

JUNE 2024

goodyearaz.gov/InFocus

InFocus



A Deep Dive
into Water
in Goodyear

AT A GLANCE Living in the desert, water is a hot topic in the Valley of the Sun. So, what does Goodyear's water future look like? This issue takes a deep dive into all things water in Goodyear, including how it's cleaned and delivered to your home, the ways new technology is helping to grow the supply and what's being done to protect what we have.



WHAT FLOWS DOWN THE STREET, WILL FLOW DOWN THE DRAINS

Ever heard the saying only rain in the storm drain? A storm drain is where rainwater flows to keep streets from flooding. That water can also push trash, motor oil and pet waste into the drain as it flows over streets and yards. That's why it's important to keep your yard and driveway clean of potential pollutants. The water from storm drains flows into community canals, parks, lakes, retention basins and drywells. Keeping stormwater clean protects our open spaces. Learn more about simple water pollution prevention tips and the city's Stormwater Management Plan at goodyearaz.gov/stormwater.

WATER PROVIDERS

There are multiple water providers in Goodyear. Where you live determines who provides water to your home.

CITY OF GOODYEAR
SOUTH OF I-10
623-932-3010

EPCOR
NORTHWEST OF I-10 AND LOOP 303
1-800-383-0834

LIBERTY
NORTH OF I-10
1-844-367-2030

ARIZONA WATER COMPANY
SOUTHWEST OF I-10 AND LOOP 303
623-246-7570

Have a question about your city of Goodyear water bill? Call the city's customer service team at 623-882-7887 or visit them at Goodyear City Hall, 1900 N. Civic Square.

GOODYEAR CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR

June 3	5 p.m.	Work Session
June 10	5 p.m.	Council Meeting
June 24	5 p.m.	Council Meeting
July 1	5 p.m.	Council Meeting
July 8	5 p.m.	Council Meeting

For the latest meeting information, visit goodyearaz.gov. Council meetings and work sessions are held at Goodyear City Hall at GSQ, Council Chambers, 1900 N. Civic Square.

Catch all of the council meetings streaming live on our Facebook page @goodyearaz and YouTube channel.



InFocus Magazine • Goodyear Digital Communications
Questions or comments, email: communications@goodyearaz.gov

247365

STAY INFORMED

Get city news, new business announcements, event info and so much more!

Web: goodyearaz.gov

Events: goodyearaz.gov/events

And don't forget social media



GOODYEAR CITY COUNCIL

(front row; l to r): Vice Mayor Laura Kaino, Mayor Joe Pizzillo, Wally Campbell,
(back row; l to r): Bill Stipp, Vicki Gillis, Sheri Lauritano, Brannon Hampton.



Mayor
Joe Pizzillo

From the Mayor

Water is a scarce resource in our region, which is why we prioritize our planning and development around it. In fact, in Goodyear, we value it so highly that we recognized the need to create a standalone Water Services Department several years ago. Prior to that, water

services operations were a part of our Public Works Department.

In assessing the department, we considered the growth in our community and the ongoing heightened importance of water resources affecting our region. Another consideration was that it is a best practice for larger cities to have separate departments for Public Works and Water Services so that each can increase the organizational focus in its area of expertise.

We knew it would also position the city to more effectively meet both current and future water needs by creating a standalone Water Services

Department. The Goodyear City Council approved the proposal in November of 2022, and now this department oversees water, water resources and wastewater programs, which include capital improvement projects, environmental programs and water conservation.

Speaking of water conservation, I am sometimes asked about the amount of water being used by data centers, since the media portrays them as water-intensive users. But not all data centers operate that way. For the most part, the data centers in Goodyear are air-cooled, which means they are not huge water consumers. Although the Microsoft Data Center uses water for cooling, it has its own water rights, so it doesn't access water from the city's water portfolio.

I hope the information in this issue will help dispel other myths about water in our region and help reassure you about the measures we are taking as a city to ensure we have a safe and sustainable water supply. The city of Goodyear is committed to providing the highest quality water and wastewater services to its residents, and we strive to stay ahead of the demand for important resources, such as water, by strategically planning for the future.



Councilwoman
Vicki Gillis

Council Corner

I have great admiration for the police, firefighters, paramedics, community response teams and dispatchers who serve and protect our city. They show an unwavering commitment to their duty, putting their lives on the line to ensure the safety and well-being of others. Beyond the moments of

crisis, first responders are pillars of support within our communities, offering education, outreach and assistance to help prevent emergencies before they occur. They work collaboratively with residents to address concerns and foster positive relationships within neighborhoods.

One of the many remarkable teams is our Homeless Outreach Team. It's made up of caring individuals who seek out those experiencing homelessness to offer resources and get them off the streets. As our population grows, so too does the demand for emergency services. The role of public safety personnel has never been more critical. We often

see first responders as heroes in our time of need, but we must not forget that they are also human beings facing their own personal challenges. It's crucial that we support these brilliant men and women who keep us safe so that they can continue to be compassionate and fierce public servants. We must continue to provide them with the necessary resources, such as mental health support, and state-of-the-art facilities, like our new fire stations, to ensure their well-being and safety.

Let's take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to these remarkable individuals who sacrifice so much to ensure our safety and well-being. They deserve to be honored for their bravery, compassion and solid commitment to serving others. Let's not forget the vital role they play in safeguarding our city. To our first responders—thank you for being the everyday heroes that inspire us all.

If you or someone you know has a desire to serve and get involved, you can visit our website to learn what it takes to make it on the team. Please visit goodyearaz.gov/careers and goodyearaz.gov/VIPS.

CITY OF GOODYEAR WATER



WATER IN



VICE MAYOR LAURA KAINO

This year, the Goodyear City Council established a Citizens Water Advisory Committee dedicated to responsible management of our water resources. The committee serves as an advisory body to city staff and council on matters related to water resource planning, water and wastewater system planning, water use and conservation, water and wastewater rates and fees. Committee Chairman Pastor Greg Brown states, "We have nine insightful and diverse members working alongside four key city staff. We are encouraged by the current position that Goodyear has with our 100-year supply for the current needs and near future growth. We are proactively exploring strategic avenues to discover new water sources, upgrade our infrastructure and boost efficiency. Our goal is to safeguard our quality of life for the foreseeable future." Water conservation is important to Goodyear residents, neighborhoods and businesses, and together, we are making significant efforts to be water efficient. We can all conserve this summer by only watering plants to what they need, turning off sprinkler systems when it rains and moving watering times to the night hours to reduce evaporation. Thank you for making a difference!



COUNCILMEMBER SHERI LAURITANO

Goodyear's water is well-managed which has allowed us to have a 100-year supply despite the rapid population growth. While the city relies on groundwater, it uses a diverse portfolio including reclaimed water and water from other rivers. This reduces dependence on the Colorado River. The city has strategically placed wells, storage facilities and pressure stations to ensure water is there when we need it. Additionally, the city of Goodyear has made significant investments in underground storage to ensure long-term water security. These efforts, combined with continued innovation, will enable Goodyear to meet future water challenges and contribute to the continued growth of our city.



COUNCILMEMBER WALLY CAMPBELL

Securing the future of our water supply has been a collective effort from organizations and cities alike. While we are proud to have a healthy supply in Goodyear, it has taken the careful planning of many throughout several years. The city of Goodyear is part of a local organization called Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA). The focus of AMWUA is to advocate as an expert leader on water issues for its member cities. Working together, they advocate for responsible water stewardship while still supporting economic prosperity and safeguarding our water supply. AMWUA's dedication to responsible water management and advocacy for the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River is essential for our community. Their work ensures a reliable water supply for our homes, businesses and agriculture, which is vital for the continued growth and prosperity of our city.

GOODYEAR



COUNCILMEMBER BILL STIPP

Setting water rates is a crucial task for the city council because, ultimately, it ensures the safety and reliability of drinking water for our community. The rates and fees charged to businesses and residents cover the costs involved in providing service for both current and future needs. City Finance and Water Resources staff work with specialized consultants to analyze the optimal use of water and maximize system efficiencies to determine the appropriate rates. Once these rates are identified, they are presented to the city council for review and approval. Although it is always difficult to raise rates, it is sometimes necessary to maintain the efficiency, safety and reliability of our water system. The council takes this matter seriously and does not consider raising rates unless it is absolutely necessary. We are mindful of our residents' budgets and in these situations seek to make small increases each year instead of large increases every three to five years.



COUNCILMEMBER BRANNON HAMPTON

Conservation efforts have helped secure a healthy water supply for the city of Goodyear. Despite significant growth, water demand has remained stable, in part thanks to efforts by our residents. Outdoor water use can account for up to 60% of a household's consumption. However, the city has resources available to help residents become responsible water stewards. Included in these resources, the city offers rebates for water-efficient appliances and landscaping, encouraging residents to upgrade to more sustainable options. Additionally, free irrigation system audits help residents identify and address any inefficiencies in their watering systems. Also available to residents are educational workshops that provide valuable information on water conservation practices, empowering residents to make informed choices. HOAs have also played a big role by participating in programs specifically geared at reducing the need for water in common areas. Together, we can ensure our water supply stays healthy despite the ongoing concerns.



COUNCILWOMAN VICKI GILLIS

It's great to know that the city of Goodyear prioritizes the safety of its residents by ensuring that the water supply is of high quality. Water Services staff conduct over 1,500 tests and measurements every year, and the water is carefully monitored at every stage of the treatment process. Staff continuously check the water quality to ensure that it meets the strict standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department. From the treatment process to the storage and distribution via booster pump stations, every step is taken to provide safe water to businesses and residents. Next time you take a sip of water, you can rest assured that it has undergone meticulous testing and monitoring to ensure its safety.

DELIVERING WATER TO YOUR HOME



Turn the sink on and like magic, water comes out. Let's go behind the scenes to see how safe, clean drinking water is delivered to thousands of homes and businesses in Goodyear.

STEP 1 AT THE SOURCE

1

Goodyear uses both groundwater and surface water. For groundwater, wells throughout the city pump water from underneath the ground. Surface water is delivered from the Colorado River canal through miles of pipes.

FUN FACT A well can pull 2,000 gallons of water from the ground per minute!

STEP 2 TREATMENT

2

Treatment starts right away. For groundwater, the process takes place at one of the city's four groundwater treatment facilities. It includes reverse osmosis, adsorption – which is another process to remove contaminants from water – and disinfection. The entire process is much like a home reverse osmosis, but on a much larger scale. Surface water travels directly to the city's surface water treatment facility where it is also treated through a multi-step filtration process. All the treatment processes use technology approved by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Maricopa County Environmental Services.

STEP 3 TEST

3

Groundwater and surface water is tested constantly throughout the day and for check-and-balances, testing is done by multiple people and labs. The testing ensures the water quality meets the state and federal standards for safe drinking water.

STEP 4 WAIT

4

Groundwater then goes into a network of reservoirs throughout the city. A reservoir can hold up to four million gallons of water! The clean surface water stays at the surface water treatment facility for this step.

STEP 5 TRAVEL

5

Next, the water journey continues through a vast network of underground pipes measuring more than 400 miles long. This is where groundwater and surface water mix.

STEP 6 YOUR HOME

6

Finally, the water makes it to pipes at your home. You turn your sink on, and you have safe, clean drinking water. That's how water gets delivered to the city's water customers!



1

2

3

4

5

6

WATER TRAVELING OUT OF HOMES

ANOTHER PART OF THE WATER CYCLE IS WHEN WATER LEAVES YOUR HOME. WATER THAT GOES DOWN YOUR DRAIN, LIKE WHEN YOU TAKE A SHOWER OR WASH YOUR HANDS, TRAVELS THROUGH UNDERGROUND PIPES TO ONE OF THE CITY'S THREE WASTEWATER PLANTS.

STEP #1 CLEANING

At the wastewater plant, water takes a multi-day journey across the facility for treatment. First, it is cleaned to remove all inorganic compounds, like flushable wipes, so the only thing left is liquid.

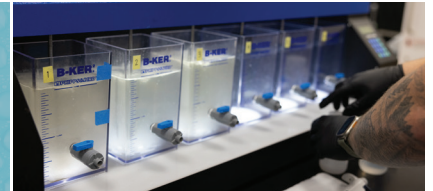


STEP #2 CONTAMINATION REMOVAL

The wastewater then moves into the aeration basin where microorganisms – “microscopic bugs” – begin to remove contaminants from the water. It may sound strange that tiny bugs are eating the bad stuff in the water, but this is a common practice and an industry standard. As water moves through the process, this step is repeated with different types of microorganisms.

STEP #3 TESTING

At each step throughout the process, water is tested at the on-site lab to ensure it meets all regulatory standards.

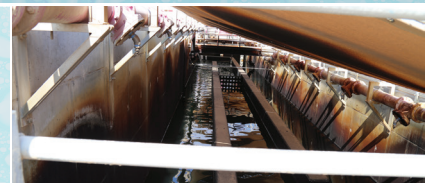


STEP #4 FILTRATION

The water then passes through a series of filters as a finishing step to remove particulate matter from the treatment stream.

STEP #5 DISINFECTION

Chlorine is added to disinfect the water to ensure it's safe and clean.



STEP #6 LEAVES FACILITY

The treated water then travels out of the wastewater treatment plant to a recharge basin in the city.

STEP #7 BACK UNDERGROUND

At the recharge facility, water soaks down into the ground for natural filtration and storage where it remains until it's eventually pumped back up by a groundwater well and the water treatment cycle begins again.

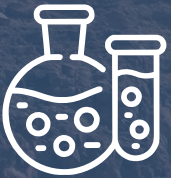


✓ WATER QUALITY CHECK

What's in your tap water? The city tests its water throughout the year to answer just that. The testing ensures that everything in it is at a safe level that meets all state and federal standards. The data from the tests is then published in an annual water quality report. The city is proud to continue to deliver water that exceeds standards!

View the latest Water Quality Report at [goodyearaz.gov/waterreport](https://www.goodyearaz.gov/waterreport).

TOP WATER QUESTIONS ANSWERED



WHAT ARE PFAS AND IS MY TAP WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

PFAS are often referred to as “forever chemicals,” because they do not break down easily. They are compounds that build up in the ground over time and can get into the water system. We have been monitoring PFAS in the city’s water system for years. The Environmental Protection Agency requires the monitoring and recently established new maximum contaminant levels for drinking water. It’s a step in the right direction to ensure public health. We also test our water regularly to ensure the highest quality of drinking water and publish the results in an annual report. You can view it online at goodyearaz.gov/report.



WHY IS MY TAP WATER SO HOT?

This is a frequent question during our hot summer months. When it’s hot outside, water infrastructure, like aboveground reservoirs and underground pipes, also heat up and it warms the water inside of it. The depth at which the pipes are buried can also make a difference in how hot the water inside of them gets. Heat also transfers to pipes in walls and ceilings of homes. The warmer water in the pipes results in warmer water flowing out of your sinks, showers and bathtubs.



ARE DATA CENTERS DRYING UP THE CITY’S WATER SUPPLY?

This is a common misconception. Most of the data centers in Goodyear are air cooled and those that aren’t have a Type 1 Industrial Water Right, which means they have their own water. A data center with this type of water right does not use city of Goodyear water resources and does not impact the city’s water portfolio. It has water rights to get water from the West Salt River Valley Water Basin, which is groundwater shared by multiple municipalities and entities.



IS THERE ENOUGH WATER TO KEEP BUILDING HOMES AND BUSINESSES?

A city cannot grow and prosper without water. That’s why we take water management very seriously in Goodyear. First, we continuously evaluate our water supply as a proactive measure and to meet state requirements. We also have a 100-year assured water supply designation from the Arizona Department of Water Resources for existing and approved development. When a business wants to come to the city, we also work with them to know their water needs. Businesses that are a good fit are given a water allocation. Essentially, each vacant piece of land in Goodyear already has an allocation of projected water so we can grow responsibly.

Your Questions Answered By Water Services Director Barbara Chappell



WHAT IS THE LATEST WITH THE COLORADO RIVER SHORTAGE?

We closely monitor the river shortage and are part of the regional discussions taking place. We're working closely with other cities and states to develop a proposal on how the river and its reservoirs should operate in the future. There is also not a water shortage in Goodyear, and our water supply is not impacted. We have a well-rounded, sustainable water management plan that puts us in a good position, even if there is a supply shortage in the future. You can view our water master plan at goodyearaz.gov/masterplans. It's a 10-year water outlook that includes strategies to meet projected water demands.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO GROW OR PRESERVE OUR WATER SUPPLY?

We take water management very seriously in the city and that means being innovative, making investments and smart planning. Several strategies that are in place or being reviewed across the state and in Goodyear include:

Desalinization – This is a process that removes minerals, primarily salt, from groundwater or ocean water. This is taking place already in Goodyear.

The use of recycled water – This means expanding how treated wastewater is used and exploring new technology that can treat it to regulation standards so it's safe to drink.

Modifying Bartlett Dam – This would increase the storage capacity of Bartlett Lake and provide additional resources to the Valley.





SAVING Water and MONEY

The city offers a wide variety of programs and services to help its water customers save water at home. Residents who have taken advantage of more than one of the water-saving services offered have reduced their water usage by 14% on average! We have enough water but not enough to waste.

GOODYEAR WATER CUSTOMERS CAN RECEIVE:

 **A free rain sensor device that automatically shuts off a home's irrigation system when it starts raining.** Rebates and incentives, including a device allowing a homeowner to track their water usage in real time at a discounted price.

 **Expert advice on desert landscaping.**

 **Ability to request a free home water check with a city water conservation expert to check for leaks or areas where water efficiency can be improved.**

TOP 3 WATER SAVING TIPS



One drop every second adds up to five gallons per day! Check your irrigation, faucets, toilets and showerheads for leaks.

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save up to four gallons a minute. That's up to 200 gallons a week for a family of four.

Water outdoor plants before 6 a.m. in the summer to avoid any water loss from evaporation.

Check out all the water saving tips and programs at [**goodyearaz.gov/water**](http://goodyearaz.gov/water).

NOT A GOODYEAR WATER CUSTOMER?

Check with your water provider on incentives and services. You can also explore other water saving resources at [**goodyearaz.gov/water**](http://goodyearaz.gov/water) and sign up to attend a free water class, open to all Goodyear residents, to hear from water conservation experts at [**goodyearaz.gov/waterclasses**](http://goodyearaz.gov/waterclasses).

True or False? Outdoor water use makes up 50-70% of your annual water bill.

True. On average, 60% of household water use happens outside.



The city's water conservation programs and services have saved residents **10 million gallons of water!** That's enough water for 30 families for a year!

Important Dates to Know for the city of Goodyear ELECTION



July 1 Last day to register to vote



July 3 Ballots are mailed to voters



July 19 Last day to request a ballot by mail



July 23 Last day to mail in your early ballot



July 30 Election Day

On the ballot, voters will select up to three councilmember candidates. For additional information on the election, visit goodyearaz.gov/election.



GROWING GOODYEAR PODCAST



BUC-EE'S IS COMING TO GOODYEAR AND IT HAS EVERYONE TALKING!

SO, WHAT MAKES IT SO POPULAR? AND WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT WHEN IT OPENS HERE? LISTEN TO THE LATEST EPISODE OF THE GROWING GOODYEAR PODCAST TO LEARN EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE INFAMOUS BUC-EE'S.

Check it out on these platforms



JUNETEENTH

Wednesday, June 19

There will be trash and recycling pickup.

Not sure of your trash day?
Visit goodyearaz.gov/trash



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Thursday, July 4

No trash and recycling pickup. Collection will move to the following day.

Not sure of your trash day?
Visit goodyearaz.gov/trash



**BEING SAFE
AROUND WATER
IS AS EASY AS A-B-C**

A

ADULT
ADULT
SUPERVISION

B

BARRIER
LAYERS OF
PROTECTION

C

CLASSES
AND COAST GUARD
APPROVED LIFEJACKETS



**DROWNING IS
100 PERCENT
PREVENTABLE**



1900 N. Civic Square
Goodyear AZ 85395
goodyearaz.gov
623-932-3910

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GOODYEAR, AZ
PERMIT #216

CITY OF
Goodyear

SUMMER EVENTS

**JUNE
TEENTH
FAMILY
DAY**

June 19
6-9 p.m.



July 4
6-10 p.m.

GOODYEARAZ.GOV/EVENTS