

SUMMER WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**



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The Water Resources Research Center - a research unit of the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) and an Extension unit in [UA Cooperative Extension](#) within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension. [Land Acknowledgement](#).

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IN THIS ISSUE: Factsheet, Conference Agenda, Associate Director Opening, Seminar Recap, APW, Colorado River, Data Centers

The image shows the cover of the 'Arizona Water Factsheet' for Graham County. The cover features a blue and white color scheme with a background image of a lake and mountains. The title 'ARIZONA WATER FACTSHEETS' is prominently displayed in large, bold, white letters. Below it, 'GRAHAM COUNTY' is written in even larger, bold, white letters. The top right corner includes the text 'Agriculture 183.7 96.4%'. The left side of the cover contains a smaller version of the factsheet's content, including a map of Arizona, a pie chart titled 'Arizona Water Supply and Demand', and a section titled 'Water in Graham County'. The WRRRC logo is visible in the top left corner of the factsheet preview.

Water in Graham County – New Factsheet Published

Curious about water in Graham County? The Graham County Water Factsheet is now available! As the sixth installment in the WRRRC's Arizona Water Factsheet series, this resource offers a wide-ranging yet concise overview of water in Graham County. The factsheet covers topics such as water supply and demand, irrigation efficiency, watershed restoration, and water reuse. The legal, economic, and cultural significance of the Upper Gila River, which flows west through the county toward Phoenix, is also highlighted. Acknowledging the distinct water resource conditions, priorities, and values of each county, the WRRRC works with local experts to guide the content and access existing

water-related data. For Graham County, the Technical Advisory Committee was led by Extension Interim Regional Director for Cochise and Graham Counties Randy Norton and Kim McReynolds, Extension Agent, Natural Resources in Cochise County. We are grateful for the input received from other local and regional stakeholders with deep knowledge of the local characteristics of water in Graham County, including retired County Extension Director, Bill Brandau.

[Graham County Factsheet](#)
[AZ Water Factsheets](#)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Preliminary Agenda Posted for WRRRC 2023 Annual Conference

The updated agenda for the WRRRC 2023 Annual Conference, *What Can We Do? Solutions to Arizona's Water Challenges*, is now available on our [conference website](#). Held in person on July 11–12, at the UArizona Student Union in Tucson, the two-day program features over 50 speakers and presenters for a range of panel discussions, keynotes, and poster presentations. Day 1 concludes with an evening reception where attendees can continue the conversation while enjoying a non-hosted bar. With most of the speakers confirmed, we invite you to join us to engage in robust discussions focused on the solutions that offer pathways to water security for all. [Early Bird registration](#) is open until June 14, so don't wait! Check out our agenda and register today.

[Conference Agenda](#)
[More Info](#)

EVENTS

WRRRC Seminar Series: Homeowners Associations – An Overlooked Water Sustainability Opportunity in the Desert: 2023 Update

Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023
Times: 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm Arizona Time
Location: [Webinar Only](#)

Speaker: Hans Huth, *UArizona MS Hydrology (1998); Agua Dulce HOA Water Harvesting Chair and Volunteer*

Located in the Tucson Mountains, the Agua Dulce Homeowners Association has supported common-area water conservation and green stormwater infrastructure since 2015. To date, respective strategies have saved 4.6M gallons of water and \$19K relative to a 2016 baseline. Respective savings have been realized through community engagement in landscape maintenance and careful management of our common area irrigation. In this WRRC seminar, Hans Huth will summarize the strategies he has tested and the challenges faced in building landscape resiliency to the ongoing megadrought when working within a managed community.



[Register Here](#)
[More Info](#)

Upcoming WRRC Events

Jun 16: WRRC Special Event: Melissa Sevigny; Brave the Wild River Book Release/Signing – Save the Date!

Jul 11–12: [WRRC 2023 Annual Conference: What Can We Do? Solutions to Arizona's Water Challenges](#)

External Events

Aug 3–4: [31st Annual Arizona Water Law Conference](#)

NEWS

WRRC Seeks Associate Director/Specialist – Position Posted!

Candidates are sought for an Associate Director (Year-to-Year Professional) and Associate/Full Extension Specialist (Continuing Status Eligible, Fiscal Year appointment), at the Water Resources Research Center in the Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension at the University of Arizona. The rank for the Extension Specialist will depend on the candidate's record and experience, with the academic home depending on the field of specialization. This position will work closely with the WRRC Director to administer the WRRC, a Research and Extension Center within the Division, and one of a national network of federally authorized water resources research institutes/centers. Main duties and responsibilities of the position include providing program direction for the WRRC, conducting applied research and engagement programs, and establishing and maintaining extramural funding. The minimum qualifications include a Doctorate or equivalent terminal degree, a minimum of five years of work experience related to Arizona's and regional water



management, a strong record of scholarly accomplishments, and a record of collaborative projects and programs.

[WRRC Associate Director Job Posting](#)

Green Infrastructure Discussed in WRRC Seminar

On May 17, the WRRC hosted a seminar featuring a discussion of Green Infrastructure in Tucson with UArizona Assistant Professor Adriana Zuniga-Teran and Tucson Water's Blue Baldwin. Dr. Zuniga-Teran kicked off the presentations with an overview of historical water management in Tucson, challenges to the city's supply – both in terms of quality and quantity – and how Green Infrastructure offers a decentralized approach to complimenting an aging water infrastructure system and contributes to the ecosystems that support resilient cities. Blue Baldwin, who manages the City of Tucson's Storm to Shade Program built from the rich context provided by Dr. Zuniga-Teran and described the City's efforts to institutionalize Green Infrastructure. Her presentation touched on some of the challenges in widespread adoption of GI including financing projects, equity issues, and maintenance. The two informative presentations were followed by a Q&A. Both presentations and a recording of the seminar are available on our website linked below.

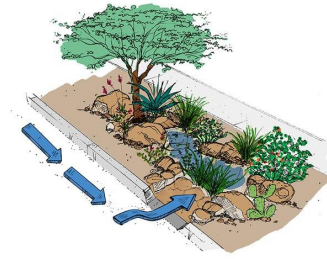


Image: Watershed Management Group

[View the Recording](#) [More Info](#)



Outgoing Director Reflects on 15 Years at Arizona Project WET

A story I am telling a lot lately about my time at Arizona Project WET was that at my first [Arizona Water Festival](#) in 2008 we were still teaching kids about water conservation behaviors like turning off the water when you brush your teeth and taking shorter showers. Now, when we ask students how to conserve water they can rattle off half a dozen ideas like that without even thinking—they've learned those behaviors from their families, who learned them in school! To keep one step ahead of students, we've shifted our teaching to exploring ways that technology like high-efficiency fixtures and practices like checking our water meters can help to conserve. These shifts in our overall culture of conservation are ongoing and while not exactly fast, still faster than we might think.



[Read More](#)

Lower Basin States Offer Colorado River Proposal

In a promising development, the Lower Basin States (Arizona, California, and Nevada) have agreed on a proposal that addresses the ongoing megadrought-induced water shortages in the Colorado River Basin. The proposed actions would save 3 million acre-feet (maf) of water by 2026 in addition to savings promised in previous agreements, with 1.5 maf of these additional savings realized by the end of 2024. Of the 3 maf, 2.3 maf of reductions by water users will be compensated with federal Inflation Reduction Act funding. The balance will be either uncompensated or funded through state and local entities. Following a request from the seven Colorado River Basin states, the Bureau of Reclamation has withdrawn the current draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Near-term Colorado River Operations and suspended public comment to permit analysis of the Lower Basin States' proposal as an additional action alternative. As quoted in an article in *The Guardian*, WRRRC Director Sharon B. Megdal noted, "The fact that the lower basin states and the federal government came to an agreement is encouraging – it's a significant step forward. Lots of people will say 3 million acre-feet isn't enough, but this is about stopping the system from immediately crashing."



Image: Camilo Salcedo, Marble Canyon, AZ, WRRRC 2022 Photo Contest

- [Lower Basin Plan Letter](#)
- [DOI Press Release](#)
- [Guardian Article](#)

UArizona and Salt River Project Collaborate for Data Center Sustainability

Dr. Kerri Hickenbottom, assistant professor in the College of Engineering and researcher at the UArizona WEST Center, recently described a four-year collaborative project with the Salt River Project (SRP) in an interview published by [Water Online](#). The project explores new ways for data centers to reduce their electric power and water consumption. Their ultimate goal is to achieve circularity: a circular, waste-free, or waste-minimizing water-energy system. Dr. Hickenbottom and her team at the Hickenbottom Environmental Research (HER) Lab have created a multi-criteria decision support tool for stakeholders in the data center industry to better understand water and energy use tradeoffs as they make decisions on reliability, maintenance, ease of use, water and energy efficiency, and cost. "We want to give [data center stakeholders] options to consider based on regional conditions and resource availability and help them make well-informed decisions," said Hickenbottom. She describes how the engaged partnership with SRP has been meaningful as they work to communicate the need for more circularity in water-energy systems. As a concluding thought, Hickenbottom shared, "The technology we discard doesn't just disappear into thin air; it goes somewhere else. Nothing really goes away. There is much work to do before our systems show positive circularity."



[More Info](#)

WATER JOBS

WRRC Associate Director

Candidates are sought for an Associate Director (Year-to-Year Professional) and Associate/Full Extension Specialist (Continuing Status Eligible, Fiscal Year appointment), at the Water Resources Research Center in the Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension at the University of Arizona. [More Info](#)

- Hopi Tribe [Program Manager, Water Resources](#)
- Maricopa Association of Governments [FY 2024 Rio Reimagined Ambassador](#)
- Yavapai County [Hydrologist III – Flood Control \(Prescott\)](#)

Please visit [WRRC's website](#) for a complete listing of water jobs & opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **May 30:** [AAWWA Wine, Women & Golf](#)
- **May 31:** [Arizona Forward Breakfast Panel: Beyond the Headlines: Water Solutions to Move Arizona Forward](#)
- **May 31:** [AAWWA Colorado River Update](#)
- **May 31:** [NWRI Fellowship Program 2023-24 – Application Deadline](#)
- **Jun 1:** [WRRC Seminar Series: Homeowners Associations – An Overlooked Water Sustainability Opportunity in the Desert: 2023 Update](#)
- **Jun 6:** [Rio Reimagined RIO Partnership Meeting](#)
- **Jun 7:** [Public Meeting on Hualapai Valley Irrigation Non-Expansion Area](#)
- **Jun 10:** [Pima County Master Gardeners Sage Seminar: Planning & Planting Your Xeriscape Garden](#)
- **Jun 13–15:** [White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council Public Meeting](#)
- **Jun 13–15:** [UCOWR/NIWR 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference](#)
- **Jun 15:** [WaterReuse Arizona 2023 Scholarship – Application Deadline](#)
- **Jun 15–16:** [2023 Next Generation Water Summit](#)
- **Jun 16:** [US Water Prize 2023 – Nomination Deadline](#)
- **Jun 16:** WRRC Special Event: Melissa Sevigny; Brave the Wild River Book Release/Signing – Save the Date!
- **Jun 21:** [AWRA Webinar: Protecting Drinking Water Sources Through Collaborative Planning and Management](#)
- **Jul 11–12:** [WRRC 2023 Annual Conference: What Can We Do? Solutions to Arizona's Water Challenges](#)
- **Jul 17–19:** [AWRA 2023 Summer Conference: Connecting Land & Water for Healthy Communities](#)
- **Jul 23–25:** [Arizona Water Reuse 2023 Symposium](#)
- **Aug 3–4:** [31st Annual Arizona Water Law Conference](#)
- **Sep 12:** [AWRA 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference – Student Poster Deadline](#)
- **Sep 13:** [AHS Symposium Fieldtrip: Oak Creek Watershed Restoration](#)
- **Sep 13–16:** [Arizona Hydrological Society 35th Annual Symposium](#)
- **Sep 16:** [AHS Symposium Fieldtrip: Hoxworth Springs, Lake Mary, and Montezuma Well](#)
- **Oct 7:** [Urban Wildlife Conservation Day: Rio Reimagined Salt River Clean-Up](#)
- **Oct 21:** [19th Annual Research Insights in Semiarid Ecosystems \(RISE\) Symposium – Save the Date!](#)
- **Nov 6–8:** [AWRA 2023 Annual Water Resources Conference](#)
- **Nov 14–16:** [US Water Alliance One Water Summit 2023](#)

OTHER NOTICES

EPA Seeking Nominations to the Good Neighbor Environmental Board

EPA invites nominations from a diverse range of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to its [Good Neighbor Environmental Board \(GNEB\)](#). Approximately ten vacancies are expected to be filled by December 2023. [More Info](#)

Do you have a story idea, water job announcement, or event to share?

[Contact us here](#)