


SUMMER 2010

 **CONSERVATION & EDUCATION**
INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL & INSTITUTIONAL WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Water Wise hosted a rainscape landscaping contest for Sierra Vista/Hereford residents and businesses that was generously funded by a private foundation. A rainscape is an outdoor landscape in which plants are watered solely with rainwater (includes rainwater harvesting), stormwater &/or graywater. Indoor drinking water is not used to water outside plants. Four residential properties and one commercial property were selected as contest winners. The winners will receive between \$5,000 and \$20,000 in design and landscape services and materials to create a rainscape on their properties.

The winning designs include passive and/or active rainwater harvesting systems. For example, turf will be replaced with low water use plants, the land will be contoured to direct storm water to the plants (passive systems), and rainwater collection systems (active systems) will be installed.

Upon completion of the rainscapes, a tour of the properties will be held. The Upper San Pedro Partnership is a proud sponsor of Water Wise.



ICI WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS

The Upper San Pedro Partnership provides funding for the Water Wise Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) Grant Program. This program invites local businesses, local governmental institutions and public and private schools to apply for an ICI grant to fund water conservation projects. Typical projects include replacing inefficient toilets with low-water use models and installing rainwater harvesting systems to irrigate outdoor landscape.

This year, ICI grant recipients include:

💧 **Alley Café** – replaced two inefficient toilets (2.14 to 5.0 gallons per flush) with 1.28 gpf toilets.

💧 **Evans & Hillbrand P.C., CPA** – replaced two 3.5 gpf toilets with 1.1 gpf toilets.

💧 **The Gardens at Mile High** – replaced a standard commercial washer in a Bed & Breakfast with a high efficiency model.

💧 **Naco Elementary School** – installed a rainwater harvesting system to provide irrigation for outdoor landscape and to educate students about water conservation.

💧 **Imagine Charter School** – installed a rainwater harvesting system to irrigate outdoor landscaping and to educate students about water conservation.

NACO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- 3,000 gallon rainwater tank
- \$1,988.85 grant award



IMAGINE CHARTER SCHOOL

- 3,000 gallon rainwater tank
- \$1,637,51 grant award



save the date!

WATER WISE TOURS / TALKS



- Low Water Landscape Tour Sept. 5th, Sierra Vista, AZ
- How Can I Use Graywater? Nov. 13th, Bisbee, AZ



FUNDING

FY11 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

Thanks to Congresswoman Giffords, the U.S. House of Representatives supported a Fiscal Year 2011 appropriation of \$971,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation. Representative Giffords has also been working tirelessly to secure funding for San Pedro projects in the President's budget for USDA, ARS; USGS; BLM and Reclamation.



PROJECTS

WET/DRY RIVER MAPPING

Each year The Nature Conservancy, the Bureau of Land Management, the Community Watershed Alliance, Mexican federal agencies and private organizations and approximately 100 additional volunteers collect data on where the San Pedro River has water and where it doesn't during the the third week of June. This is typically the driest time of the year. This year, roughly 120 miles of the San Pedro River were mapped including six miles in Mexico. The maps are created by recording the beginning and end points of every wet section with GPS units. The resulting maps depict the wet portion of the San Pedro River. This effort provides annual snapshots of wet/dry reaches of the River and enables multi-year comparisons of the persistence of surface water during the driest time of the year.

**Like Water Be Gentle and Strong
Be Gentle Enough to Follow the Natural Paths of the Earth
and Strong Enough to Rise Up and Reshape the World
Brenda Peterson**