



# Water Ways

Every drop costs

## Save Water This Summer!

Pools are a welcoming sight in our desert environment but they can be a challenge to maintain and certainly increase overall water use for customers. If you have a pool, the water lost to evaporation and back flushing is equal to draining your pool once per year. Water loss is estimated at approximately 2,000 gallons per month. To save water this summer

**try not to overfill your pool.** This helps to keep water from being splashed out of the pool when in use.



**Back flush pool filters only when necessary** and reuse water when appropriate for landscape watering. **Use a pool cover** as much as possible to reduce evaporation. **Check the pool pump.** Water should not leak from the pool pump. Replace seals and rings when required. **Check the pool auto-fill.** Make sure that the auto-fill is shutting down all the way between fillings. This can be similar to a leaky toilet and although the water may not flow enough to overfill the pool, you may definitely see it on your water bill.

**Need information on the requirements of back flushing and draining your pool? Please visit:**

[www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/development-and-infrastructure-services/permitting-division/forms-checklists](http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/development-and-infrastructure-services/permitting-division/forms-checklists)

## Consumer Confidence Reports

Every year the Oro Valley Water Utility provides water quality and testing information to our customers in the **Consumer Confidence Report**. Copies are available in our office and on our website for Oro Valley and Countryside service areas. Visit [www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/water-utility](http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/water-utility) or click on your service area:

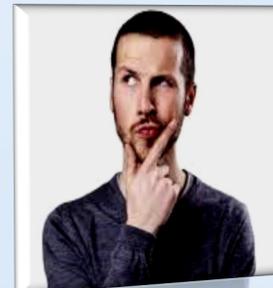
[Oro Valley](#)

[Countryside](#)

## Have You Set Your Water Use Thresholds in AquaHawk?

*No Thresholds, No Alerts...*

If you're registered on AquaHawk but have not set your water use thresholds, you're not getting the most benefit from this program.



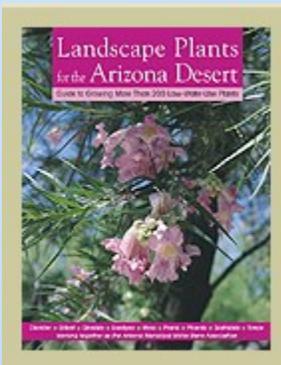
Ensure you receive alerts directly by clicking on **Alert Settings** to set water use thresholds. If you exceed your threshold, the system will contact you directly with the preferred contact information you provided when you registered. Thresholds can be set with various time increments such as billing period threshold (30 day period) or daily threshold.

Where do you start to determine what your threshold is? Your water bill has a graph that provides you with water use from the current and previous year. This is a good place to start to determine a billing period threshold. To determine a daily threshold, a thirty-day view in AquaHawk will help you to do this. Don't forget your irrigation days!

Register for free and view tutorials at [www.orovalleyaz.gov/aquahawk](http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/aquahawk). For questions please contact Conservation at 229-5024 or Customer Service at 229-5000.

## Say Yes! To Low Water Use Plants

A common misconception is that the only good low water use plant is a cactus. However there are many wonderful native plants, as well as others, that provide beauty and interest and do not demand frequent watering.



Arizona Municipal Water Users Association has created an online gardening guide from the booklet *Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert*. It allows you to search plants easily by type and shows beautiful photos with important information you need to know

about each plant. Check them out online or pick up a copy of the booklet in our office at 11000 N. La Cañada Drive. Visit [www.amwua.org/plant\\_information.html](http://www.amwua.org/plant_information.html)