

Bird Watching Opportunities and Protocols

RWRD has four wastewater reclamation facilities that provide opportunities for bird watching. Each site is unique, and therefore protocols differ from site to site. Please carefully review the protocols for each site below and follow all rules/instructions provided on the website as well as on or near the plant sites.

Thank you and enjoy your bird watching experience.

Avra Valley

10000 West Snyder Hill Road
Tucson, Arizona

As of August 5, 2009, opportunities for bird watching at the Avra Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility are again available. The facility had been off limits to birdwatchers during the extensive construction project that significantly upgraded the facility. Birdwatchers are no longer allowed on plant site; however, there continues to be access to the ponds. Please follow the rules listed below to assure that your birding experience will be a safe one.

1. Park in the parking lot located *outside* the main gate to the plant facility. This is the same parking lot that bird watchers used prior to the construction project. Currently there are no restrooms available to birdwatchers, but RWRD is looking into providing restrooms, an information kiosk, picnic facilities, and some restored habitat near the parking lot.
2. The ponds are open to birders every day from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. **DO NOT BE INSIDE THE GATE AFTER 2 P.M. OR YOU WILL BE LOCKED IN.**
3. DO NOT go inside the high-security fence around the main plant facility, including the building where bird watchers formerly signed in. ***Signing in is no longer required at this location.*** Bird watchers will have access to all the large ponds west of the facility (as before) but not to the high-security area inside the fence.
4. From the parking lot, walk directly west and enter through a gate in the low fence between the parking area and the south end of the ponds.
5. **Once inside the gate, TURN LEFT and follow the berm around the south side of the ponds. DO NOT turn right and walk on the narrow part of the berm outside the high-security fence to your right.**
6. Birders will normally have access to all the main pond areas, including some new ponds that have been added. However, please note the following:
 - There is a main east-west berm that runs through the middle of the ponds that may, from time to time, be cordoned off in places when heavy equipment and trucks need to access the ponds or the water distribution system that runs

under that berm. **Please respect all chains and signs when they are up** - facility employees will do their best to provide some access when machinery is in operation.

- **Stay on the berms—do not go down slopes into the basins.**
- The water draining into the ponds looks clean and does indeed represent a higher level of water quality than what was produced before; however, **do not touch or drink the water.**

Corona de Tucson Wastewater Reclamation Facility

1100 West Sahuarita Road
Corona de Tucson, Arizona

- Bird watching is available from 6:00 A.M to 2:00 P.M daily. **List of attendees and group affiliation must be sent in advance by fax (762-0591) or phone (762-0593). Bring identification with you.**

Green Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility

2200 North Nogales Highway
Green Valley, Arizona

- Bird watching is available from 6:00 A.M to 2:00 P.M daily. **List of attendees and group affiliation must be sent in advance by fax (625-3008) or phone (625-0025). Bring identification with you.**

Roger Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility

2600 West Sweetwater Drive
Tucson, Arizona

- Bird watching is available from 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M Monday-Friday. **Bring identification with you.** See attached map for details.

We are happy to host bird watchers whenever possible. Please obey all signs, safety protocols and staff directives when on site.

See the website of the Tucson Audubon Society at www.tucsonaudubon.org

Birdwatcher's Information

Roger Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility

2600 W. Sweetwater Drive Tucson, AZ 85705



Pima County Regional
Wastewater Reclamation
Department

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Plant Phone Number: (520) 888-4801

Rules

- Sign in and Out at Security Guard Shack at the Front gate
- Park only in designated area. If area is full contact front desk for alternate parking area
- Wear visitor's badge at all times
- Limit bird watching to designated areas
- Industrial areas of the plant are off limits to birdwatchers

Legend

	Bird Watcher's Parking
	Designated Bird Watching Areas

