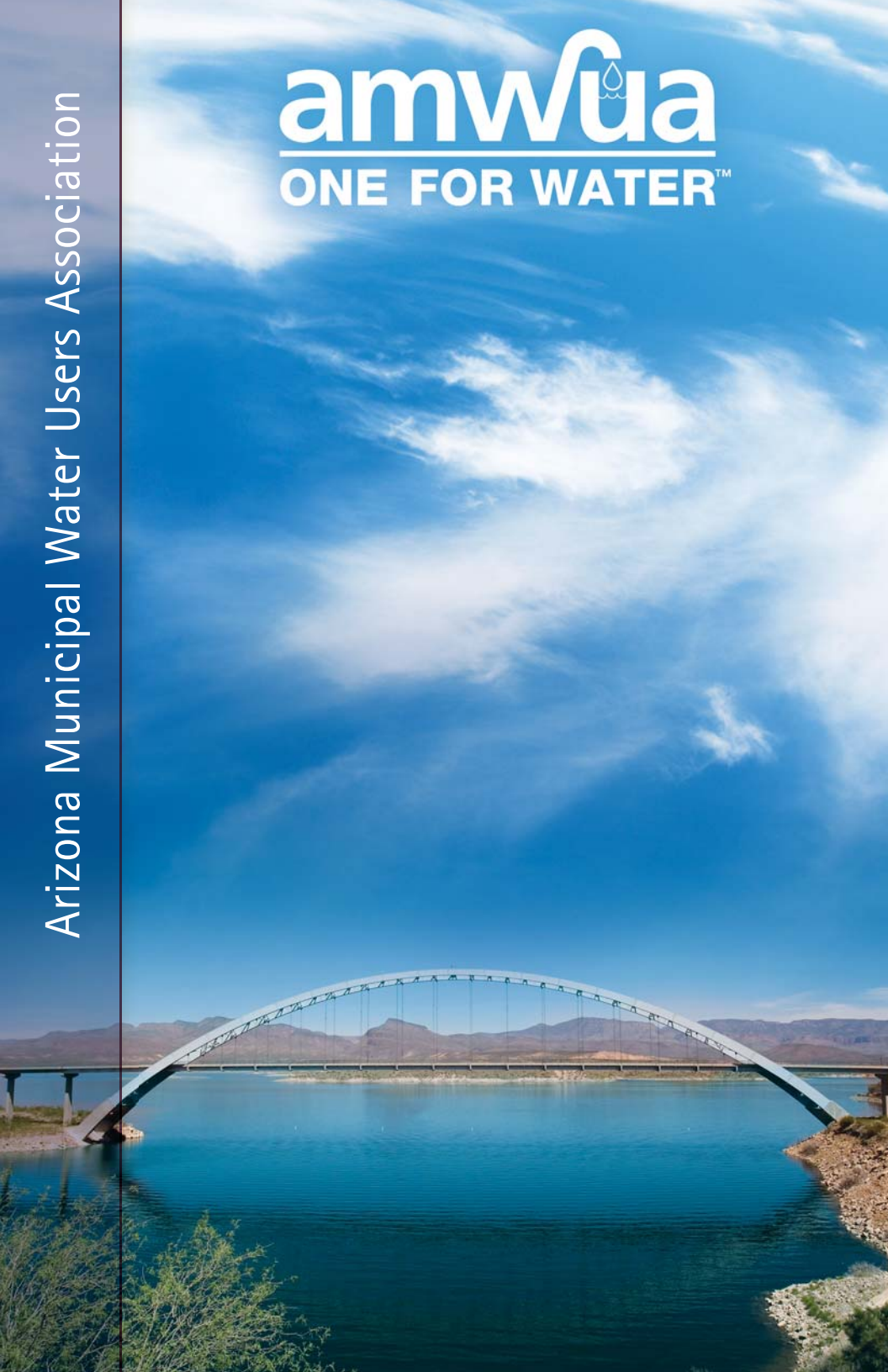


Arizona Municipal Water Users Association

amwua  
ONE FOR WATER™



# Shaping Arizona Water Policy

Since 1969, AMWUA has played a significant role in establishing Arizona water policy and protecting the interests of its members.

In 1976, the State began a four-year struggle to develop a comprehensive law that would equitably regulate groundwater use. AMWUA played a major role in this effort, which ultimately led to the enactment of the 1980 Groundwater Management Act, recognized as one of the most progressive groundwater management initiatives in the nation. Since that time, AMWUA

- worked with the Arizona Department of Water Resources to develop rules to implement the 1980 Groundwater Management Act, including the critical Assured Water Supply Rules;
- participated in financial arrangements to complete the Central Arizona Project;
- negotiated complex water supply agreements; and
- developed comprehensive, far-reaching programs to conserve water.

AMWUA played a major role in the development and enactment of legislation

- permitting the underground storage of water,
- prohibiting the use of groundwater to fill artificial lakes in residential developments,
- regulating water transfers,
- creating the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District and the Arizona Water Banking Authority to make better use of Arizona's Central Arizona Project water,
- creating the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality,
- revising the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund, and
- creating the Arizona Water Protection Fund.

## **Advocacy**

These efforts are aimed at ensuring that AMWUA members' interests, policies, and positions are adequately represented and advocated.

This advocacy primarily consists of contact with state legislators, contact and coordination with private and public interest groups and state agencies involved in the legislative process, written and oral testimony at legislative hearings, annual development of water policy resolutions and issue papers, and weekly development and distribution of a legislative summary during the session.

## **Regional Water Conservation**

The AMWUA Regional Water Conservation Program is a cooperative effort among the AMWUA member municipalities and other state, federal, and local agencies and organizations in the greater Phoenix area.

The program draws on the diverse resources of these municipalities and organizations, enhancing and strengthening individual conservation programs, while providing regional consistency and visibility.

The program consists primarily of a variety of public education programs targeted at increasing and maintaining public awareness of the need for water conservation as a lifestyle in the Sonoran Desert.

Elements of the program include public outreach, educational workshops and training, and the development and distribution of educational materials.

## **Regional Water Management**

With the goal of assisting the AMWUA members in their water management efforts, AMWUA staff, in conjunction with member staffs, evaluate and develop plans, policies, documents, and instruments that supplement and enhance members' planning efforts on issues and assist the members in complying with the requirements of federal and state laws, regulations, and policies.

## **Water-Related Education**

The aim of this area of focus is to improve the accuracy of information about water resources by educating and informing the media, the general public, elected officials, and other community leaders.

AMWUA's efforts include the development and distribution of informational materials, the development of a water resources curriculum for students, the AMWUA web site, presentations, meetings with editorial boards on key water issues, and developing relationships with key reporters.

## **The Sub-Regional Operating Group**

The Sub-Regional Operating Group (SROG) is the result of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JEPA) between the cities of Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe to jointly own and operate the 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment Plant and tributary interceptor systems.

Although AMWUA is not a part of SROG or party to the JEPA, it does assist the members of the SROG in the implementation of this agreement.

AMWUA staff facilitate the development of information, needs assessments, and priorities that are necessary for the development of operations and capital budgets; disseminate information; and prepare and distribute monthly billings to the members for their proportional share of operations and capital costs.





## What is AMWUA?

The Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) is a voluntary, non-profit corporation established by municipalities in Maricopa County for the development of urban water resources policy.

AMWUA provides a forum through which its member cities and towns work to attain the highest degree of intergovernmental cooperation possible in order to advance the rational and effective development and use of water resources within the state and to position its members in the forefront of water resources policy development and planning.

### **Members**

The AMWUA members are the municipalities of Avondale, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe.

### **Purpose**

- Provide a forum for discussion and study of regional water issues of mutual interest to cities and towns in Maricopa County.
- Through cooperation and the pooling of common resources, ensure efficiency and economy in maintaining and securing water and water rights, and in producing, treating, conserving, and distributing water for urban uses.
- Identify and comprehensively plan for the solution of regional water problems affecting cities and towns.

One for Water™



AMWUA is the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association. Members are the municipalities of Avondale, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe. Together, we are One for Water™.

AMWUA's present efforts are focused on five specific areas: advocacy on behalf of its members, water conservation, regional water management, water-related education, and administrative functions related to the Sub-Regional Operating Group.

For more information, visit [www.amwua.org](http://www.amwua.org) or call 602-248-8482.



City of Phoenix



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