



Opportunities and Challenges in Regulating Safe Urban and Rural Onsite Water Recycling

by
Chuck Graf, R.G.
Principal Hydrogeologist

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Topics for Today

How Arizona regulates wastewater treatment facilities

- community WWTPs
- on-site systems

How Arizona regulates reclaimed/recycled waters

Recent revisions to reclaimed/recycled water rules

Challenges and opportunities

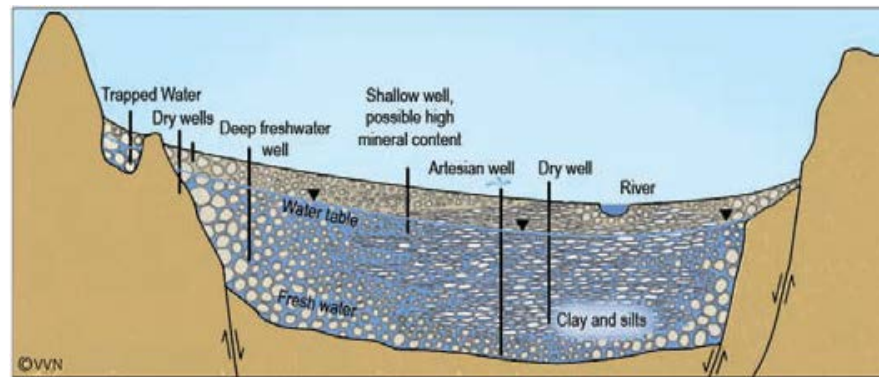
- “on-site” water recycling
- “onsite” water recycling



- Unique AZ permit that regulates discharges to protect groundwater for “drinking water protected use”



**Palo Verde Nuclear
Generating Station**



ASARCO Ray Mine

- ADEQ issues APPs to mines, industrial facilities, WWTPs, etc., to control discharges to groundwater

■ Individual APPs

- Mines
- Power plants & other industrial facilities
- Sewage treatment plants (306)



Mines southwest of Tucson



**APS Cholla Power Plant,
Joseph City**



**Nogales International
Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The Two Pillars of APP Protection

- 1. Must not exceed any Aquifer Water Quality Standard (i.e., MCL) at a point of compliance (POC) in the aquifer**
 - POC set in aquifer at limit where pollutants are placed (e.g., dike, impoundment, etc.)
 - No further degradation if AWQS already exceeded



Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

2. Facility **also** must employ Best Available Demonstrated Control Technology (BADCT)

- Example: BADCT for **new** or **expanding** WWTPs
 - EPA Secondary Standards
 - Pathogen-free effluent
 - Nitrogen removal
 - Odor control



**Expansion
and upgrade
in 2009 to
Nogales
International
Wastewater
Treatment
Plant**



Individual APP Requirements

- **BADCT**
- **Comprehensive monitoring requirements**
 - Includes real-time turbidity monitoring for WWTPs
- **Record keeping and reporting requirements**
- **Certified operator (for WWTPs)**



Typical WWTP Monitoring

Bullhead City WWTP (monitoring tables from p. 19-23 of 31-page permit)

**TABLE IA-II
ROUTINE DISCHARGE MONITORING**

Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Identification	Latitude	Longitude		
3	Downstream of the chlorine contact basin	35° 07' 30.8" N	114° 32' 59.9" W		
Parameter	AI	DL	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Fecal Coliform: Single sample maximum	No Limit	23.0	CFU or MPN ¹⁵	Daily	Quarterly
Fecal Coliform: four (4) of seven (7) samples in a week ¹⁴	Not established	Non-detect ¹⁵	CFU or MPN	Daily	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen ¹⁶ : Five-sample rolling geometric mean	8.0	10.0	mg/l	Monthly ¹⁷	Quarterly

**TABLE IB
RECLAIMED WATER MONITORING - CLASS A+²⁴**

Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Identification	Latitude	Longitude		
3	Downstream of the chlorine contact basin	35° 07' 30.8" N	114° 32' 59.9" W		
Parameter	AI	DL	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Fecal Coliform: Single-sample maximum	23.0	CFU or MPN ²⁵		Daily ²⁷	Quarterly
Fecal Coliform: Four (4) of last seven (7) samples	Non-detect ²⁸	CFU or MPN		Daily	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen ²⁹ : Five-sample rolling geometric mean	10.0	mg/l ³⁰		Monthly	Quarterly
Turbidity ³¹ : Single reading	5.0	NTU ³²		Everyday ³³	Quarterly
Turbidity: 24-hour average	2.0	NTU		Everyday	Quarterly
Enteric Virus ³⁴ : Four (4) of last seven (7) samples	Non-detect	PFU ³⁵		Monthly / Suspended ³⁶	Quarterly

**TABLE IA-II
ROUTINE DISCHARGE MONITORING (continued)**

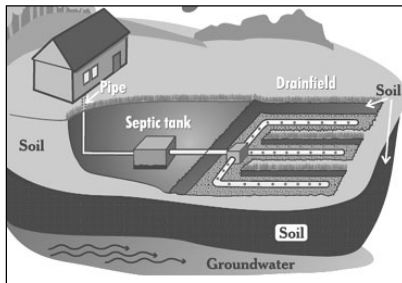
Parameter	AI	DL	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Metals (total):					
Antimony	0.0048	0.006	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Arsenic	0.04	0.05	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Barium	1.60	2.00	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Beryllium	0.0032	0.004	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Cadmium	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Chromium	0.08	0.1	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Cyanide (as free cyanide)	0.16	0.2	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Fluoride	3.2	4.0	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Lead	0.04	0.05	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Mercury	0.0016	0.002	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Nickel	0.08	0.1	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Selenium	0.04	0.05	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Thallium	0.0016	0.002	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly

**TABLE IA-II
ROUTINE DISCHARGE MONITORING (continued)**

Parameter	AI	DL	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):					
Benzene	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Carbon tetrachloride	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
o-Dichlorobenzene	0.48	0.6	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
para-Dichlorobenzene	0.06	0.075	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.0056	0.007	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.056	0.07	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.08	0.1	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Dichloromethane	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Ethylbenzene	0.56	0.7	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Monochlorobenzene	0.08	0.1	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Styrene	0.08	0.1	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Tetrachloroethylene	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Toluene	0.8	1.0	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.16	0.2	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,2,4 - Trichlorobenzene	0.056	0.07	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
1,1,2 - Trichloroethane	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Trichloroethylene	0.004	0.005	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Vinyl Chloride	0.0016	0.002	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually
Xylenes (Total)	8.0	10.0	mg/l	Semi-Annually	Semi-Annually

Parameter	AI	DL	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Indicator Parameters / Major Cations and Anions:					
pH (field)	Monitor ¹⁸	Monitor	S.U.	Quarterly	Quarterly
Iron	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Manganese	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Organic Carbon	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Dissolved Solids	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Sodium	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Potassium	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Calcium	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Magnesium	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Chloride	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Sulfate	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Alkalinity	Monitor	Monitor	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Specific Conductivity (field)	Monitor	Monitor	µmhos/cm	Quarterly	Quarterly

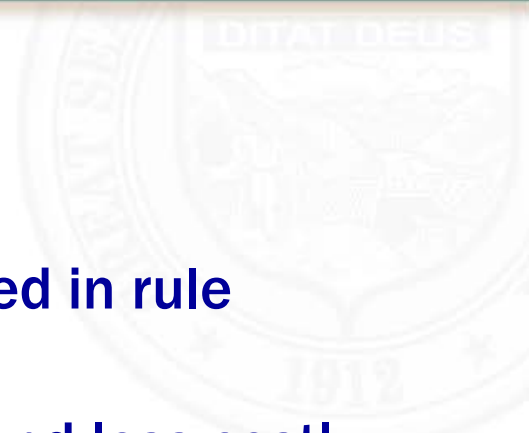
- **Septic tanks & alternative on-site WW treatment facilities**
 - Serve 15 - 17% of AZ population
 - About 6000 new installations per year
 - Delegated to county health & environmental departments



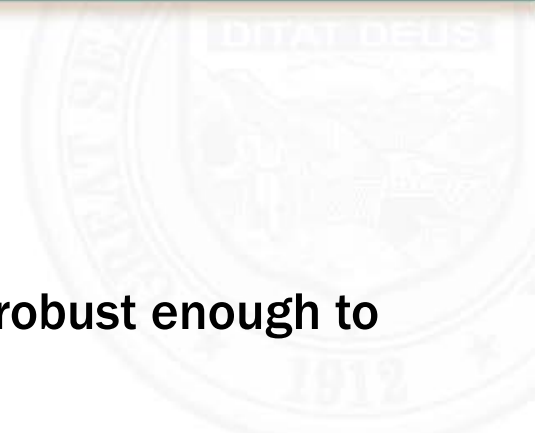
- **Sewage collection systems (sewer lines)**



- **Many other miscellaneous discharges**



- **Most design & operational elements are prescribed in rule**
- **Less flexibility than Individual APPs, but simpler and less costly**
- **Two part permit for on-sites & sewage collection systems**
 - **Construction Authorization (CA)**
 - **Discharge Authorization (DA)**



- **Generally no ongoing monitoring and reporting**
 - Design/technology requirements are intended to be robust enough to eliminate need for ongoing monitoring
 - If monitoring is prescribed, usual requirement is to maintain records & only report out-of-limit results

- **Permit covers design, construction & operation (i.e., the discharge)**
 - in other words, it's continuously enforceable

- **Generally no certified operator or service contract requirement**

Two Flow Categories for On-site Systems

- **Design flow less than 3000 gpd**
 - nitrogen control in new subdivisions is through lot size limits

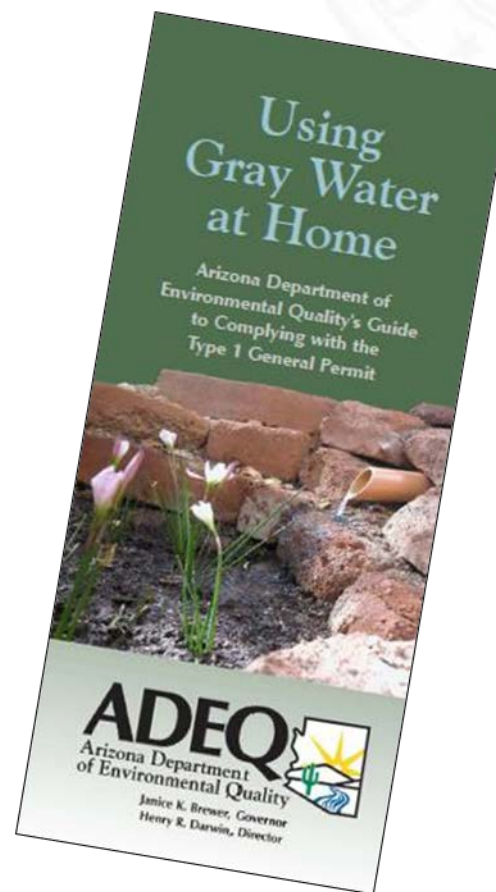
- **Design flow 3000 to less than 24,000 gpd**
 - nitrogen loading limits
 - design docs sealed by a PE
 - construction completion certified by a PE
 - operation by a service provider or certified operator
 - Annual Report submitted by a service provider or certified operator
 - aerobic systems excluded, which need an Individual APP

Arizona is a Leader in Reuse

Reclaimed Water



Gray Water



Reclaimed Water Key Dates

1972 – First reclaimed water rules, ADHS

2001 – Comprehensive rules transform program



Reclaimed water pipeline,
City of Chandler

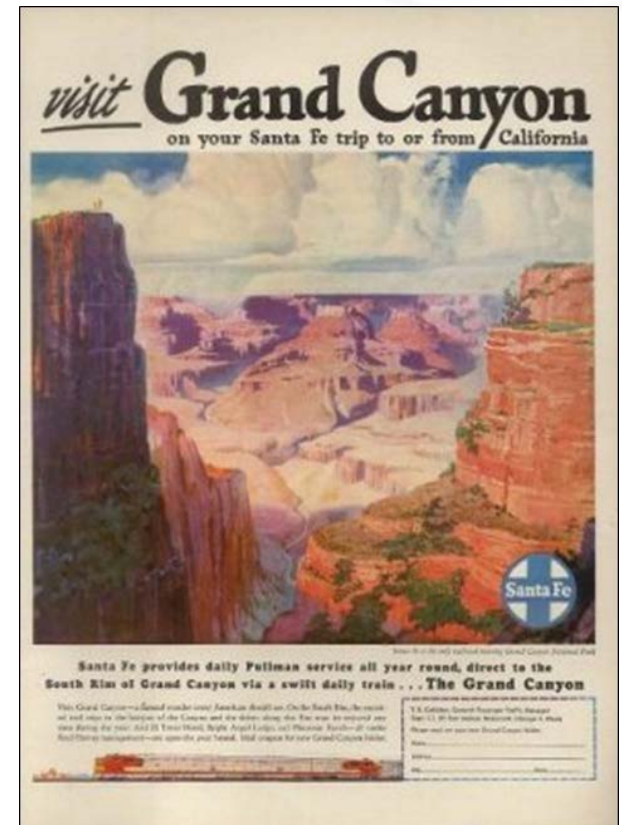
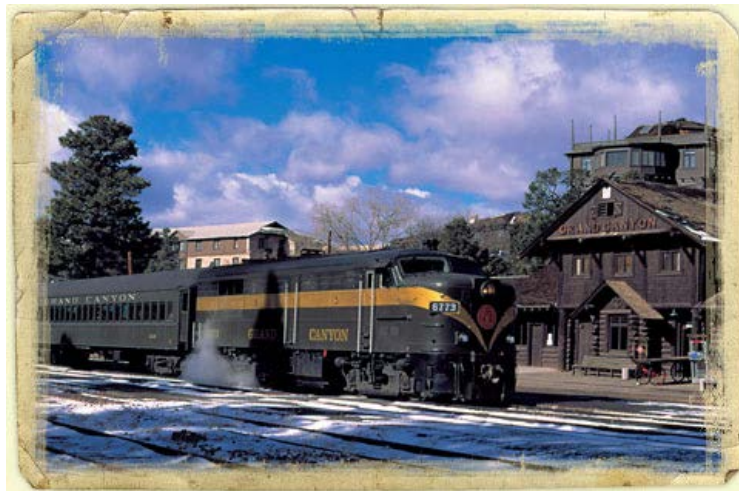


Viticulture with reclaimed water, Cottonwood
(Yavapai College photo)

Grand Canyon Village

1926 – First WWTP in US built specifically to allow reuse (0.13 mgd capacity)

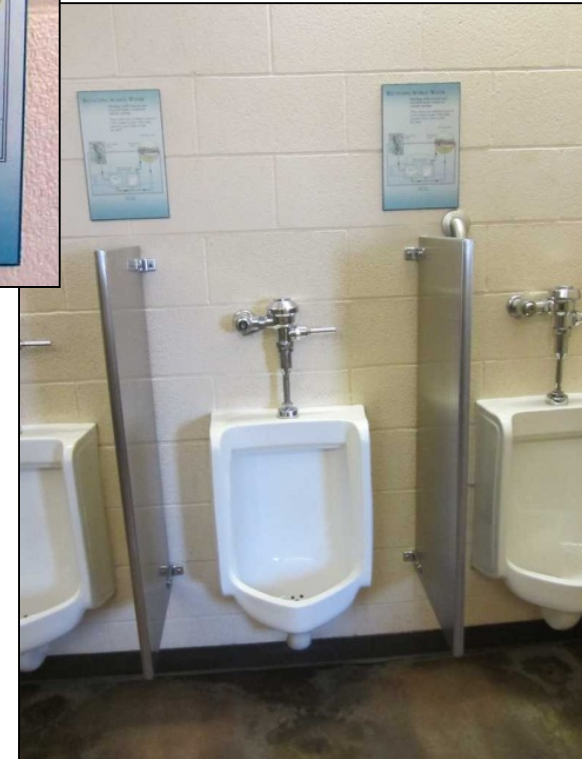
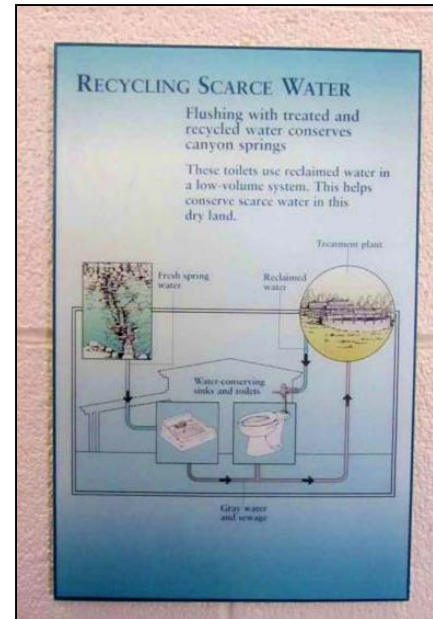
- Toilet flushing
- Boiler feed for power generation
- Water for steam locomotives



Grand Canyon Village

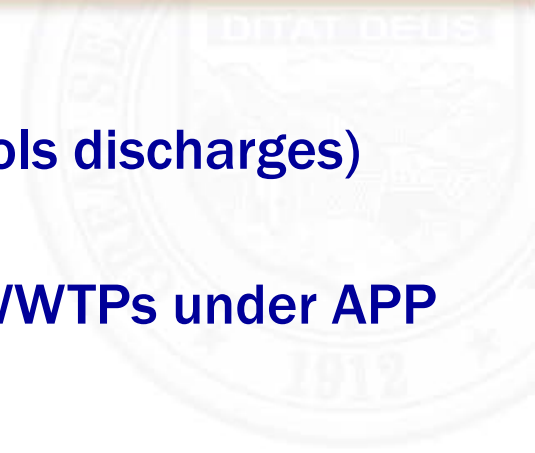
Still water-short today,
still using reclaimed water!

- Toilet flushing
- Landscape irrigation



**Restroom at Visitor Center,
Grand Canyon National Park, 2013**

2001 Reclaimed Water Rules



- Reclaimed rules govern reuse (vs. APP, which controls discharges)
- Stringent treatment standards for new/expanded WWTPs under APP
- Allows simple end use permits for reuse
- RWQS for five classes of reclaimed water (A+, A, B+, B, C)
- List of end uses allowed for the five classes



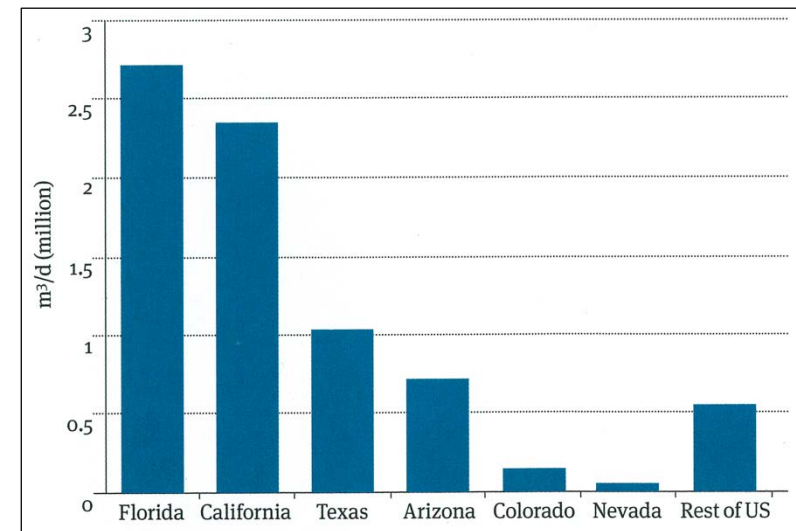
Rules Helped Spur Reuse, National Prominence

82% of reuse occurs in just four states, Arizona being one



Map: Western Water, July/August 2008

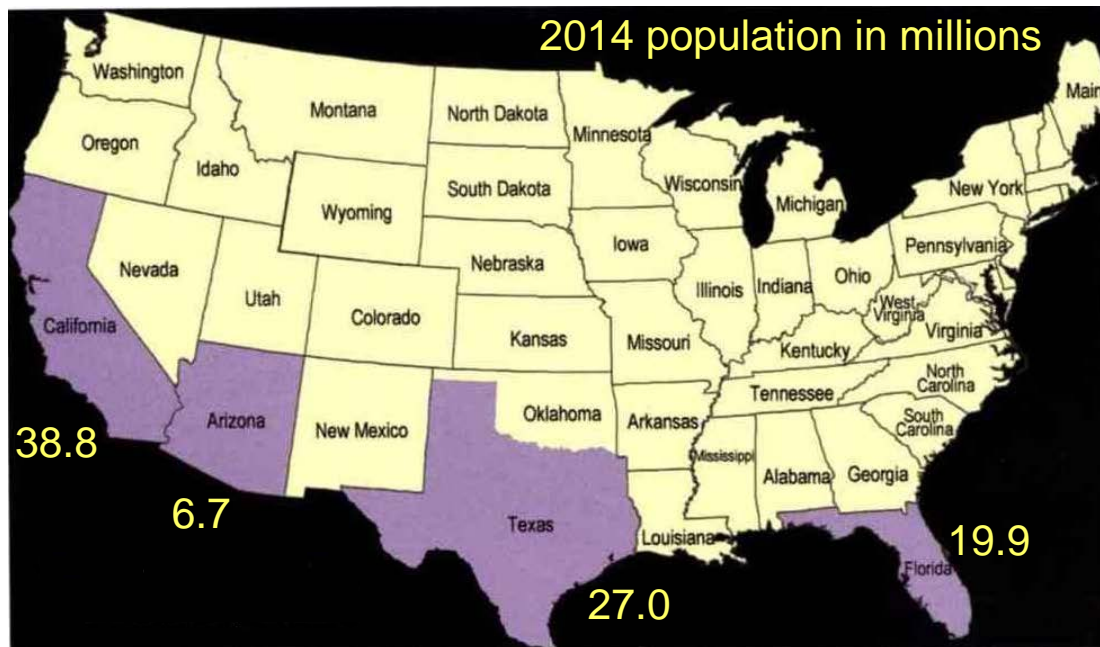
Reused Wastewater Flows, 2014



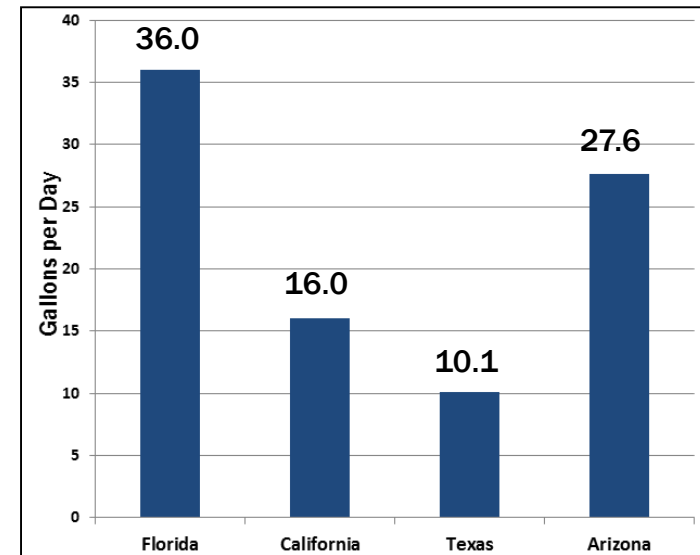
Source: Bluefield Research

Rules Helped Spur Reuse, National Prominence

Arizona is 2nd highest nationally in per capita reuse



Reuse Per Person, 2014



Rules Helped Spur Reuse, National Prominence

Water Reuse Capacity (AF/yr)		Reclaimed Water as % of Total Water Supply
Israel	510,000	20%
Singapore	80,783	30%
United States	3,400,000	3%
Florida	955,000	4%
California	807,000	2%
Texas	482,000	3%
Arizona	504,000	7%

Source:
Bluefield Research



...but **#1** at integrating reuse into the water supply portfolio

BADCT Review

Stringent treatment standards for new & expanding WWTPs

- Pathogen-free effluent
 - No *E. coli*, 4 of 7 daily samples
 - Never over 15 cfu/100 ml
- Nitrogen removal, ≤ 10 mg/l
- Turbidity, ≤ 2 NTU (5 max)
- Odor control



Photo: Dartmouth Univ.

Stringent treatment standards → clean water for reuse

Some Class A+/A Allowed Uses

- irrigation of food crops
- recreational impoundments
- residential/schoolyard irrigation
- toilet & urinal flushing
- fire protection systems
- snowmaking
- and more



Arizona Snowbowl



**Reclaimed Water
Fire Hydrant**



**Landscape impoundment,
Freestone Park,
Gilbert, AZ**

In Arizona, Reuse is Ubiquitous!

ADEQ's 98 largest permitted WWTPs (> 1 mgd)

- 93% distribute reclaimed water for reuse/recharge
- 56% distribute Class A+ water

100% reuse



**EPCOR Wishing Well WWTP,
Ft Mohave, 1 mgd,
Valentine Engineering photo**

100% reuse and recharge



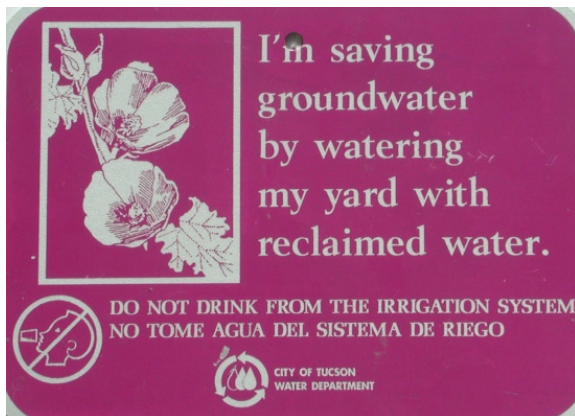
**City of Scottsdale
Water Campus, 20 mgd
Credit: Aerotech Mapping**

Largest Reclaimed Water System

City of Tucson

- Serves 1000s of residential, M & I, and agricultural users
 - 160 miles of purple pipe
 - 18 golf courses
 - 50 parks
 - 65 schools (incl. Univ. of Arizona)
 - >700 single family homes

**Irrigating athletic field
with reclaimed water,
University of Arizona**



- **General APP does not adequately address:**
 - ongoing monitoring
 - reporting
 - operator & operation reliability

“Our codes struggle with care.”

- Dave Gustafson (Jan. 31, 2018)

Gray Water: Is Spelling It Our Biggest Impediment?

Gray water

Graywater

Grey water

Greywater

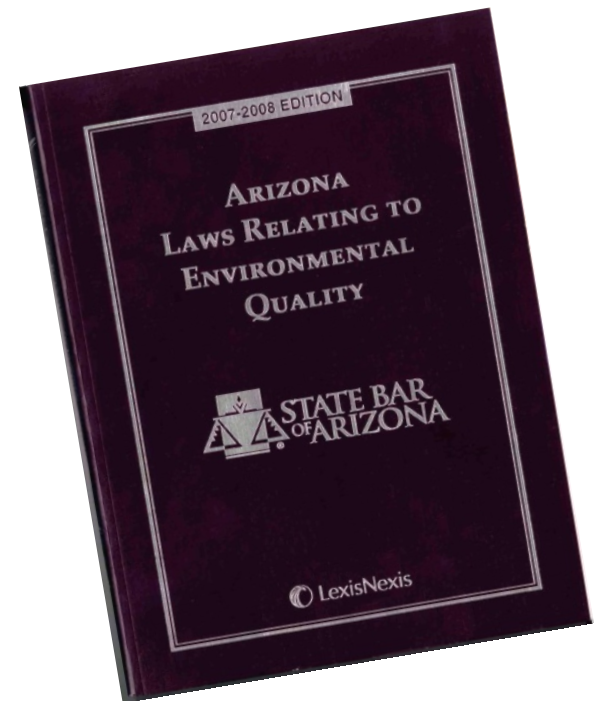


In Arizona law, it's “gray water.”

What is Gray Water?

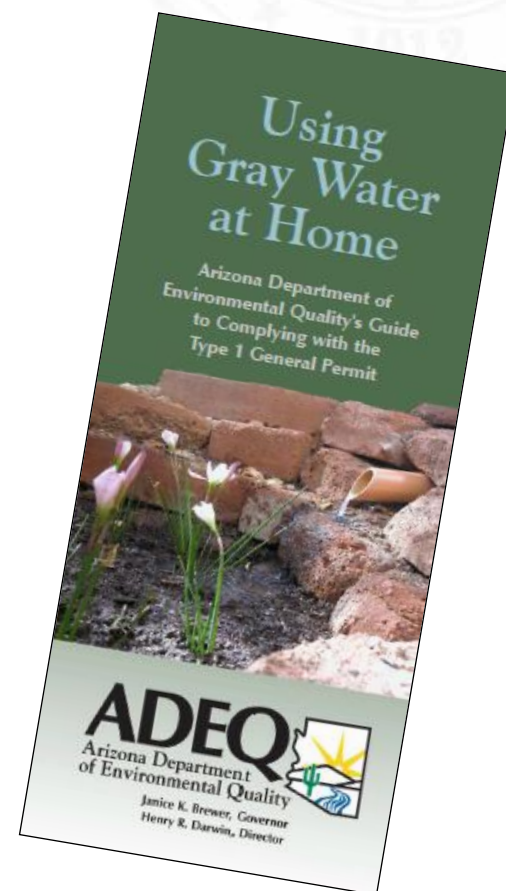
- Arizona law defines gray water as wastewater that:
 - is collected separately from a sewage flow
 - originates from a
 - clothes washer
 - bathroom tub, shower or sink
 - does not include wastewater from
 - kitchen sink
 - dishwasher
 - toilet

Arizona Revised Statutes §49-201(18)



Gray Water Rules Also Greatly Changed In 2001

- Merged into the reclaimed water rules
- Removed requirement for “hard permitting” of home gray water use
- New focus on education—simple BMPs for home use



Gray Water After 2001

- Home gray water use is permitted without registration or application to ADEQ as long as:
 - BMPs in rules are followed
 - gray water flow is less than 400 gal/day
 - use is for single-family homes
 - use is for irrigation or composting



Photo by Brad Lancaster

Simple BMPs for Home Use— Opted for the Education Approach!

- Avoid human contact
- No hazardous chemicals
- Minimize standing water
- No surface application for food plants (citrus & nut trees OK)
- Cover storage tanks for insect/vector control
- 5 foot separation to groundwater



Photo by Brad Lancaster

Larger-Scale Gray Water Use:

An Untapped Opportunity

Arizona State University, Barrett Honors College, Tempe, AZ

- **Permit issued:** 2009
- **Design flow:** 7000 gal/day
- **Sources:** Showers, sinks from classrooms & dormitories for 200 students
- Lift station, storage tanks, recirculating sand filter, mechanical filter, flow meter
- Irrigates 0.60 acre of turf, desert plants



LEED Certification is an Incentive

- Green building certification is driving some large-scale gray water projects
- Credit points given for gray water use
- For higher gold & platinum certifications, gray water reuse is almost a necessity to gain enough points



Why the current rule revision?

- Keep up with rapid reclaimed/reuse advancements
- Ever more need for sustainable water supplies
- Need to review 2001 reclaimed water quality standards
- Need to address potable reuse
- Improve the regulatory framework for reuse



**Advanced treatment of reclaimed water,
Scottsdale Water Campus**
City of Scottsdale photo

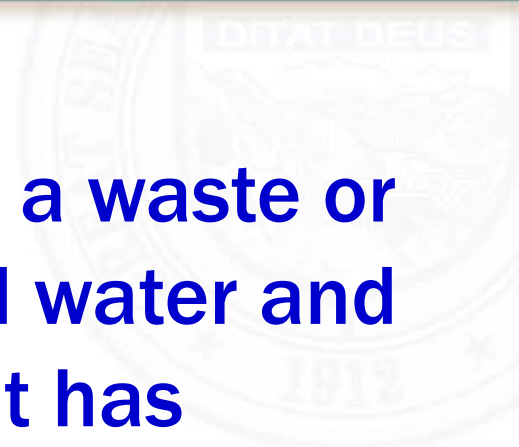
What's new in the new rule?



- It's already in place...effective **1/1/2018!**
- Defines a new term: **recycled water**



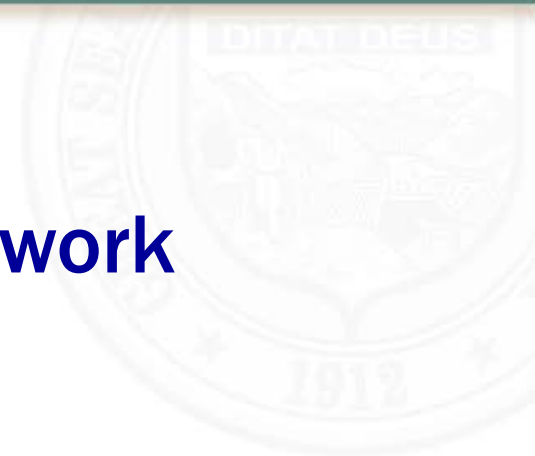
“Recycled Water” means...



“a processed water that originated as a waste or discarded water, including reclaimed water and gray water, for which the Department has designated water quality specifications to allow the water to be used as a supply.”

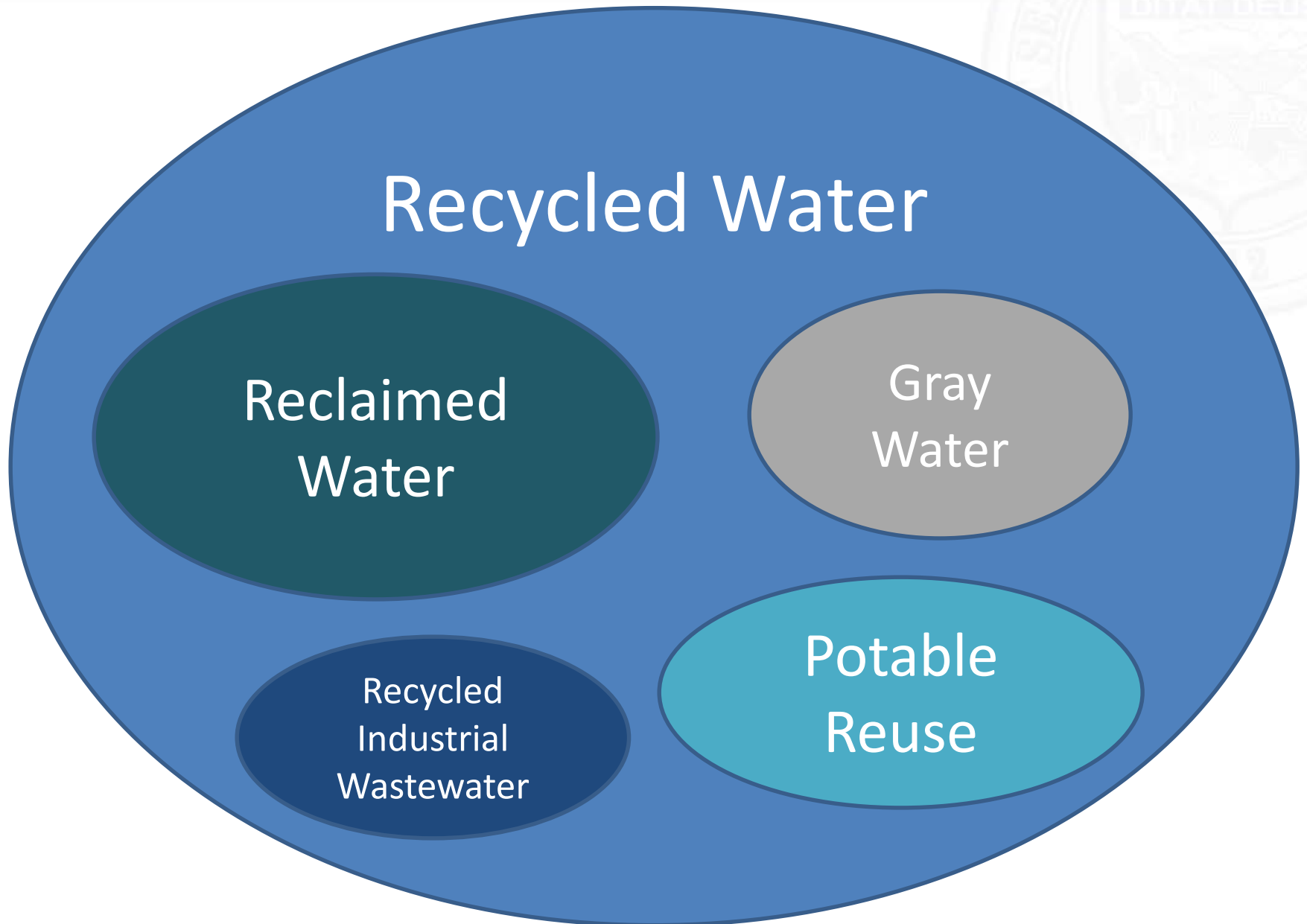


What's new in the new rule?



- Establishes a new regulatory framework

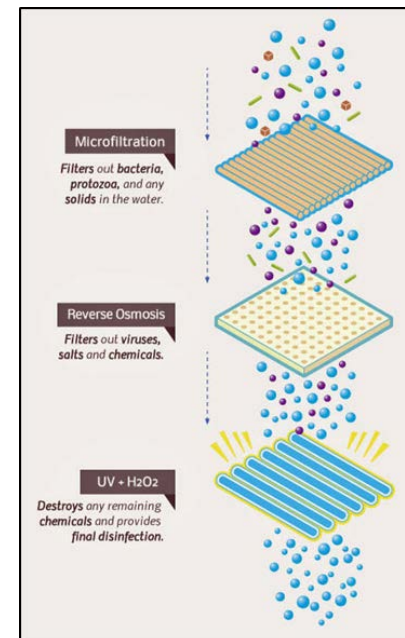




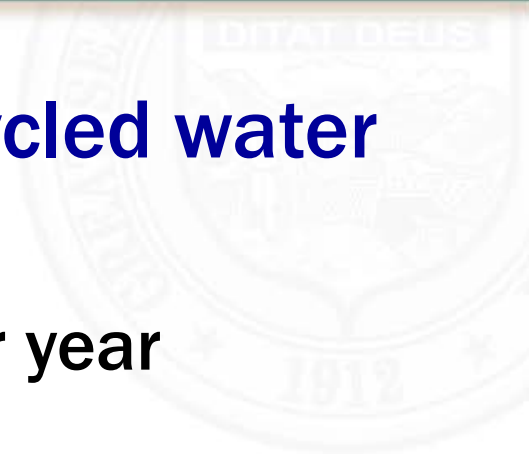
The Recycled Water Umbrella



Article 7	Use of Recycled Water
Part A	General Provisions
Part B	Reclaimed Water
Part C	Recycled Industrial Wastewater
Part D	Gray Water
Part E	Purified Water for Potable Use



Representative
Advanced
Treatment of
Reclaimed Water
For Potable Use



- **Fixes and improvements to the recycled water permitting process**
 - Annual reporting changed to calendar year
 - Easy to make informational changes
 - Clearer permit revocation language
 - Signage requirement changes for reclaimed water

PERMITS 2.0

What's new in the new rule?

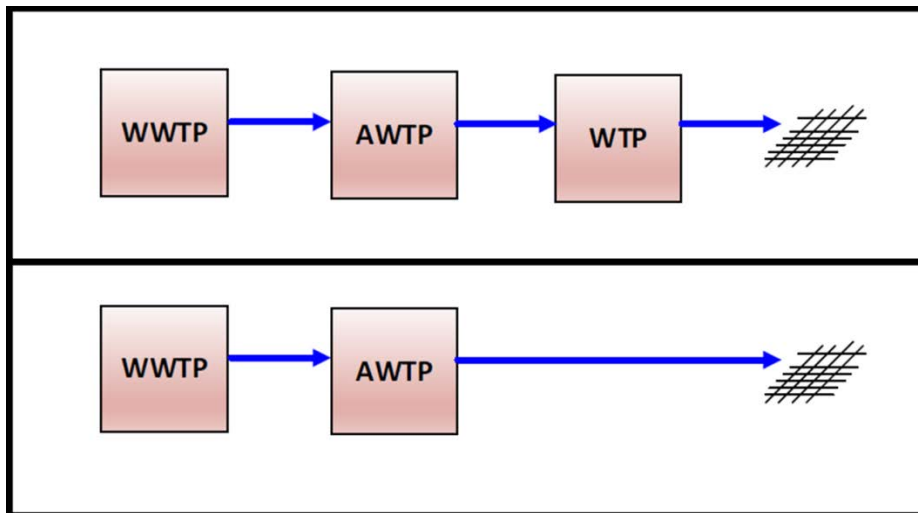


- New permit and interim criteria for direct potable reuse (DPR)



“Advanced reclaimed water treatment facility” means:

- A facility that treats and purifies Class A+ or Class B+ reclaimed water to produce potable water suitable for distribution for human consumption.
- Potable water produced by an advanced reclaimed water treatment facility is not reclaimed water.



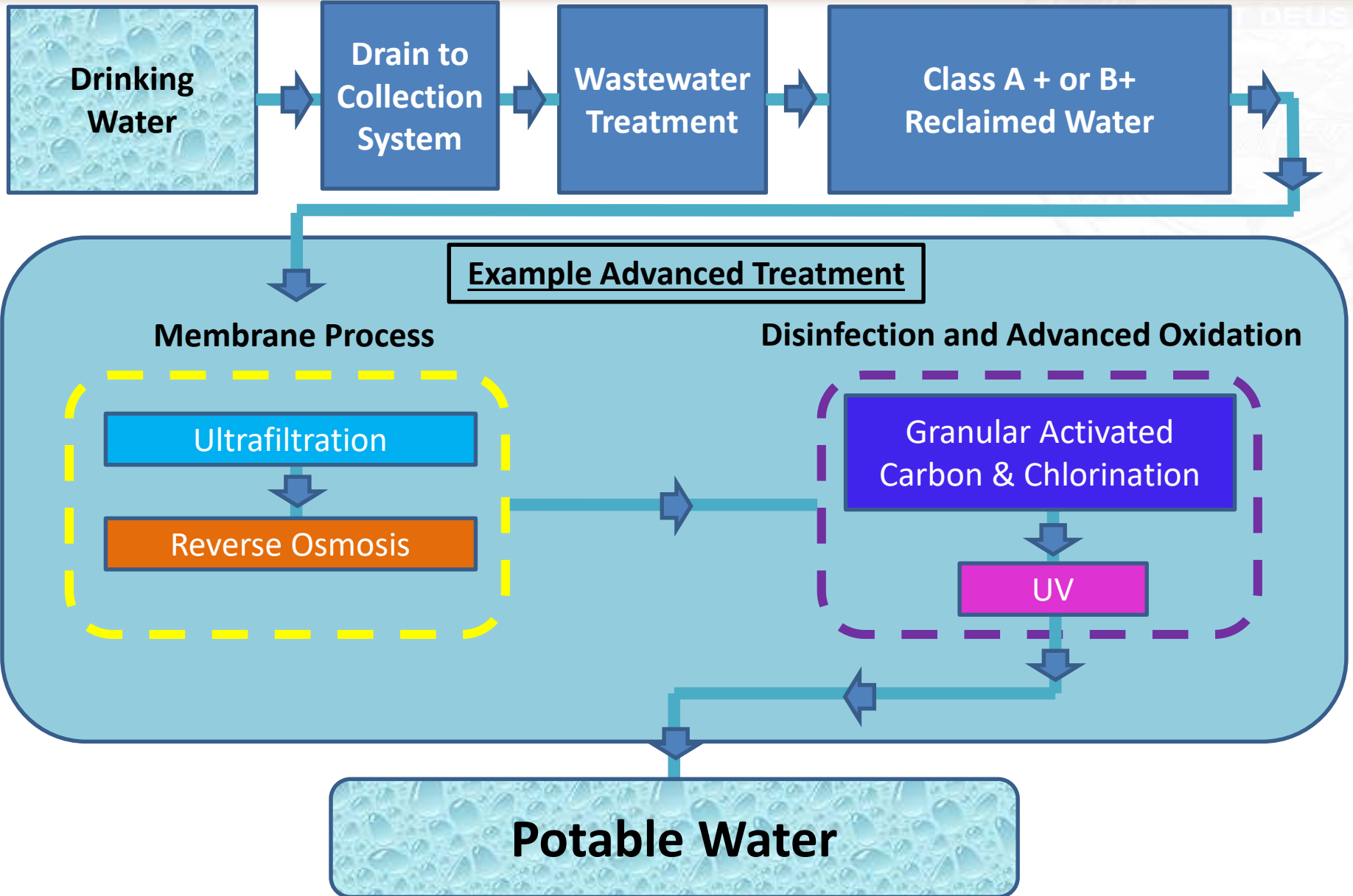
Source: Larry Schimmoller, CH2M

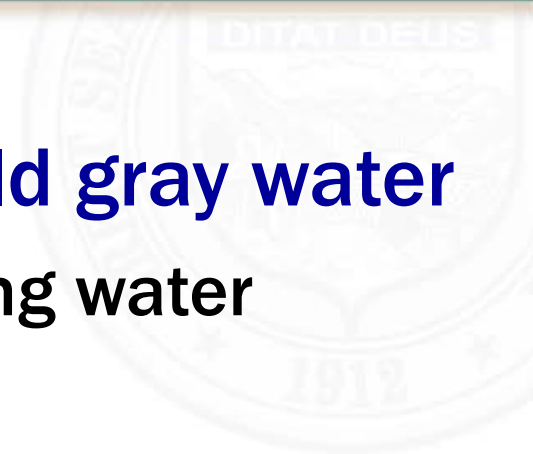
Interim Criteria for DPR Permit

- Source water characterization
- Pilot treatment system
- Microbial control technology
- Microbial logarithmic reduction targets
- Chemical control technology
- Monitoring plan
- Start-up plan
- Operation and maintenance plan
- Operator Training
- Technical, financial, and management capability



ARWTF Example





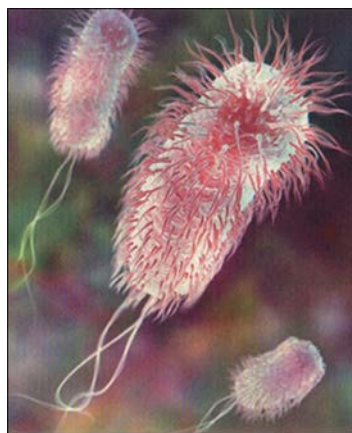
- **Some tweaks to BMPs for household gray water**
 - **More emphasis on minimizing standing water**
 - **examples are now listed**
 - **Storage of gray water is deemphasized**
 - **holding time should be minimized to prevent anaerobic conditions and odors**
 - **Blockage, backage, and overload provision changed**
 - **now no requirement for connection to sewer or septic tank**
 - **now states that distribution should cease until condition is corrected**

- **More usable permit for larger-volume gray water use (up to 3000 gpd)**
 - may include drinking fountain water
 - removed impediment requiring use of a septic tank-like disposal field
 - now simply requires subsurface distribution
 - **must be no standing water on the surface**



**Subsurface irrigation with gray water and harvested rainwater,
Reid Park Zoo Training Center, Tucson**

- Final criteria for DPR
- Changes to the Reclaimed Water Quality Standards rules
 - Reclaimed water quality classes
 - Actual water quality standards
 - Allowed end uses



***E. coli* bacteria**
(Univ. of Vermont image)

- Formed in 4/2017 to provide recommendations to ADEQ for Phase 2 rulemaking
- Completed work earlier this week
 - *Reclaimed WQ standards*, Dr. Channah Rock, Chair
 - review standards based on current science
 - *Infrastructure/technology*, Tim Thomure, Chair
 - detailed criteria for potable reuse

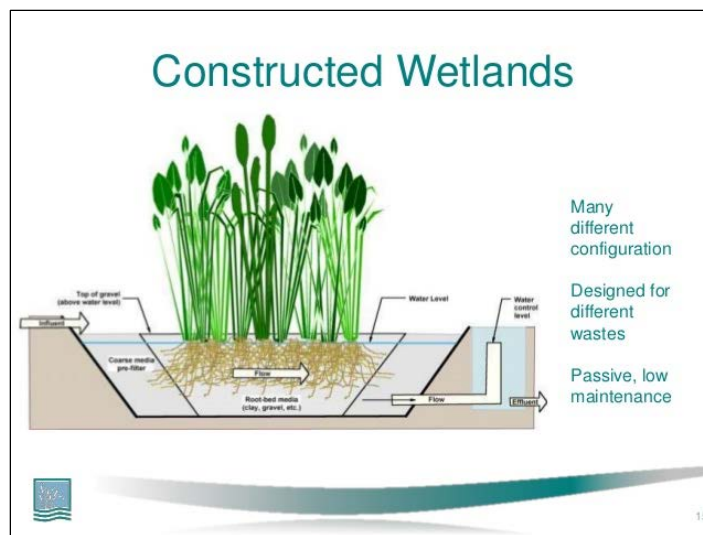
- **Specific permits for reuse of reclaimed water by on-site systems (alternative systems)**
 - Would require significant changes to APP general permit rules
 - Individual Recycled Water Permit always available

... **BUT**

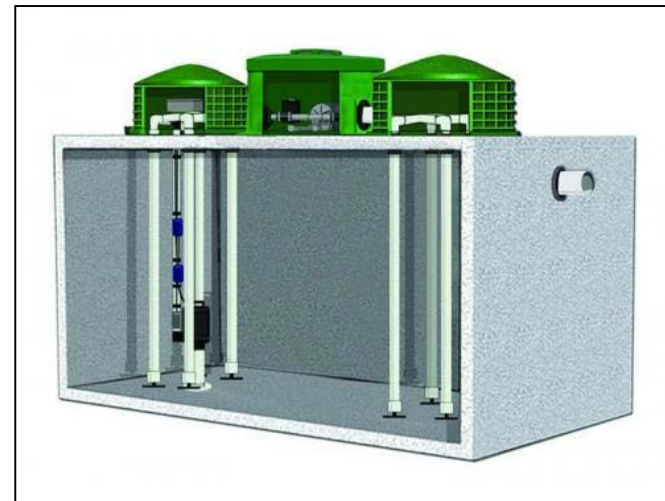
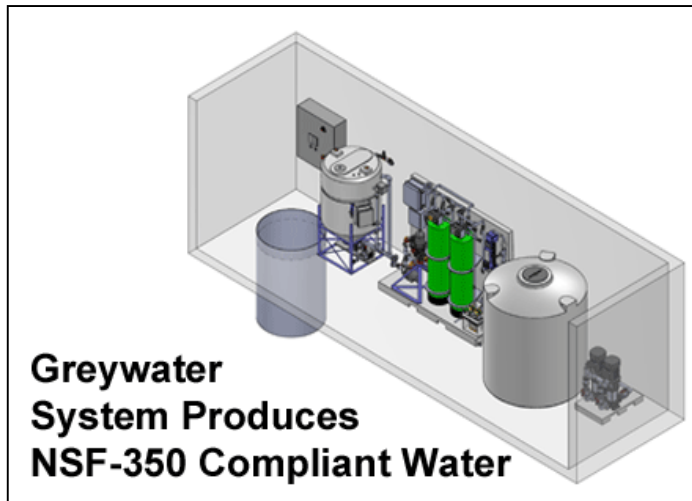


“Reuse” general permits are already exist

- GP 4.06 and 4.07, Evapotranspiration beds
- GP 4.18, Constructed wetland
- GP 4.21, Surface disposal
- GP 4.22, Subsurface drip irrigation



- **ADEQ is looking at setting up a working group to recommend changes to on-site rules**



Aerobic On-site Wastewater Treatment System



Onsite Non-potable Water System

“a system in which water from local sources is collected, treated, and used for non-potable uses at the building to district/neighborhood scale, generally at a location near the point of generation.”

- **Reports focus on guidance for:**
 - **Multi-family buildings**
 - **Commercial buildings**
 - **Mixed-use buildings**
 - **Larger complex or district-scale projects**
- **Likely to have a connection or access to the sewer grid**
- **Does not include single-family residential dwellings**



Water sources

Blackwater

- Toilets
- Kitchen wastewater

Gray water

- Showers, bathtubs
- Lavatory sinks, drinking fountains
- Laundry water

Roof rainwater

Stormwater

- overland & impervious surface



**University of Arizona Water
Resources Research Center,
Tucson**

End uses

Toilet and urinal flushing

Clothes washing

Plant irrigation, unrestricted

- except food

Dust suppression



Final Report

Risk-Based Framework for the Development
of Public Health Guidance for Decentralized
Non-Potable Water Systems



National Blue Ribbon Commission
for Onsite Non-potable Water Systems

A Guidebook for Developing and
Implementing Regulations for
Onsite Non-potable Water Systems



- Reports provide guidance on
 - Permitting
 - Water treatment standards (log reduction targets)
 - Monitoring, sampling, and reporting
 - Treatment train examples

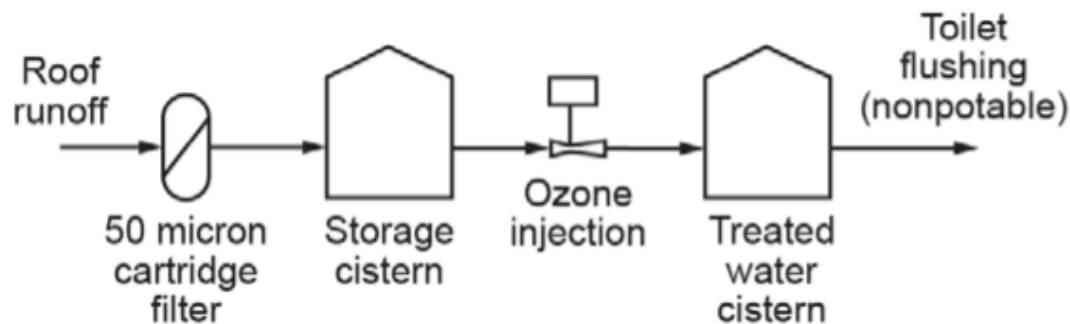


Figure 9-1: Proposed treatment train for a roof runoff source used for toilet flushing (Example 1).

- **Challenges for implementing recommendations**
 - **Permits poorly specify ongoing care for monitoring, reporting, operation, and maintenance**
 - **Current WQ standards only apply to reclaimed water produced by a WWTP**
 - **Need to develop some WQ standards for specific end uses, such as toilet flushing, irrespective of source water type**



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or e-mail me at:
cgg@azdeq.gov



ADEQ Main Office, Phoenix

Drinking Water Treatment Comparison

	Surface Water Treatment Plant	DPR Advanced Water Treatment Plant
Source Water Quality	Highly variable (sediment, microbial quality, etc.)	Consistently good Class A+ Reclaimed Water (low turbidity, no <i>E. coli</i>)
Treatment	(1) Coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation; (2) Filtration; (3) Disinfection	+ MF or UF, RO or GAC-BAC, and UV-AOP
Treatment Effectiveness	No special targeting for microbial & chemical ECs	Multiple treatment train processes target removal of microbial & chemical ECs
Unit Process Control Monitoring	Grab and composite sampling to ensure effectiveness; delay in response	Comprehensive real-time monitoring of critical control points throughout treatment train
Public Health Monitoring	One <i>E. coli</i> sample per day	+ Real-time monitoring with multiple, sophisticated instruments
Out-of-limit Response Time	1-2 days (after <i>E. coli</i> resample)	Near-immediate response
Type of Response	Boil order	Rapid diversion of out-of-spec water