

Splash

Metro Water
Newsletter
Fall 2012

*Inside the
Fall 2012
20th Anniversary
Issue of Splash:*

Thank You 1

Free Water Wise
Workshop on
October 13, 2012 .. 1

20 Year Milestones
..... 2

Enter to Win One of
Twenty \$50 Credits!
..... 3

20 Year Milestones
(cont'd) 3

Open House on
October 2, 2012 4

Board of
Directors & Fall
Meeting Schedule
..... 4

Contact
Information 4

20th Anniversary Issue 1992-2012

Metro Water District will be celebrating its 20 Year Anniversary on October 2, 2012! We would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents, businesses, and community leaders of the District. Special thanks goes to our dedicated Board of Directors, the Finance Oversight Committee, and Staff - past and present. The District has accomplished great success since 1992, each person playing an important role. Look inside for announcements about Open House, twenty \$50 Credit Drawings, and a Free Workshop!

Thank you

FREE WATER WISE WORKSHOP

As part of our 20 Year Anniversary, Metro Water is pleased to offer the free workshop, **Making Your Landscape Water Wise**, on **Saturday, October 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Val Little of the Water Conservation Alliance of Southern Arizona (WaterCASA) will discuss plant selection, irrigation practices, water harvesting, and graywater usage. Come prepared to learn how to reduce your outdoor water usage. Seating is limited. Registration required. **Register by calling Tullie at 575-8100**

Milestones



1992

- Pima County Board of Supervisors notified of intent to acquire water company and first of 6,000 signatures turned in
- Pima County Board of Supervisors create water improvement district contingent on the ratification of the required petitions
- Interim Board of Directors appointed with staggered terms: Alex Jacomé, Herb Johnson, Kate O’Rielly, Pete Schlegel, and Jim Tripp
- Metro Water District’s purchase of Metro Water Company from Tucson Water finalized

1993

- Water System Management Plan initiated to determine short-term and long-term infrastructure needs
- Northwest Replenishment Program pursued for long-term water resource planning.
- Office moved to Paseo del Norte

1994

- Summer water demands tax system, Linda Vista area (north west) experiences outages
- Plan for Northeast Reservoir shifted to Northwest
- “Splash” newsletter introduced

1995

- Conservation Program initiated including establishing the Toilet Rebate Program
- Service area boundaries with Tucson Water resolved
- New rate structure established following Rate Advisory Committee recommendations and public hearing
- Application filed with ADWR for Assured Water Supply Designation
- Litigation with City of Tucson begins over CAP water

1996

- Groundwater Savings Project initiated with BKW Farms, later ones also done with Cortaro Marana Irrigation District and Kai Farms
- Avra Valley Recharge Project dedicated – first recharge project in Southern Arizona.
- Customer survey conducted for financing Capital Improvement Program

1997

- Bond election (\$23 million for CIP) wins 79% approval
- Construction of capital projects begins
- Water Conservation Alliance of Southern Arizona established
- Sewer fees for Pima County collected for customers through water bills
- Bond Oversight Committee established
- Settlement agreement for CAP water reached with City of Tucson

1998

- Arizona Water & Pollution Control Association names Metro “Best Small Distribution System”
- Herb Johnson (Northwest) Reservoir dedicated
- Wellhead Protection Program developed
- Negotiations begin for acquisition of Hub Water Company

1999

- Liens on District customers’ properties removed

- First annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) sent to customers
- Moved into new office building on La Cañada Drive
- Hub Water Company purchased
- Meter Replacement Program begins
- Southern Arizona Water Users Association (SAWUA) established
- Feasibility Study completed for recharging CAP water in the Cañada del Oro Wash

2000

- Y2K passes with no problems after much preparation
- Decline in wells higher than anticipated, replenishment looked at more closely
- AWPCA awards “Best Wellhead Protection Program” to Metro Water District

2001

- Pilot CAP treatment study conducted for slow sand filtration
- Graywater Workshop: Demonstrated retrofit of customer’s home
- ADEQ scores the District 100% in state inspection
- Increased Security pursued after 9/11
- Arsenic Study done with American Water Works Research Foundation

2002

- Acquisition of Green Valley Water Company pursued but not finalized
- Delegation of water officials from Jordan meet with District staff

2003

- Visit from sister city Almaty, Kazakhstan water officials
- Annexation of Metro Hub approved by Board and finalized by City of Tucson
- Aspen Fire on Mt. Lemmon prompted extra monitoring of groundwater in Metro Hub as an extra precaution

2004

- New 10 Year Capital Improvement Program approved that includes reservoir, transmission mains and mainline replacement projects
- Site selected for 5 million gallon Northeast Reservoir
- First full year of participation in the regional Lower Santa Cruz Managed Effluent Recharge Project to allow the District to receive important recharge credits

2005

- Voters approve by 83% \$28 million bond to finance new Capital Improvement Program.
- Metro annexes service area west of Marana Airport after developer approaches District to be water provider
- District partners with US Bureau of Reclamation, Central Arizona Project, Towns of Marana and Oro Valley, and Flowing Wells Irrigation District to initiate a Science & Technology grant to look at how to utilize CAP water in the Northwest
- New wells drilled in Metro-Main and Metro-Hub service areas

2006

- Treatment system completed at Hub Wells No. 1 and 3 to ensure compliance to new arsenic standard
- Drought Preparedness Plan is adopted
- Toilet Rebate Program revised to focus on the new technology of High Efficiency Toilets
- Water Resources Fee is adjusted to assist with acquiring and using new water resources

ENTER TO WIN A \$50 CREDIT

Name/Account Holder _____

Account # _____

Service Address _____

Contact # or Email _____

To celebrate our 20 Year Anniversary, Metro Water District is offering our customers the chance to enter a drawing for one of twenty \$50.00 account credits. To be entered in the drawing, simply fill out the form below and mail it back or include it with your payment. Entry forms are also available at www.metrowater.com or by calling 520-575-8100. Only Metro Water account holders are eligible. One entry per account. Twenty winners will be drawn on 10/31/12. Credits will appear on November bills. Winners' names may be published on the Metro Water District website, facebook page, or in other published materials. *Good luck!*

Milestones *(continued)*

2007

- District, Marana, Oro Valley, and Flowing Wells Irrigation District initiate cost estimate study for utilizing CAP water in their respective service areas
- Demonstration garden completed at office site

2008

- 5 million gallon underground Northeast Reservoir completed and dedicated as the James M. Tripp Reservoir
- District found free of pharmaceuticals at its wells
- Board decides not to pursue a new bond program to upgrade the 10 year Capital Improvement Program

2009

- Metro Water and TUSD enter innovative agreement wherein Fruchthendler Elementary would be able to create and maintain a nature park on half of a 1.35 acre property purchased for a new well site
- Route analysis for delivery of CAP water to the Northwest Partners is completed
- RTA/County Waterline Relocation Fee established to pay for the waterline relocations required by the RTA/County road projects
- District ends year acquiring the Thim Water Companies, which becomes Metro Southwest

2010

- Board decides to pursue recharge and recovery as its initial treatment process for its CAP water allocation
- Bond Oversight Committee redefined as Finance Oversight Committee
- High demand for toilet rebates has Board authorize additional funds to meet customer applications
- Rate structure is adjusted to have the base rate to cover more of the District's fixed costs

2011

- Board approves \$6.6 million in revenue bonds to fund the numerous required waterline relocations due to the County/RTA road projects. Debt service to be paid with the RTA/County waterline relocation fee
- Metro Water purchases Avra Valley Recharge Project (AVRP) from CAP through a transfer of water credits
- Solar array erected to reduce energy costs at District office complex
- District, Tucson Water, and Oro Valley complete a water wheeling rate study

2012

- District awarded Water Infrastructure Financing Authority (WIFA) 2011 Drinking Water Project of the Year for the Thim Water System acquisition
- Three major RTA/County road projects underway requiring waterline relocations and other challenges for the District
- All meters in Metro-Southwest replaced with new electronically read meters





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is on facebook!
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Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
7:30 - 5:30
Friday 7:30 - Noon
metrowater.com

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20th Anniversary Open House

*You are cordially invited to the Metro Water District
20th Anniversary Open House*

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

*Learn about the history of your water district. Meet
Metro Water Staff, and Members of the Board of
Directors and Finance Oversight Committee*

Light refreshments will be served

Board of Directors:

Bryan Foulk, Chair
Dan M. Offret, Vice Chair
Richard Byrd, Member
Jim Doyle, Member
Judy Scrivener, Member

Fall Public Board Meetings (6:00 pm):

September 10, 2012
October 10, 2012
November 14, 2012

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