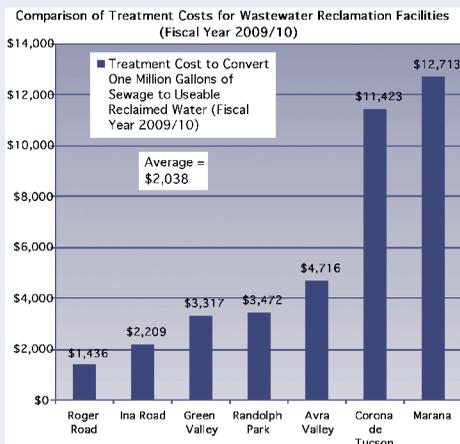


PIMA COUNTY

A Regional Wastewater System Serves the Needs of All Pima County Residents

Pima County's Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) operates a regional wastewater treatment system. This means that all residential sewer customers are charged at the same rate, regardless of which wastewater reclamation facility (WRF) serves their homes. Because small treatment facilities are more expensive to operate than larger facilities, the regional system model serves to protect the public health and environment by assuring that no County resident is priced out of sewer service. All residents within RWRD's service area benefit from economies of scale and efficient use of public resources that a regional system affords. The graph below contrasts the different costs of operating seven of our major wastewater reclamation facilities.



Your sewer bill is based on the regional average cost of service.

This system also provides the most cost effective operation of our sanitary sewers and treatment facilities. The present system also can more easily meet evolving and increasingly stringent environmental standards to improve the quality of our reusable reclaimed water, thereby conserving our long-term water supply. Finally, a regional system is the best method to protect the public health and our precious Sonoran Desert environment.

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) 740-6500 or visit pima.gov/wwm.

CITY OF TUCSON

Make Every Day Earth Day

More than forty years ago the first Earth Day was celebrated to raise awareness of actions we all can take to protect the environment. While most of us want to take responsibility for our environment, we ask ourselves, “What difference can one person make?” One thing we all can do is to reduce our waste and recycle whatever we can. Remember the 3 R's—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

Reduce – Did you know the average American throws away about 4.6 lbs. of waste every day! Try to buy items with minimal packaging; buy non-perishable goods in bulk and buy only what you need when buying perishables. Purchase fewer disposable items like paper plates and napkins and buy a reusable bottle instead of bottled water. Pick up reusable bags instead of taking plastic bags. And, if you do use plastic bags, remember to return them to the grocery store for recycling.

Reuse – It is inevitable that we will throw out things we don't use anymore. Before throwing something in the trash, consider donating it to a charity. You can put the item up for grabs on Freecycle (www.freecycle.org). You never know who might find a use for something you no longer want.

Recycle – In Tucson, about 37% of what we throw out every day is recyclable. Nearly all paper products we use – tin and aluminum cans and plastic bottles and jugs – are recyclable in your Blue Barrel. Now you can do even more blue. Rigid plastics are recyclable as long as they fit in the Blue Barrel.



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