

Metro Water Newsletter Winter 2015-16

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Taking Steps Forward on the CAP Recharge, Recovery and Delivery System

Metro Water District continues to move forward the exploration and land acquisition phase of its CAP Recharge, Recovery and Delivery System. This project will recover CAP (Central Arizona Project) water that has been recharged at Metro's Avra Valley Recharge Project (AVRP) and then move that water through a 13 mile transmission line to blend it with groundwater at the Herb Johnson Reservoir.

To recover the water stored at AVRP, which is adjacent to the Marana Airport, recovery wells will be needed within a mile of where the water had been stored. Metro is currently conducting an aquifer test using an inactive irrigation well owned by BKW Farms and near AVRP. The test will determine the productivity and health of the aquifer, which helps the District know where to best locate its recovery wells for the CAP Recharge, Recovery and Delivery System. BKW Farm's cooperation with this effort has been extremely helpful.

Tierra Right of Way Services continues its investigation for land acquisition for the District. This effort includes easements that the transmission line would be constructed within and will probably be completed in 2016. Some easements will take longer to acquire such as the crossings at I-10, the CAP canal, and Southern Pacific Railroad.

(continued page 3)



Winter Watering

Temperatures are lowering and so should your water usage. With cooler weather, less water is needed for your landscape. Here are a few ideas for using water wisely this winter.

• Consider installing gutters on your roof and set up a water harvesting system. Collect the winter rains for spring watering. Receive a \$50 rebate for materials used for establishing a water harvesting system.

• Water less. Be sure to change your irrigation timer. Modify your water schedule.

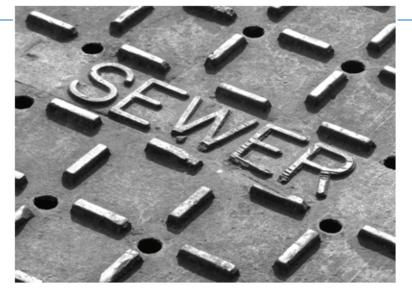
• Most landscapes will do fine with less water during the cooler winter months. Too often plants receive more water than needed. The winter season is a great time to see how little water your plants really need.

• If your green thumb itches to do some planting this winter, plant native or low water-use plants. You'll save water and time in the future and still have a colorful yard.

• Fix leaks and dripping faucets. Check your drip irrigation system especially if temperatures dip below freezing. ■

Sewer Reminders for the New Year

One way to keep your sewer bill low is to watch your water usage in the winter closely. Pima



County Regional Wastewater and Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) uses the average of your December, January and February billing periods to calculate your monthly sewer charge since these three months typically do not have a high outdoor water demand and are considered to be the lowest overall water use. Call (520) 724-6500 or go to *www.pima.gov/wastewaterreclamation* for information on sewer user fees. ■

Spotlight on Metro Southwest



In the above photo, Metro staff takes down an old structure at E&T Well #22 site to make significant improvements. Well #22 is one of two well sites providing water to its Metro Southwest-E&T service area. These two well sites are known as Well #22 and Well #23. At Well #22, the entire electrical system is being upgraded to increase its dependability and safety. The electrical system supports the booster pumps and motors used to pump the water and then move it through the pipes to the residents. Metro is adding a variable frequency drive (VFD) to the motors to increase its efficiency and extend the motor's life. In addition, a diesel power pump is being installed at Well #22 to provide a back-up power source if electrical service is down. At Well #23, electrical conduits were improved including moving them underground. All of these improvements increase the reliability of the water system for our E&T customers.

Taking Steps Forward on the CAP RRDS (continued from page 1)

The land acquisition phase and the design work is being funded through Metro's Water Resources Utilization Fee. The fee is currently 40¢ per 1,000 gallons and is projected to eventually increase to 70¢ per 1,000 gallons over the next few years. The Water Resources Utilization Fee allows the District to accomplish water resources stability, including the CAP Recharge, Recovery and Delivery System's land acquisition and design phases. These phases are then done within a workable timeframe and in a fiscally responsible manner by avoiding additional debt. Such a fee is not unique to Metro in that our neighbors have similar fees – Tucson Water (75¢ per 1,000 gallons), Oro Valley (90¢ per 1,000 gallons) and Marana (46¢ per 1,000 gallons). ■





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PRESORTED STANDARD **US POSTAGE** PAID TUCSON, AZ **PERMIT # 129**

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday



Board of Directors:

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

Board Meetings:

Monday, January 11 Monday, February 8 Monday, March 14

Board meetings are held at 6265 N. La Cañada Drive and typically start at 6:00 pm.

*Board meetings are typically held the second Monday of each month. If it falls on a holiday, the meeting is pushed to Wednesday.