



PAYSONAZ.GOV



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

JUNE
10, 2021

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

This document is developed and provided to help inform residents about what is happening with Town operations, services and programs; to answer frequently asked questions; and to encourage citizen participation in our local government. We aim to provide high quality programs and services to our residents in an effort to create a high quality of life. We welcome public comment and participation in the governance of our town. Residents are encouraged to join a council appointed board, commission or committee, speak at a council meeting during the public comment period, or fill out an online comment form. Town staff and I are honored to serve the residents of our town; we are committed to excellence and welcome you all to join us in the spirit of service.

-Troy Smith, Town Manager

MEET THE NEW DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER: KEVIN ARTZ



Kevin has two daughters (age 24 and 18), his youngest will be attending the school in Tempe. He grew up in Tucson and attended the University of Arizona, with a degree in finance and accounting. He has 30 years of experience in local government, having worked for the State of Arizona, the City of Tucson, the City of Show Low and the City of Avondale. At Avondale, he was the Finance and Budget Director for 14 years and the Assistant City Manager for 5 years. He enjoys the outdoors and looks forward to exploring the surrounding area.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



On May 21st, 2021 Officers assisted the FD on a house fire on Marissa Circle. Still under investigation by the Fire Department and Payson Police Department Detectives.

On May 26th, 2021 Officers assisted the FD on a house fire in the Knolls. Still under investigation by the Fire Department and Payson Police Department Detectives.

On May 27th, 2021 our two police recruits, Officer Colten White and Officer Zak Buzzard, graduated the Northern Arizona Regional Training Academy in Prescott. They began Field Training on June 1st, 2021.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



On May 30th, 2021 a small airplane made an emergency landing on Highway 87, just north of Home Depot. There were no injuries and no other vehicles involved. Officers assisted with the closure of Highway 87 while the plane received fuel. The pilot was able to take off from the roadway and landed safely at the Payson Airport.

The police department was able to purchase a new Intoxilyzer with the help of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety. Officers have been trained and the new machine has been put to work.

Detectives are currently working on several backgrounds for Police Officer Recruit applicants.

We have teamed up with representatives from surrounding fire departments to implement a Quality Assurance Program. This allows us to review past police and fire calls as a team in order to improve operational standards and interworking relationships between departments.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department concluded our Engineer Promotional Process and created an eligibility list of four qualified individuals. These four firefighters are Justin Zick, Chris Krohn, Jordan Hollenbeck, and Jessica Saldana.

The Fire Department submitted a grant request with the Department of Forestry and Fire Management for \$490,000. This grant, if approved, will allow us to treat an additional 185 acres of land over the next three years. The properties have already been identified and we have more awaiting new grant opportunities. The size of this grant application represents the years of hard work by the FD to treat and reduce our risk from catastrophic wildfire that we have been involved in for over 20 years.

The Fire Department along with the area departments and the Gila County Health and Emergency Management have begun the process to develop a five-year rewrite to our Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

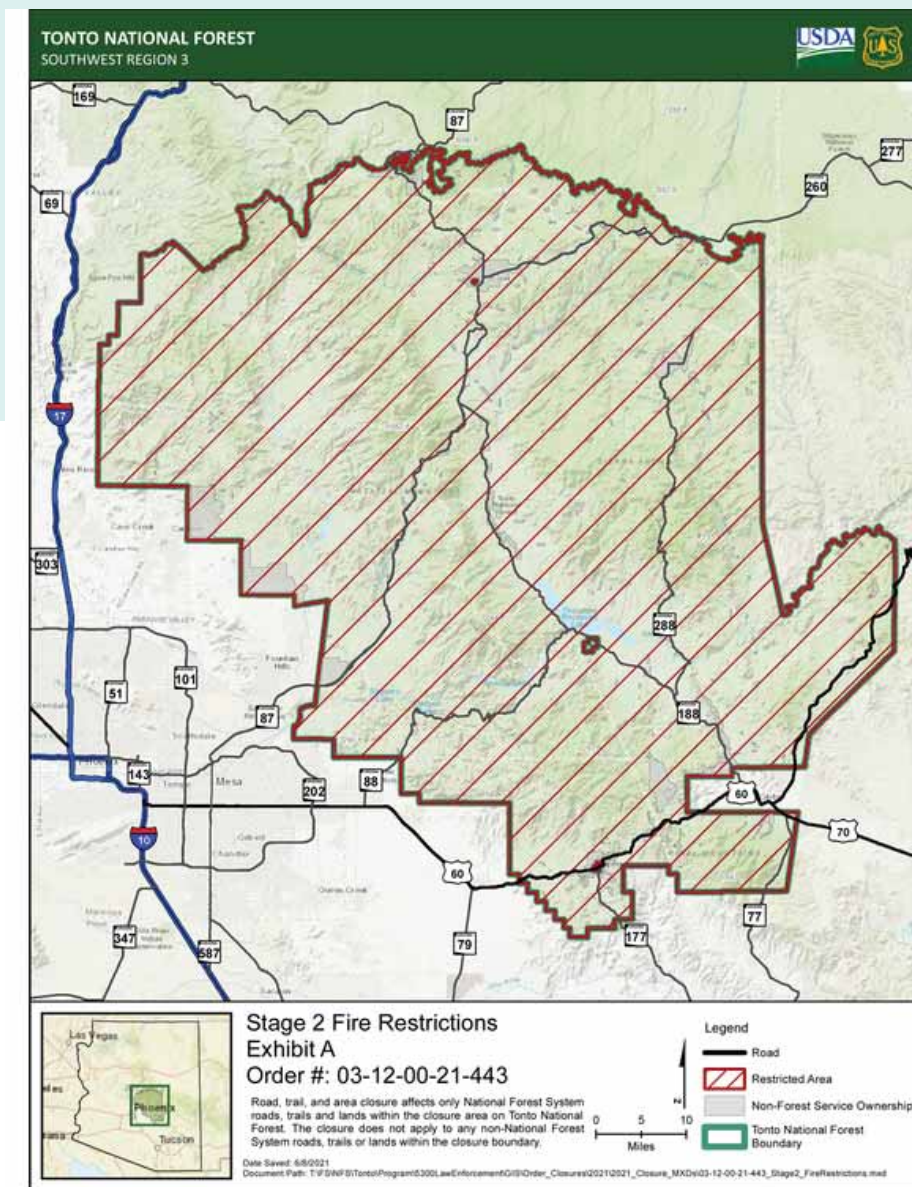


FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Tonto National Forest will be moving into Stage 2 fire restrictions effective 8:00 a.m. June 11, 2021. The Tonto National Forest is making this move in conjunction with other area land management agencies (i.e. Coconino Nat. Forest, BLM, etc.). To lessen confusion and protect the Town, Chief Staub will be putting the Town in Stage 2 fire restrictions effective 8 am. June 11, 2021.

Links to the Tonto National Forest notifications are included below:

- [Tonto National Forest Stage 2 Restrictions](#)
- [Tonto National Forest Shooting Restrictions Justification](#)



FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire Department
400 W Main Street
Payson AZ 85541
(928) 474 5242 Ext. 9

Phase I FIRE Restrictions:

The Payson Fire Chief hereby makes the following modifications to the International Fire Code during **elevated** fire hazardous conditions:
(Reference Numbers per the IFC 2018)

Outside Burning Prohibited:

307.1.1 The building of an open fire or bonfire shall be prohibited within the Town of Payson.

105.6.23 Hot work, including welding, cutting and grinding on all properties within the Town limits is prohibited without a permit.

310.8 Cigar, cigarette and pipe smoking outdoors is prohibited within 5 feet of combustible materials.

TOP Code of Ordinances Title XIII, Chapter 130 Section 130.29;
Fireworks are prohibited within the Town of Payson.

Burn Permits for fuels reduction efforts are suspended. Brush may still be disposed of at the Gila County Dump or local brush pits.

What is allowed outdoors:

Charcoal or wood fired BBQ cooking or portable outdoor fireplaces with an ember reducing devise (chimney or wire grate cover), in an approved container with at least 10 feet separation to combustibles on private property or in an approved campground.

308.1.1 Petroleum-fueled or electric cooking, lighting or heating devices having an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) certification and a positive shut off valve.

102.9 Gas fueled machinery such as chain saws and mowers if they are equipped with an approved spark arrester and the area is clear of dry and dead vegetation.

5/10/21

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire Department
400 W Main Street
Payson AZ 85541
(928) 474 5242 Ext. 9

Phase II FIRE Restrictions:

The Payson Fire Chief hereby makes the following modifications to the International Fire Code during **extreme** fire hazardous conditions:
(Reference Numbers per the IFC 2018)

All Outside Burning Prohibited:

307.1.1 The building of an open fire, bonfires, and recreational fires, the use of portable outdoor fireplaces and wood or charcoal BBQs shall be prohibited within the Town of Payson.

105.6.23 Hot work, including welding, cutting and grinding, on all properties within Town limits is prohibited without a permit.

310.8 Cigar, cigarette and pipe smoking is prohibited outdoors.

102.9 Gas fueled machinery such as chainsaws and mowers are prohibited between the hours of 9 AM and 8 PM. All internal and external combustion powered machinery shall have an approved spark arrester.

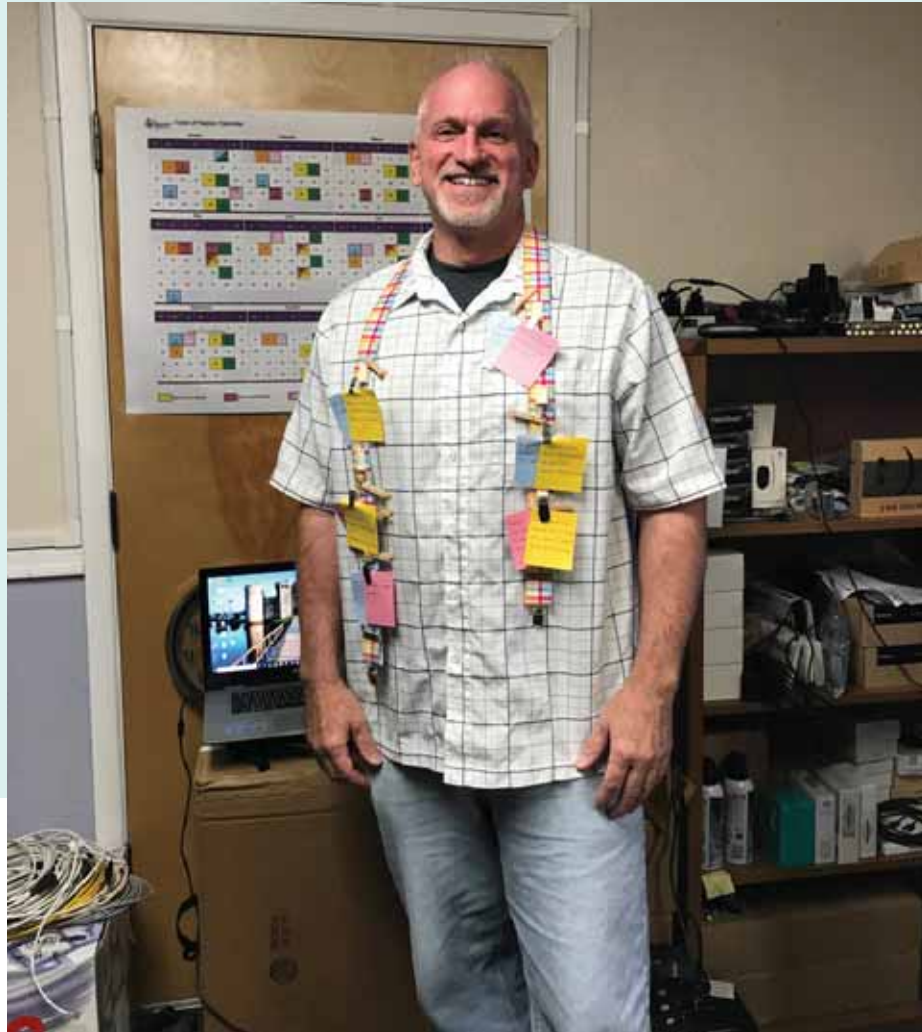
Fireworks are prohibited on the National Forest and in the Town of Payson at all times.

What is allowed outdoors:

308.1.1 Petroleum-fueled or electric cooking, lighting or heating devices having an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) certification and a positive shut off valve with a minimum 10 feet clearance from combustible materials.

5/10/21

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)



In an attempt to help IT process Repair Orders and program requests, a few of the Town staff presented Steve DeHaan, IT Manager, with a creative, wireless "Work Order" system (sticky notes attached to suspenders). The modest department of two maintains all the Town's technological needs,

Margaret Goodell works behind the scenes at Council Meetings to ensure camera livestreaming to local Channel TV4 and the Town's website.



STREETS DIVISION

Street Maintenance crews worked to clean the drainage channel that runs along Payson Parkway and moves water from Rumsey Park through to the Llama Farm at the end of W. Longhorn Road. Sediment and debris were removed to ensure the channel is able to adequately convey storm water during monsoons. Work will continue in the upcoming week. Residents can expect to see heavy equipment in the area between Pioneer Trail and Rumsey Park as this annual maintenance effort continues.



PAYSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Payson Public Library's Summer Reading Program

With the library meeting room's expansion project just wrapping up, the Payson Public Library had to push back the start of its Summer Reading Events a bit this year. The Library will still be able to run a very fun, program packed, six week program!



Read and Win Prizes!

Come to the Library

Sign Up for our Summer
Reading Incentive Program
Today

Start Reading Now!

The Reading Incentive Program
Runs June 5th - July 31st

Reading Trackers for:

Preschoolers

Elementary

Jr. High / High School

Pick Up Your Tracker from the
Starting Saturday, June 5th!



Payson Public Library

328 N. McLane Rd

Payson, AZ 85541

(928) 474-9260

Payson Public Library's
Summer Reading Program
June 21 - July 31, 2021



PAYSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mondays

Monday Morning Movies

10:30 A – 12:15 P

(All Ages – Popcorn & Juice Box Provided)

June 21st - SCOOBI (rated PG)

June 28th - Call of the Wild (rated PG)

July 12th - Tom & Jerry (rated PG)

July 19th - Raya and the Last Dragon (PG)

July 26th - Onward (rated PG)

Makerspace Mondays

2 P – 3 P

Ages 6-12 (Registration Required)

Open Gaming for Teens & Tweens

3:30 P – 5:30 P

Open Play on our Super-Fast Gaming Computers, XBOX One, or PS4. Space is Limited Ages 10 +

Thursdays

Tales with Tails!

10:30 – 12 P

Sign up for a 15 - minute session to Read a Book to a Furry Friend!

The Minecraft Games

2 P – 3 P

Join Tim Branson for a Series of Minecraft Coding and Play.

Ages 10 + (Registration Required)

Open Gaming for Teens & Tweens

3:30 P – 5:30 P

Open Play on our Super-Fast Gaming Computers, XBOX One, or PS4. Space is Limited. Ages 10 +

Tuesdays

Toddler Tales on Tuesdays

10:30 A – 11:15 A

A Special Story Time for Toddlers Ages 18 months through 3 Years

Tuesday's Tasty Treats

2 P – 3 P

Book Talk and on Theme Treats

Ages 8 – 14 (Registration Required)

June 22nd - Everything on a Waffle by Horvath

June 29th -Granny Torrelli Makes Soup

July 6th - Gingersnap by Patricia Reilly Giff

July 13th - Slider by Pete Hautman

July 20th - Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard

July 27th - Pie by Sarah Weeks

Open Gaming for Teens & Tweens

3:30 P – 5:30 P

Open Play on our Super-Fast Gaming Computers, XBOX One, or PS4. Space is Limited, Ages 10 +

Fridays

Family Tales on Fridays

10:30 A – 11:15 A

A Story Time & Puppet Show for the Whole Family – All Ages Welcome

Friday's Feature Film

12:30 P – 2:30 P

(Ages 13+, Popcorn Provided)

June 25th - Wonder Woman 1984 (PG-13)

July 2nd - Bloodshot (PG-13)

July 9th - Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom

July 16th - Mulan (PG-13)

July 23rd - Underwater (PG-13)

July 30th - Godzilla vs. Kong (PG-13)

Wednesdays

Baby Tales on Tuesdays

10:30 A – 11:15 A

A Special Story Time and Guided Play for Babies Ages 0 months through 18 months

Book Art

2 P – 3 P / Ages 3 +

Simple Craft Projects inspired by Some of Our Favorite Picture Books

June 23rd - Leonardo the Terrible Monster

June 30th - Feathers for Lunch

July 7th - America the Beautiful Pop-Up

July 14th - Duck! Rabbit!

July 21st - Swimmy

July 28th - The Bugliest Bug

Open Gaming for Teens & Tweens

3:30 P – 5:30 P

Open Play on our Super-Fast Gaming Computers, XBOX One, or PS4. Space is Limited, Ages 10+

Saturdays

Saturday Morning Science Club

Ages 6 - 12

10:30 A – 11:30 A (Registration Required)

Simple STEM Based Projects

Open Gaming for Teens & Tweens

12:30 P – 2:30 P

Open Play on our Super-Fast Gaming Computers, XBOX One, or PS4. Space is Limited, Ages 10+



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Spring Market & Farmers Market Participation

The Town of Payson Parks, Recreation, & Tourism team staffed a booth at the Community Spring Market, hosted by Common Grounds on May 15, and had a participating booth at the opening day of the Farmers Market on May 29.

Hosting these informational booths allowed staff to distribute and communicate information about Payson, Town programs, and upcoming event with locals and visitors.



Parks & Recreation Commission Field Trip

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Commission held a special meeting on Friday, May 28 and took a field trip to tour all park facilities and amenities within the Town of Payson Park System. Facilities visited included: Goat Camp Ruins, Mustang Park, Rumsey Park, Deming Pioneer Park, Multi-Event Center, and Green Valley Park. This tour and field trip allowed the Commission to get acquainted with the park system, along with the opportunity to discuss and provide initial feedback of park facilities, amenities, operations, and priorities to assist in the development and continued planning for the use of the Town of Payson parks system and recreation programs.



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Summer Concert Series at Green Valley Park

Summer Concert Series has begun at Green Valley Park. Join us every Saturday night through July 31 for this free, family fun event. Check out the 2021 lineup below!



A poster for the 2021 Summer Concert Series. The background is a dark blue gradient with a crescent moon and stars. At the bottom, there are silhouettes of evergreen trees and a logo for 'ADVENTURE where we live.' The text is white and lists the dates and performers for each Saturday night event.

2021
summer
concert
series

Every Saturday night in June & July
7pm at Green Valley Park

- June 5 • Outside the Line
- June 12 • Back to the Fifties
- June 19 • Junction 87
- June 26 • Cisco & the Racecars
- July 3 • Sol De Ville
- July 10 • John Carpino & the Hot Cappuccinos
- July 17 • Kilted Spirit
- July 24 • Bonfire
- July 31 • The F.O.G.

paysonrimcountry.com/concert-series

PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Athletic Field Prep Crew Members

The Town of Payson Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office is seeking seasonal/part-time employees in the areas of Athletic Field Maintenance. If interested in learning more about the position and the opportunity to join our team, contact the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office at 928-472-5110 or visit us at 1000 W. Country Club Drive during office hours, Monday-Friday 8am-12pm/1pm-5pm.



Improvements at Green Valley Park

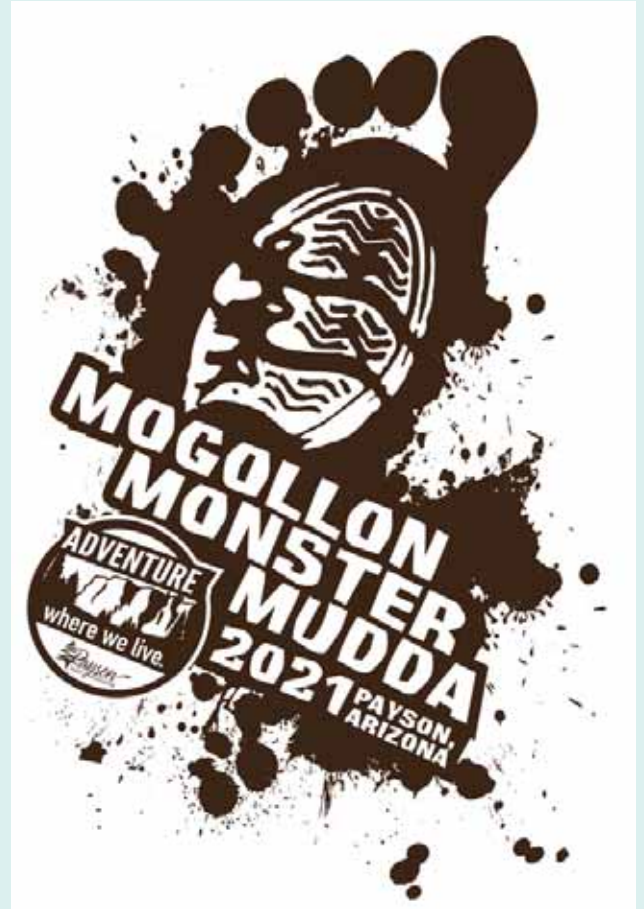
Those traveling to Green Valley Park may encounter work zones while some parking lot and sidewalk improvements are being completed throughout the park. Be conscious of these areas and considerate of work zone. We appreciate your cooperation in advance, and throughout the duration of the project.



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Mogollon Monster Mudda Volunteers

The Town of Payson Parks, Recreation, & Tourism staff are looking for volunteers to assist with the 2021 Mogollon Monster Mudda, Saturday, June 19 at the Payson Multi-Event Center. Contact Kaprice Bachtell, Special Event Coordinator, at kbachtell@paysonaz.gov or call the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office at 928-472-5110 for more details or to sign up!



celebrate
FLAG DAY

JUNE 14 / 9AM

**VETERANS MEMORIAL
GREEN VALLEY PARK**

JOIN US FOR A BRIEF CEREMONY TO HONOR OUR
COUNTRY'S FLAG WITH MAYOR TOM MORRISSEY,
PAYSON HONOR GUARD, AND PAYSON LIONS CLUB



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning & Zoning and Building:

- 79 permits were issued for the month of May. This includes permits for new construction (commercial and residential, tenant improvements, demos, mechanical, right-of-way, tree, etc).
- A conditional use permit for Mogollon Treatment Center, a drug detox center to be located at 306 W. Aero, is on the June 21st Planning and Zoning agenda.

Economic Development:

- Business Licenses applications are officially online. New businesses can easily apply online for their license and business occupancy permit. The online application makes the process easier and helpful for new businesses. This new online process also allows staff to obtain more accurate business information and track business contacts more efficiently. This will allow staff the ability to better assist businesses in the future and provide economic growth and support services/resources.

I encourage the council members to review the new online application

<https://paysonbusiness.com/business-license/>

The screenshot shows the 'Business License Occupancy Permit Application' website. At the top, there is a progress bar with steps: 'Before you get started', 'Welcome', 'Type of Business', 'Primary Contact Information', 'Business Owner(s) Information', 'Location Information', 'File Upload', and 'TOWN OF PAYSON AFFIDAVIT'. The 'Welcome' step is currently active. Below the progress bar, the 'Welcome' section contains a message from the Town of Payson staff, thanking the user for applying and providing information about the application process, including a link to the website and a note that all fees are non-refundable. Below this, there are three sections: 'Out of Town Business Licenses', 'Home Based Business Licenses', and 'Commercial Business Licenses', each with a brief description of the license type and where it applies.

SizeUp

The Size up tool has been launched and is live on the paysonbusiness.com website. A video was also created by staff to help users understand how to use Sizeup. This, no cost to the user, tool provides crucial, statistical data any new, expanding, or relocating business would need. Here users can get the statistics they need to help build their business plan, help them expand, or to explore our market. Some of the data provided is average salary/wages per industry, population & demographics, suppliers, buyers, and more. <https://paysonbusiness.com/sizeup/>

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Town of Payson, Gila County and Green Valley Water (formerly the Northern Gila County Sanitary District) have historically provided funding for Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste collection events in 2001, 2013, and 2018 at the Walmart, Payson Event Center, and Home Depot Parking lots respectively. The materials collected at these events were items such as tires, batteries, electronics, latex paint, pesticides, herbicides, waste oil, gasoline, diesel, and miscellaneous chemicals in an effort to prevent that waste from contaminating local groundwater resources. Each of these events has grown in the amount of waste materials collected and in 2018 they collected a total of 43,418 pounds of waste from 279 vehicles. Although the events collected significant amounts of waste material, each of these events caused traffic congestion to back up into the Highway 87 corridor. So, in 2021 the event was moved to Rumsey Park to allow stacking distance into the center lane of N. Mclane Road.



WATER DEPARTMENT



Staging for the event began at 6:00 AM and by 8 AM vehicles began offloading at the sorting site. The original plan was to receive waste from 8 AM to 12 noon but the event was so successful that the end of the lines had to be closed 45 minutes early and the last vehicle was emptied at approximately 1:15 PM. Afterward, all of the waste was sorted, labeled, and loaded onto freight trucks until 6:00 pm. The electronics waste and latex paint were hauled to facilities for recycling while the hazardous waste was taken to a facility for proper disposal. The event collected a whopping 66,186 pounds of materials from 417 vehicles representing approximately 150% increase from 2018! According to Frank Sanchez of ACT Enviro the average weight of materials per car at similar events is between 65 to 75 pounds per vehicle. The Town of Payson average in 2021 was 159 pounds per vehicle. Overall, the 2021 was a resounding success! The attached tables show a summary for comparison from the 2018 and 2021 events. Thanks to Gila County and Green Valley Water for their continued support of these events. Together, we plan to continue the momentum into the future to keep our environment and water resources clean and healthy.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Update from Electrical Power Consultant

Yesterday, I attended the WAPA presentation of its draft master schedule for FY22. This drives the water releases at Hoover and hence our energy for next year. Many topics were presented, but the one of greatest importance is the drought contingency plan (DCP) given current conditions and the near term outlook for the river. The DCP addresses water allocations and cuts to water users, and you may not be affected by those cuts in water. However, the amount of water released downstream from Hoover determines how much energy we get each month. We are currently in stage 0 of the DCP which has caused our energy this year to be reduced by 10% from what it was in 2019. We are entering stage 1 of the DCP next year meaning we can expect another 15% reduction in energy in FY22 versus what we received this year.

For Arizona Cities, at least those in the Municipal Power Exchange (MPX), we are insulated from these DCP cutbacks on the power side. Some MPX members do receive Colorado River Water, and the DCP does affect them financially on the water side, but on the power side, our ability to purchase firming ensures net savings under all DCP scenarios. Allowances in the APA contract and in the APS rate rider for preference power already have, and will continue to protect you against these effects.

WAPA is convening all contractors in August to brainstorm on what can be done to mitigate the financial impacts of the DCP on us. This is an opportunity to expand our options. Stay tuned.

Sincerely,
Terry F. Urbine, PhD
Energy Analyst



End of Report

Next Report: June 24, 2021

