

**Pantano Wash Bank Protection and River Park: Fort Lowell to Tanque Verde Road
IRRIGATION and LANDSCAPE PLANTING**

Construction of the bank protection and paved pathways requires that a swath of vegetation be cleared along the banks of our washes and rivers. To mitigate for the loss of native vegetation during construction the Flood Control District provides native plants and an irrigation system to establish and water these plantings. This landscape mitigation provides an aesthetic amenity to the river park.

IRRIGATION

As a reliable alternative water source, reclaimed water is used throughout the river park system. Reclaimed water is wastewater effluent that has been processed to safe water standards at the Pima County Agua Nueva Wastewater Treatment Plant. To designate that the water is not potable, all reclaimed water lines and associated fixtures are colored purple.



The first step in constructing the irrigation system is to dig a trench for the irrigation waterlines.



The next step is to place the purple irrigation mainline into a trench, partly burying the line and then install the irrigation control wire (red wire) above the irrigation line.

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The mainline is connected to a series or group of valves that control and distribute the flow of reclaimed water to smaller distribution lines and supply tubes to the plants.



For maintenance access, the valves are located in irrigation boxes along the pathway.

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An irrigation master controller is provided for each project to control the entire irrigation system.



Each plant is checked to insure that irrigation water is being delivered.

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Reclaimed water signs ensure the public does not mistake reclaimed irrigation water for drinkable potable water.

LANDSCAPE PLANTING



Planting holes are staked with red flags, then dug. Small irrigation tubes provide water to each plant.

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Planting holes are dug using an auger.



Plants such as these cacti supplied by the Pima County Native Plant Nursery are delivered to the project site.

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The plants are carefully loaded and moved to their respective planting locations.



The plants are placed in the planting hole and carefully backfilled.

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Rodent cages are installed around plants to protect them from hungry and thirsty animals.



Cactus like this little saguaro receive a temporary cap to protect the young transplant from sunburn.

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HYDROSEEDING

Hydroseed is a mixture of native seeds, mulch, fertilizer and water that is used to stabilize disturbed soil and can easily be applied over large areas.



The soil is scarified in preparation for the spraying of the hydroseed. These small plowed furrows, perpendicular to the slope, provide miniature basins for rainwater to collect and soak the soil thereby helping to germinate the native grasses, flowers and shrubs seeds.



Filling the water tank on the truck that sprays the hydroseed.

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Hydroseed contains a green dye so that the operator can visually see where he has placed the hydroseed.



The hydroseed turns brown in a couple of days.

Please see Ecosystem Restoration, Paving, and Plaza and Sitting Area informational packets for more information on other aspects of the river park associated with the irrigation and landscape planting.