

CAGRDR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What is the CAGRDR?

A. The Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRDR) was established in 1993 by the state legislature to serve as a groundwater replenishment entity for its members. It provides a method for property owners and water providers to demonstrate a 100-year assured, or designated, water supply under Arizona law by agreeing to have the CAGRDR recharge amounts of groundwater that are over the limits established by the assured water supply rules. The CAGRDR is operated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD), which also oversees the Central Arizona Project. It is governed by the 15-member CAWCD Board of Directors but is a separate legal and financial entity from the CAWCD. The CAGRDR includes three Active Management Areas (AMA) within Phoenix, Tucson and Pinal County.

Q. I have a Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRDR) assessment on my utility bill. What is this?

A. Under current State of Arizona law, your house could not have been built without enrollment as a Member Land of the CAGRDR. Residential subdivisions developed after February 1995 can no longer rely solely on groundwater as their exclusive water supply. Your subdivision was enrolled in the CAGRDR so that the CAGRDR would replenish or replace the groundwater pumped to serve your home. In other words, the water you use must be replaced through artificial recharge.

Q. Do I have to pay the CAGRDR tax?

A. Yes. You must pay the cost of replacing the groundwater you use. This cost is included as a line item on your utility bill and must be paid to Sahuarita Water Company along with your water payment. Sahuarita Water then sends that money to CAGRDR, who in turn purchases water that will be used to replenish the aquifer.

Q. How does the CAGRDR determine what I have to pay?

A. Each year, the CAGRDR determines its total replenishment obligation for all of its members. This obligation results from groundwater delivered to CAGRDR members. You pay the cost of replacing the water you have used. The CAGRDR then determines the total cost to meet the replenishment obligations in each AMA and divides that total by the number of acre-feet of replenishment obligation. This results in a replenishment rate that is charged against each member based on the volume of groundwater that the member used.

Q. Why is the CAGRDR assessment on my bill different from my neighbor's?

A. If you used more water at your home than your neighbor, then the replenishment assessment on your utility bill will be higher than your neighbor's. The assessment is based only on the water you have used.

Q. How can I reduce the assessment I have to pay to the CAGRDR?

A. The CAGRDR replenishment assessment that you must pay is directly related only to the amount of water you use at your home. Therefore, reducing your water consumption will reduce your replenishment assessment as well as your water bill.

Q. How can I get my home out of the CAGRDR?

A. Under current law, there is no way for you to get your home out of the CAGRDR. The reason for this is to ensure that there will be sufficient water supplies to meet all future demands in the Tucson Active Management Area in Arizona.

Q. Where can I find additional information?

A. Click the following link to be directed to the CAGRDR website <http://www.cagrdr.com>