

PIMA COUNTY

Identifying Sources of Odors in Your Home

If there are bad odors in your home, there are several potential odor sources you may want to investigate:

Sewer gases entering your home through pipes located under the sink and floor. These pipes usually have a “U” shaped segment, known as the P-Trap. The P-Trap design keeps water in the pipe, blocking sewer gases from rising up through the drainpipes into the home. If water in the P-Trap dries up, sewer gases can escape. Solution: Once a week, run water in plumbing fixtures that are used infrequently – a guest bathroom, a utility sink in a garage, etc. – to ensure water will remain in the pipe and prevent odors from entering your home.

Sewer vent pipes located on your roof can be another source of indoor odors. If these pipes become clogged, trapped odors can back up and escape into the home. If a sewer vent pipe is lower than or at the same level as an evaporative cooler, sewer odors which typically vent into the atmosphere can be sucked back into your home through the cooling system.

Persistent odors also can be the result of leaking pipes or leaking wax seals on toilets, as well as other leaks in the home plumbing system. A plumber can help identify these types of home sewer odors and make necessary repairs.

Another possibility is a natural gas leak. If you smell an odor similar to rotten eggs, see discolored vegetation around a pipeline, hear noises coming from the ground or an above-ground pipeline, a natural gas leak is possible. Leave the area immediately and call 911, if you suspect a natural gas leak.

Your utilities services statement includes fees for your water, wastewater, and environmental services.

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (PCRWRD) – For more information about the regional wastewater system, call (520) 724-6500 or visit <http://www.pima.gov/wwm>.

CITY OF TUCSON

Resolve in 2014 to

Help Keep Tucson Clean

Tucson is a great place to live: our desert environment is beautiful and we enjoy a great quality of life. Keeping the environment and our community clean are essential to this way of life. Environmental Services (ES) has three ways that will allow you to get involved cleaning up our community or just your part of it.



Brush & Bulky Collection. Tucson residents receive brush and bulky collection twice each year. You can clean up your yard, your shed or garage and ES will

pick up 10 cubic yards of materials. More information and a look-up tool for your 2014 schedule are available at www.tucsonaz.gov/esd.

Help by volunteering with Tucson Clean & Beautiful at Beat Back Buffelgrass Day on Saturday, January 25, 2014.

Buffelgrass is an invasive weed that spreads rapidly and is a fire hazard. As buffelgrass colonizes more areas, native plants and animals are displaced and the threat of fire increases. Sign up at www.buffelgrass.org to help on January 25th at sites around the Tucson Basin plus volunteer for other activities.



Neighborhood Clean Up Program. If you belong to a neighborhood association, homeowners' association, or an enthusiastic group of 10 neighbors, ES will help you with a clean-up event by providing roll-off containers and hauling them off at no charge.

Environmental Services (ES) – Learn about how ES is protecting our groundwater and the environment at tucsonaz.gov/esd and (520) 791-3171.