

**Tucson's Water Cycle Field Trip**  
**Saturday, September 1, 2007**  
**2007 Regional Water Symposium**

Field trip organizers: Dawn Garcia (SRK Consulting) and Mike Block (Metropolitan Water District)

**Route and Stops:**

6:45: Meet at La Paloma.

7:00: Leave La Paloma (transportation provided).

Ina Road to Sandario north to Avra Valley Road. Left on Avra Valley Road to Sanders Road. North on Sanders, turn right past BKW Farms headquarters.

Will pass effluent flowing in Santa Cruz River. KB Homes development (called Saguaro Springs) under construction on Sandario.

7:30: Tour Twin Peaks Pumping Plant (located near Silverbell and Twin Peaks Roads in Marana), one of many pumping stations along the Central Arizona Project (CAP) aquaduct. We will discuss water resources for the Tucson area.

7:45: Drive to Lower Santa Cruz recharge basins. Cross CAP canal.

8:30: Arrive at Lower Santa Cruz Recharge Project (LSCRCP), which was developed in a partnership between Central Arizona Project and Pima County Department of Transportation and Flood Control District (Pima County). The 50,000 acre-foot per year recharge facility was constructed in conjunction with a flood control levee along the Santa Cruz River, using State Demonstration funds. The project is located near the Marana Airport west of the Tangerine Road exit off I-10. We will discuss surface water usage and rights, and mandates for recharge or direct use of Colorado River water. Contact: Crystal Thompson, community relations.

9:30: Leave LSCRCP. Avra Valley Road to I-10 south. Exit on El Camino. Will go past the Pima County household hazardous waste collection facility.

10:00: Arrive at Tucson Water's Sweetwater wetlands and reclaimed water recharge facility, an artificial wetland and recharge area located on the east bank of the Santa Cruz River near Prince Road. It was built in 1996 under the direction of a citizen committee with representatives from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, City Parks and Recreation Department, the University of Arizona and many local environmental education and wildlife organizations. We will discuss benefits of wetlands in water reclamation, plus have a chance to see some of the many types of wildlife attracted to the wetlands.

There is a restroom at this stop.  
*Snacks and drinks will be provided at this stop.*

- 10:25: Arrive Roger Road WWTP. One hour tour with Principal Shift Leader (Pima County Dept of Wastewater Management Department). There is a restroom at this stop.
- 11:30: Leave WWTP. El Camino to Wetmore to La Canada/Flowing Wells (north). East on Ina. North on Camino de Oeste. Tohono Chul Park on east side.
- 12:00: Arrive Tohono Chul Park, a 49 acre not-for-profit desert preserve located on Tucson's northwest side. Tohono Chul Park was founded in 1985. It has hiking trails which allow visitors to encounter a number of plants, not only those native to the Sonoran Desert, but also many Chihuahuan desert plants and plants of Mexico. There is an Exhibit Hall which always has 2 different exhibits that change every month or two, and 3 gift shops. The outdoor areas include a Tortoise Enclosure, a Riparian Area, a Saguaro Discovery Trail, a Geology Wall, a Sin Agua Garden, a Desert Living Courtyard, an Ethnobotany Garden, a Performance Garden, and several other areas as well. The AHS group will tour Sin Agua Garden and Desert Living Courtyard with a guide who will discuss water conservation.
- 1:00: Lunch at Tohono Chul Tea Room (a separate e-mail will be sent to registered field trip participants regarding their lunch selections). Our group will be seated in the shady, plant-filled courtyard. Choose one of three entrees: chicken enchiladas, salmon and cucumber salad or Tohono burger. Choose one of three dessert choices: chocolate mousse pie, mango/raspberry sorbet, or banana napoleon. Lunch includes a drink, of course. If time permits, stroll through other sections of the park or visit one of the gift shops.
- 3:00: Leave Tohono Chul Park
- 3:15: Arrive Metropolitan Water Company's new 5 million gallon reservoir at Magee Road and First Avenue. Discuss public consumption of water and how water purveyors meet demands.
- 3:45: Arrive at La Paloma (Field Trip Ends)

What to bring: Participants should dress for hot weather. Please bring a hat and wear lots of sunscreen. There are no clothing restrictions (that is, sandals and shorts are okay).