



Recycled Water

Completed in 2011, our Western Water Recycling Facility was upgraded. The \$45-plus million dollar project expanded the plant's treatment capacity from 1 to 3 million gallons per day (MGD) and upgraded its processing capability to produce high quality, tertiary-treated recycled water for irrigation use.

The use of recycled water is critical for sustainable management of our long-term water supplies. Using treated recycled water instead of potable water to irrigate our parks, schools and commercial properties will have a significantly positive impact on our region's ability to survive and prosper well into the 22nd century.

Recycled water is a safe, virtually drought-proof source of additional water for our region.

The Recycled Water Treatment Process

- ◆ Primary Treatment removes 70 to 85 percent of the organic and inorganic solids that either settle out or float to the top.
- ◆ Secondary Treatment mixes the remaining suspended waste solids with microorganisms and air. The micro-organisms convert the waste solids to biomass that settles out.
- ◆ Tertiary Treatment filters out most of the remaining solids through a granular media (for example, sand or anthracite coal) or a membrane, with the final product water being disinfected with chlorine or ultraviolet light to kill off bacteria, virus and other microorganisms.