

# PURPLE PIPE NEWS

reclaimed water issues



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## Dispensing Stations Prove Popular

More than 15 million gallons of potable water have been saved since our dispensing stations were built in 2006. Three automated standpipes, located in northwest and central El Paso, provide 24-hour service to water haulers in the construction and maintenance industries. Without them, construction companies would pay expensive fees to install standpipes off of fire hydrants, as well as higher prices for potable water.



Reclaimed water dispensing station.

Customers can access the standpipe within a few days of paying the small deposit and account setup fee. The account will be active until it is canceled or becomes delinquent.

The transaction is simple. Each dispensing station is equipped with a 3-inch standpipe connection and a 2-inch, fire-hydrant-like, side connection to accommodate both top-fill and side-fill tanks. Stations are activated by entering a user number, a pin number and the amount of water needed.

Reclaimed water is billed at \$1.24/1000 gallons with no minimum fees. EPWU tracks the user, date and time of use, amount of water, etc. We download the transactions and bill customers based on the amount of water dispensed.

Applications are available at [epwu.org](http://epwu.org) or at our Customer Service Center located at 6400 Boeing Drive.

## North Central El Paso To Benefit From Reclaimed Water



Haskell Street Wastewater Plant

Reclaimed water from the Haskell R. Street Wastewater Treatment Plant serves sites such as Ascarate Golf Course, Concordia Cemetery and Bowie High School. The system is being expanded into north central El Paso to serve additional schools, parks and Fort Bliss. The first phase is scheduled to bid in January 2010.

The three-phase project includes miles of pipelines, two reservoirs and two pump stations. Nearly half of the cost for the current phase is being funded by the Environmental Protection Agency; the balance with EPWU capital improvement funds.

EPA requires grant applicants to hold public hearings followed by a 30-day comment period. Moreno Cardenas, Inc., designers for this high-profile project, described the expansion and reviewed environmental impacts at the January 2009 public hearing.

Moreno Cardenas is addressing every issue, and no adverse environmental impacts are anticipated. Traffic will be temporarily disrupted when underground utilities are constructed within the roadways, but the analysis and design will minimize the impact.

Expanding the system offers many advantages. Recreational areas can be enhanced by irrigating with reclaimed water. And reclaimed water costs less than potable water, which reduces customers' bills. The expansion will save about 7 million gallons of potable water per year.

Reclaimed Water Manager Irazema S. Rojas wants to hear from customers who front the proposed pipelines if they are interested in reclaimed water service. She said, "We will review the applications and determine if fees apply before the design is completed. This helps incorporate the service into the project plans and avoids expensive last-minute construction requests."

Both residential and commercial customers who front the proposed pipelines will be considered for connection. There is no charge to connect customers who have a dedicated yard meter for their irrigation system. Those without a yard meter will be connected at a reduced cost.

## Landscape Nutrients

Dec. 2008 - Dec. 2009

These are the approximate nutrient factors incorporated into your reclaimed water irrigated site from December 2008 to December 2009. Add the usage between this 12-month period, in CCF units, and multiply by the respective factor from this table. The resulting number is an estimate of the total amount (pounds) of nutrients (Nitrogen and Phosphorus) added to the reclaimed water irrigated area overall. Ask your landscape professional if you need to apply fertilizer based on this information. Nutrients are removed during the treatment process for the Northeast Service Area.

Average Dec. 2008 - Dec. 2009	Service Area		
	Northwest lbs/CCF	Central lbs/CCF	Mission Valley lbs/CCF
Nitrogen (N)	0.086	0.084	0.183
Phosphorus (P)	0.010	0.015	0.022