

Arizona Department of Water Resources

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NEWS RELEASE



Janet Napolitano,
Governor

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Director

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Tucson Active
Management Area
(520) 770-3800

ADWR to plant tree honoring Earth Day in Tucson

In honor of Earth Day, the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Tucson Active Management Area will plant a Red Push Pistache tree on the grounds of the Tucson Children's Museum (TCM).

The theme for this year's Tucson Children's Earth Day Festival is "Keep it Cool- Plant a Tree". Here in the Sonoran Desert it is especially important that the community be part of the "cool" solution by planting low water-use trees to conserve our water resources.

Planting trees and other low water-use native vegetation help combat the "heat island" effect, which is due to radiant heat from buildings and paving.

Tucson AMA staff, along with their children, will plant the tree as part of the day's festivities at the Tucson Children's Museum, 200 S. 6th Ave. The planting will take place after the Earth Day parade on Saturday, April 21. Earth Day is observed nationally each April 22.

The Pistache tree is on the ADWR low water use/drought tolerant plant list and is a spectacular shade tree reaching 40 feet in diameter at maturity.

At the 1997 Earth Day Festival the same tree species was planted by Trees for Tucson on the south side of the TCM and is now a beautiful full canopy shade tree. It is shown in the picture at right.

The tree is being provided through a grant from Tucson Electric Power and Trees for Tucson. More than 50,000 trees have been distributed through the Trees for Tucson program since Tucson Electric Power began its sponsorship in 1993. This program is conducted nearly continuously throughout the year.

A free Tucson AMA Low Water Use/Drought Tolerant Plant list is available by calling 770-3800, or online at <http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Conservation/Education.html> .

For additional information on water resources for the Tucson AMA go to www.azwater.gov/TAMA



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