



MAYER DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
Newsletter & 2021 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

It is time again for the District to publish its annual water quality report also known as the “Consumer Confidence Report” (CCR) for 2021. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed CCR please feel free to call the office between 8am-12pm Monday – Friday at 928-632-4113.

Funding for much needed improvements such as, replacing outdated assets, old under registering meters, undersized and outdated waterlines as well as looking for new water sources within the distribution system has always been a battle for the District. In 2018 the District applied for a WIFA loan (Water Infrastructure Finance Authority Loan) and was denied due to the lack of ability for the District to repay the loan. As a result of the denial, a rate study was completed to find the most sensible way to make needed improvements and secure the Districts financial future. This study showed significant short falls across the board and the need for a rate adjustment. As a result, the District made the difficult decision in October 2021 to adjust user rates. This went into effect in January of this year. In conjunction with the rate study the District has also actively explored alternate ways to fund the needed improvements and applied for several grants.

In August 2020 we applied for a \$30,000 SEARCH grant through Rural Development, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to be used for a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) which will identify areas where improvements and/or upgrades are needed. We have been working closely with Granite Basin Engineering since April 2021 to complete the PER. Once the PER is completed and we have identified the areas of needed improvements we can begin planning, budgeting, and using grant funds for these improvements.

In October 2021 the District applied for a grant through Yavapai County from funds they received from a Federal Government grant called American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The District applied for \$1.9 million and identified 5 areas of needed improvements. **The Yavapai County Supervisors voted on May 18, 2022 to approve 37 of the**

67 applicants, the District will receive \$1 million in ARPA funds to be used for much needed improvements.

In April of this year the District applied for a meter replacement grant, which will allow the District to replace all of the current positive displacement (PD) meters with more accurate ultrasonic radio read meters, this will lower payroll expenses, more accurately calculate water, eliminating water loss from the old under-registering meters, allow for more frequent monitoring of usage and notify customers of possible leaks sooner. The new technology will allow for customers to monitor their own water usage throughout the month via the Eye-On-Water App.

Since 2020 the District has worked with Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and Yavapai County Development Services to bring a new well and water distribution lines online. As you can imagine when dealing with multiple Governmental agencies this was a long process. We are happy to announce that in July 2021 we received approval from ADEQ to begin working on the project, in November 2021 we received approval from BLM, and in January 2022 we received the last of our CAP funds to be used for this project. To date we have installed the pump in the well, built the well house and installed a fence around the well site. The final permit from ADOT will be obtained once APS installs a new power pole.

Water is our most valuable resource with the lack of rain and snow the past few winters we are still experiencing low water tables at all our wells. As we head into the summer months when historically water usage goes up significantly, we are asking our customers to please conserve and be mindful of your water usage as hauling water is expensive. *Be mindful of your water usage.*

52 WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER

1. Use the shower, instead of a bath, it takes up to 70 gallons of water to fill a bathtub and 20-30 gallons of water for a shower.
2. Take short showers.
3. When brushing your teeth, turn off the tap!
4. Use a watering can, to water the plants instead of a hose.
5. When soaping in the shower, close the shower tap!
6. Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators.
7. Use the washing machine fully loaded, not half full or make sure to select the proper load size.
8. Use a dishwasher to do the dishes!
9. When doing dishes by hand, do not leave the water running from the tap.
10. Shut off the water while you are not rinsing the dishes.
11. Do not let the faucet run while you clean vegetables.
12. Use a bucket and sponge to clean the car instead of a hose!
13. Use the correct water saving button on the toilet!
14. If you do not have a water saving toilet, try retrofitting or filling your tank with something that will displace some of that water, such as a brick.
15. **Toilet leaks can be silent! Be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the bowl without flushing, there is a leak. Fix it and start saving gallons.**
16. If your toilet flapper does not close properly after flushing, replace it.
17. Consider buying a dual-flush toilet. It has two flush options: a half-flush for liquid waste and a full flush for solid waste.
18. Put plastic bottles or float booster in your toilet tank.
19. Do not play too much with water in the summer.
20. Try to harvest and reuse your rainwater.
21. Double check that the faucet is completely off when leaving the bathroom.
22. **Fix broken toilets and leaky faucets.** Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It is simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.
23. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. (5 gallons of water per minute of use) Instead, compost vegetable food waste and save gallons every time.
24. When washing your hands, turn the water off while you lather.
25. Install water-saving aerators on all your faucets.
26. Drop tissues in the trash instead of flushing them and save water every time.
27. **One drip every second adds up to five gallons per day! Check your faucets and showerheads for leaks.**
28. Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks. Water audit your home to find out your recommended water use, then monitor your utility bills to gauge your monthly consumption.
29. **Learn how to use your water meter to check for leaks. Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same as the previous reading, there is a leak.**
30. Adjust the lawn mower to the height of 1.5 to 2 inches. Taller grass shades roots and holds soil moisture better than short grass.
31. Aerate your lawn periodically. Holes every six inches will allow water to reach the roots, rather than run off the surface.
32. Avoid overseeding your lawn with winter grass.
33. While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.
34. Only water your lawn when you need to. (Summer lawns once every three days and your winter lawn once every five days.)
35. **During times of drought, do not water.**
36. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean patios, sidewalks, and driveways.
37. **Water coolers require a seasonal maintenance check. For more efficient cooling, check your evaporative cooler annually. Direct the water drain to plants in your landscape.**
38. Look into water recycling options, such as grey water systems.
39. Avoid pouring water from your drinking glass or water bottle down the drain, water a plant instead.
40. Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
41. Re-use your pasta cooking liquid.
42. Add organic matter and use efficient watering systems for shrubs, flower beds and lawns.
43. Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants.
44. Water your plants wisely.
45. **Water during cooler parts of the day. Do not water between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; avoid running sprinklers when it is raining, the day after it has rained, when its windy or in the middle of the day (water will evaporate).**
46. Plant drought-resistant lawns, shrubs, and plants.
47. Water your lawn only when you need to
48. Use water-friendly equipment's.
49. Avoid leaky outdoor water hoses,
50. Check your irrigation system each spring for damage. An irrigation system with a leak as small as 1/32 inch in diameter can waste 6,300 gallons of water each month.
51. Make sure your irrigation system is set properly and you are not over watering.
52. Use a drip irrigation system with a timer, instead of a hose or sprinkler to water your garden.

Check out our website for other water conservation tips and the impacts of leaks.

MayerWaterDistrict.com