

EPCOR ESSENTIALS

MAY 2023

Section 11 Update

As part of our ongoing work to improve the San Tan district's wastewater infrastructure, replacing Section 11 with a new water reclamation facility is at the top of the list.

Section 11 has been rehabilitated to the best extent possible to keep it functioning while its replacement, the Copper Basin Water Reclamation Facility, is under construction. We're pleased to report that construction is on track for completion by the end of 2023 as planned. Once the new facility is up and running, we'll begin the process of decommissioning the Section 11 lagoons and bringing closure to this outdated, open-air facility.

EPCOR continually monitors odors at Section 11 wastewater plant. When the facility receives a high level of wastewater or debris our crew has to manually rake Section 11's ineffective screens to keep them clear and prevent larger debris, like flushable wipes and rags, from coming through. When this happens, odor levels can rise and extend outside of the facility.

This has been the case recently – an excessive amount of sewer trash and elevated flows have damaged the lagoon-style aeration system that treats and cleans wastewater several times in recent weeks. We're pleased to report that floating debris has significantly subsided and all aerators are now back online. When the facility experiences an odor-causing issue, please visit epcor.com/santan for the latest update.



Spotlight on Safety

Every year, the AZ Water Association recognizes public and regulated water and wastewater providers with safety accolades at its annual water conference in Phoenix. This year, we were proud to receive 30 new awards for operational excellence and safety across our Arizona service districts. We appreciate the AZ Water Association's continuing to encourage and recognize excellence in our state's water and wastewater industries.



Xeriscape Principles

A well-designed Xeriscape landscape saves water by using plants that are beautiful, native and adaptable to our climate. Check out the [seven principles of Xeriscape listed below](#), and consider adding low-water-use plants to your yard this planting season.

1. Planning and design
2. Soil improvements
3. Efficient irrigation
4. Plant zones
5. Mulches
6. Turf alternatives
7. Maintenance

The EPA's Proposed Limit on Forever Chemicals

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a category of widely used, long-lasting chemicals that break down slowly and can build up in our environment, food supply and bodies over time. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new proposal would regulate PFOA and PFOS to a combined maximum contaminant level of four parts per trillion (ppt) in addition to monitoring four other PFAS – PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and GenX chemicals. For context, one ppt is the equivalent of 1 second in 31,500 years. If finalized, EPCOR would be required to monitor for these chemicals and, if the levels exceed the proposed regulatory standards, treat for them. As always, EPCOR will continue to ensure our water meets or exceeds EPA requirements.

National Drinking Water Week May 7–13

We all care about clean, reliable drinking water. EPCOR tests the water in your system every day and year after year. The water in all our districts meets or exceeds strict state and federal safety standards. You can learn more about what's in your water from the annual water quality report prepared specifically for your service district. Reports are issued each June, so be on the lookout for news about your 2022 report next month. You can also visit www.epcor.com/waterquality for more information about water quality.



SPRINKLER SYSTEM CHECKLIST

Follow this list to spruce up your system before summer.

Update frequency settings and timers

Check for puddles or overspray on sidewalks and driveways

Only water in the early morning or evening

Pause your schedule after it rains



QUESTIONS?

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