

PIMA COUNTY

February's Weather Could Affect Your Sewer Bill Beginning in July

Pima County's Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) calculates sewer bills based on your water use during December, January, and February.* This practice is known as "winter averaging," and is a widely-used method of calculating sewer bills nationwide. Outdoor water use typically is lowest during the winter months and better indicates the amount of water that goes down the drain.

As a result of the February freeze in Pima County, many people had frozen and burst water pipes that released large amounts of water. For this reason, some may see very high increases in their sewer bills beginning in July. For those individuals, RWRD can apply a water usage figure from February 2010 to replace water usage from February 2011. This substitution will only be made for this year's calculations. If your July bill shows a significant increase due to a broken water pipe in February, contact RWRD at (520) 740-6609 or file an appeal online at www.pima.gov/wwm/online.htm.

The county cannot determine which accounts were affected by broken water pipes or begin the appeal process for customers until July 1. It will be up to those who were affected by broken water pipes to contact RWRD to begin the appeal process by contacting us at the phone number or website address printed above.

* For some residents, water use may be lower during a different three-month period. In these cases RWRD can base sewer fees on *any three consecutive months*. However, this method will not apply to months when a home is not occupied. If you believe your water use is lower during a different consecutive three-month period, you may call (520) 740-6609 to request a calculation based on those three months.

CITY OF TUCSON

Household Hazardous Waste Program Changes

Beginning in July, residents will see changes to the Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program. As a result of Pima County budget cutbacks, the Oro Valley collection site will close.

Residents living in northwest Tucson may still bring materials to the HHW Main Facility located at 2440 W. Sweetwater Drive, and may also take some household hazardous materials to the Anti-freeze, Batteries, Oil, and Paint (ABOP) sites at the Tangerine Landfill and the Catalina Transfer Station. Please note that these sites only take ABOP materials and will not accept other types of HHW.

Monthly collection events will continue to be held at the following sites on the 1st Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon:

- Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd.
- Tucson Water Plant #2, 1102 W. Irvington Rd.

At the main HHW facility and at the remaining outreach collection sites, the program will continue to accept the following:

- Automotive fluids
- Rechargeable batteries (alkaline batteries can be put in the trash)
- Cleaning products
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes
- Paint and paint products
- Solvents
- Lawn and garden products
- Computer equipment
- Anything labeled: *Acid, Flammable, Caustic, Poison, or Toxic*

The HHW Program protects our environment by recycling and redistributing these materials. Nearly 98% of materials collected are diverted from the landfill.

For more information call 888-6947 or visit our website at www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw

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.

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