



GLOSSARY

Aquifer	<i>Layers of rock, sand, gravel, and clay beneath the surface of the Earth that contain ground water.</i>
Aqueduct	<i>A canal or pipe that carries water.</i>
Atmospheric water	<i>Water in the air. The layer of gases surrounding the Earth is composed of considerable hydrogen and oxygen, and when properly combined, water.</i>
CAP	<i>Central Arizona Project. A system of canals, pipelines and tunnels built to carry water from the Colorado River to central and southern Arizona.</i>
Condensation	<i>Part of the water cycle in which water vapor changes from a gas to a liquid.</i>
Evaporation	<i>Part of the water cycle where water in its solid or liquid state is converted into gas or water vapor; water changing into vapor and rising into the atmosphere.</i>
Groundwater	<i>Water under the Earth's surface in an aquifer or in fissures.</i>
Hard water	<i>Water that contains a high concentration of dissolved minerals. Hard water requires using more soap for cleaning and often leaves scale in containers and tubs.</i>
Hydrologic cycle	<i>The cycle of water moving from clouds to rain or snow into bodies of water and the ground, being used by plants and animals, and evaporating into the clouds again. Also called the water cycle.</i>
Imported water	<i>Water piped or channeled into one area from another, sometimes distant, source.</i>
Irrigation	<i>The application of water to land for agricultural or landscaping purposes, through human-made systems to provide for plants' water requirements not met by precipitation.</i>
Overdraft	<i>The amount of groundwater withdrawn from the aquifer that exceeds the amount naturally replaced by rainfall, snowmelt and runoff over a specific time.</i>
Percolation	<i>Part of the water cycle in which water soaks through subsurface soil layers, usually continuing to the groundwater or water table and into aquifers and wells.</i>
Porosity	<i>The number and size of the open spaces or pores in a rock.</i>
Precipitation	<i>Part of the water cycle in which atmospheric water falls to the ground as rain, hail or snow.</i>
Recharge	<i>The addition of water into the groundwater through natural or human activities.</i>
Reclaimed water	<i>Wastewater cleaned so it can be reused for many purposes, including irrigation and recharge.</i>

Renewable water resource	<i>A resource that can be reused, such as reclaimed water. A surface water supply (a river) or imported water (CAP supply) that are "renewed" by rain or snowmelt.</i>
Reservoir	<i>A pond, tank, lake or basin (natural or man-made) where water is collected and stored. Water behind a dam is called a reservoir.</i>
Runoff	<i>Part of the water cycle in which the portion of rainfall, melted snow, or irrigation water flows across the land surfaces in a watershed and eventually runs into washes, arroyos, rivers and lakes.</i>
Subsidence	<i>When the ground level sinks because the spaces between particles in an aquifer collapse. This usually results from water being removed and not being replaced quickly enough through recharge.</i>
Surface water	<i>Water that is found and/or is available on the surface of the ground, for example in rivers and lakes.</i>
Transpiration	<i>Part of the water cycle in which water is released through the leaves or stems of plants.</i>
Water-saving devices	<i>Aerators, flow regulators and displacement devices designed to save water. State law now mandates plumbing fixtures and equipment that conserve water.</i>
Watershed	<i>The area of land that contributes surface runoff to a given point in a drainage system.</i>
Water table	<i>The uppermost surface of groundwater in the aquifer.</i>
Wells	<i>A deep hole or shaft dug or drilled into the Earth to tap an underground supply of water.</i>
Xeriscape	<i>Creative landscaping for water and energy efficiency.</i>
Yield rates	<i>The amount of water that a watershed, reservoir or well produces.</i>



SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER WATER RESEARCH

CURRICULA

A Sense of Water: Teaching Materials for Secondary Grades. 1984. Southern Arizona Water Resources Association, Inc.

** This is out of print, but likely can be found in your city or school library.*

Conserve Water Educator's Guide: Water Conservation and Activities and Case Studies. 2000. The Water Course (Montana State University).

Educating Tomorrow's Hydrologists. 1996. Arizona Hydrological Society.

** This wasn't widely distributed, but likely could be obtained by contacting the Arizona Hydrological Society directly or Arizona Department of Water Resources.*

Groundwater Education for Secondary Students. 2000. Water Education Foundation.

Water in Our Desert Community. 1994. Arizona Municipal Water Users Association.

PUBLICATIONS

Water in the Tucson Area: Seeking Sustainability, 1999. Water Resources Research Center, College of Agriculture, The University of Arizona

** This report provides a comprehensive overview of water resources, policy and issues in the Tucson Basin. Many illuminating graphics, charts and photographs are included. The report begins with brief chapters focusing on the Tucson environment and history of water in the Tucson Basin. Subsequent chapters go into great detail on water supplies (groundwater, CAP, effluent, recharge), diverse water uses (municipal, residential, agricultural), and the roles of citizens and government in water policy.*

Water Resources Research Center
350 N. Campbell Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85721
<http://ag.arizona.edu/AZWATER/>

WEBSITES

<http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/water>

Tucson Water

**This is the website for Tucson Water, the City of Tucson's water department. This site provides information on water quality, reclaimed water, and water conservation in the Tucson area, as well as long range water resources planning, issues and concerns, and the department's financial plan.*

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/>

United States Geological Survey's Water Science for Schools Website

** This is an extremely informative website offering a broad scope of factual information. Basic information on the physical and chemical properties of water and global water facts. This site offers a picture gallery and a map gallery.*

<http://www.water.arizona.gov/adwr>

Arizona Dept. of Water Resources(ADWR)

** This is the website of the department of state government that administers state water laws, explores methods of augmenting water supplies to meet future demand, and develops policies that promote conservation and equitable distribution of water. The site provides information on Arizona water (including specific focus on the Tucson Active Management Area and Indian water rights), features pertinent news stories, and provides links to other water-related sites.*

<http://www.waterwiser.org>

** Clearinghouse for publications and general information on the topic of water efficiency. This site provides useful water conservation links and a list of educational books for sale. Includes an interesting online feature called "Drip Calculator," which simply calculates the amount of water wasted by drips and large leaks.*

Developmental Funding Provided By



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