

*City/County Water and Wastewater
Infrastructure, Supply and Planning Study*

**Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Statement of Sustainability**

December 2008

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department's (PCRWRD) mission is to protect the public health, safety and the environment by providing quality service, environmental stewardship and renewable resources.

Specifically, in regard to sustainable water conservation and management, the PCRWRD plays a major role in producing effluent for regional beneficial use in aquifer replenishment and in irrigating turf, landscape and environmental restoration projects.

PCRWRD also supports the Pima County Board of Supervisor's adopted policies for sustainability. These policies establish a far reaching series of sustainability initiatives and goals directed at enhancing the sustainability of County government operations in areas of alternative fuel vehicles, green building, renewable energy and energy efficiency, waste reduction, water conservation and management, and green purchasing.

Pima County's adopted goals for water conservation and management include:

- (1) Cut water use in all county facilities by 15% by 2025;
- (2) Double the number of county parks served by reclaimed water by 2018, subject to voter approval of bond funds to extend reclaimed water lines; and
- (3) Maximize County water resource assets including groundwater rights, surface rights and production and use of effluent to sustain and protect the natural environment.

The Pima County Sustainability Action Plan describes the following specific activities that PCRWRD will undertake, in cooperation with other Pima County departments, in support of the County's sustainability policies and water conservation and management goals:

- Develop new wastewater conveyance standards that account for lower flows due to greater re-use and other emerging conservation trends
- Develop regional design criteria and efficiency standards for potable, reclaimed water, and greywater irrigation systems. The standards should:
 - Address flow meters, master valves, rain sensors and smart controllers;
 - Establish criteria for determining when greater irrigation is appropriate; and
 - Require contractors to hire a third-party certified auditor to ensure newly-installed irrigation systems function properly and meet specifications.

- Continue building research partnerships with public and private entities, such as the University of Arizona Agriculture Center and Rainbird
- Support efforts to designate a reclaimed water line in close proximity to the landfills as a water source for landfill operations and/or explore the feasibility of extending reclaimed water lines to landfill facilities (excluding Ina Rd. Landfill which is already served)
- Conduct suitability studies and prepare concept designs for additional multi-purpose detention basin areas such as the Kino Environmental Restoration Project (KERP). When possible, locate such facilities near areas with high water demand, such as parks, schools and golf courses