“If asked how much water its customers use outdoors, any water provider in the Tucson area or elsewhere in the Southwest will be largely unable to give a definitive answer. There will be lots of ‘we think . . . , we guess . . . , according to Fresno estimates. . . , etc.’

Because this information has never been rigorously gathered in the Tucson AMA, accurately predicting landscape water usage or evaluating the effectiveness of outdoor water conservation efforts is extremely difficult.

ORIGINAL INTENT
Install ‘dual’ or sub-meters, at the time of construction, in private residences to measure and evaluate outdoor water, as a % of total usage over a period of years.

Gather these data from new homes in a variety of categories: starter homes, standard mid-range subdivisions, and also a group of high-end homes.

Goal -- provide, over time, actual and accurate information to assist water providers in the region with development of increasingly effective, water conservation programs and strategies.

PHASE I Findings:

ELEVEN-YEAR AVERAGE:
71 TOTAL GPCD

High:  87 gpcd
Low:  60 gpcd
EXTERIOR USE % OF TOTAL:  20.54%
High: 26.77%
Low: 15.04%

CURRENT INTENT
Move on to Phase II of this project now that the recession has eased and we are seeing building once again.
Install ‘dual’ or sub-meters, at the time of construction, in private residences to measure and evaluate outdoor water, as a % of total usage over a period of years.

Target 30+ homes in a standard mid-range subdivision.
Goal -- provide, over time, actual and accurate information to assist water providers in the region with development of increasingly effective, water conservation programs and strategies.

VL1.2015