

Arizona Department of Water Resources

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**NEWS
RELEASE**



Jan Brewer,
Governor
Herb Guenther,
Director

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April is "Water Awareness Month"

The connection between water and the month of April goes back at least as far as the 14th Century, when Geoffrey Chaucer opened his classic "Canterbury Tales" with the observation that April was when the plants' roots began to receive water.

Back in the future, the ex-Gov. Janet Napolitano chose April as Water Awareness Month for similar reasons – it is the time when outdoor water use increases for gardens, landscaping, and pools. April also is a great time to focus on ways we can all be better water stewards.

ADWR asks the public to do its part in educating, celebrating, and taking action to promote conservation.

"All citizens of Arizona should use water as efficiently as possible and practice a low water-use lifestyle as a way to help ensure a long-term sufficient water supply," said ADWR Director Herb Guenther. "There are many ways to strengthen Arizona's 'culture of conservation' and through our combined efforts we will succeed," Guenther added.

At ADWR, we are answering our own call by conducting a series of workshops and webinars on water conservation practices; participating in school water-use audits, promoting xeriscape, offering leak-detection opportunities to Arizona water providers and providing low-water-use pre-rinse spray valves to Arizona eateries; and participating at various water-education events around the state, including Make a Splash with Arizona Project WET Water Festivals.

Sources of information on conservation are nearly inescapable; they're everywhere you look – especially on our website: www.azwater.gov. ADWR offers the following suggestions:

- Listen to an ADWR-sponsored online webinar about water efficiency. The schedule is on our website. You need only a computer and a phone.
- Plant low-water use, drought-tolerant landscapes and group plants based on water needs. See the lists: www.azwater.gov/dwr/Conservation/Residential/
- Water correctly – even xeriscapes can waste water.

The ADWR website is chock-full of great water-saving ideas. They're inexpensive, and they work. See them at www.azwater.gov/dwr/Conservation/Technologies.html :

- ≈ Restaurateurs: We have a blue plate special: Replace your old high-flow spray valves with the water-efficient "Rinse Smart" valve. (They're free and they work.)
- ≈ Install High Efficiency Toilets; (think about 'waterless' urinals, too)

- ≈ Install water-efficient devices, such as faucet aerators, shut-off nozzles, and showerheads.
- ≈ Check for indoor and outdoor leaks often and fix them immediately.
- ≈ Remember the Water- Energy connection. Saving water saves energy.

Teachers in Arizona will find an amazing array of conservation lessons already prepared and ready for the classroom. Find out more by attending an Arizona Conserve Water Workshop for Educators. The information is at:
www.azwater.gov/dwr/Conservation/Education.html

One of the most enjoyable – and instructive – ways to embrace the “culture of conservation” is by conducting a water-use audit – either at school or in the home.

For additional information:

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