file an appeal online at www.pima.gov/wwm/online.htm. Any other questions about your sewer bill can be answered by Pima County at the same number, 740-6609. ■

Meters, Maps, Minutes & More at
www.metrowater.com





Waterline Relocations... *(Continued from page 1)*

In September, Metro Water is expected to award the contract for the construction of the La Cañada Drive Transmission Main and waterline relocations from Ina Road to River Road. This project includes the installation of approximately 9,000 feet of 16 inch and 24 inch transmission mains that will connect with a future waterline in Roller Coaster Road and allow water from the new Riverside Well, near River Road and La Cholla, to add more reliability in meeting the needs of our customers. This project also includes the relocation of approximately 16,000 feet of existing waterlines along the La Cañada Drive as required by Pima County. The actual road widening of La Cañada Drive is expected to begin at the end of 2011.

Metro is also required to do waterline relocations along Magee Road from Shannon Road to Thornydale Road and along La Cholla Boulevard from Magee Road to Overton Road. Metro is expecting Pima County approval of its plans with construction of those waterline relocation projects to begin late 2011.

Last year, the Metro Water Board approved the issuance of \$6.6 million in revenue bonds in order to meet the County's aggressive road construction schedule. Until bids are received for these projects, the exact cost of the waterline relocation projects to the District will not be known. ■



Motorists must deal with traffic control while waterline construction precedes the actual road construction.



FACTS ABOUT WATER HARDNESS

Hard water is common to Arizona. It is caused by minerals found in the water, specifically calcium and magnesium. Hardness is measured by the ease with which soap can be lathered. It is easier to produce a lather using soft water.

Yes, hard water is safe to drink and to use for cooking and cleaning and is not a health risk. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and US Environmental Protection Agency do not consider hard water a health issue and there are no standards or limits set for hardness.

In grains per gallon, water hardness is classified as follows:

- Less than 4 grains per gallon (0 to 75 parts per million) is considered to be soft
- 4 to 7 grains per gallon (75 to 150 parts per million) is considered to be moderately-hard
- 7 to 10 grains per gallon (150 to 300 parts per million) is hard
- greater than 10 grains per gallon (more than 300 parts per million) is very hard

Metro Water has posted on its website a map showing the range of water hardness in your neighborhood. Check out www.metrowater.com and look up water quality to find the hardness maps.

Hardness is a factor in household maintenance, such as build-up of scale on evaporative coolers, around faucets, and in water heaters. Such build up can be remedied with regular flushing and with de-scalers, including the amazing yet affordable vinegar. (However, please avoid the water wasting daily flushing of coolers.) ■





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 Monday - Thursday
 7:30 - 5:30
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**CURRENT
 DROUGHT
 RESPONSE:**

**STAGE 1
 ALERT**

**STAGE 2
 WARNING**

**STAGE 3
 EMERGENCY**

**STAGE 4
 CRISIS**

Fall Irrigation

The monsoon season is starting to fade. Some days are still hot but overall the temperatures are starting to decline. Now is a good time to adjust your watering schedule and check for any irrigation leaks.

Slow down your irrigation/watering schedule for cooler months. Less frequency between watering is needed, especially for established plants. Continue to water early in the day before it does get warm or windy.

Stop irrigation leaks with easy maintenance. Replace tubing and broken emitters, and clean out clogged emitters. ■

Board of Directors:

Bryan Foulk, Chair
 Dan M. Offret, Vice Chair
 Jim Doyle, Member
 Helen Ireland, Member
 Judy Scrivener, Member

Fall Public Board Meetings (6:00 pm):

September 12, 2011
 October 12, 2011
 November 14, 2011