

WEEKLY WAVE



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**

May 1, 2020 / Volume 8, Issue 17

The Water Resource Research Center - a research unit of the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) and an Extension unit in [UA Cooperative Extension](#) within the Division of Agriculture, Life & Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension

WRRC Office Update

Although the WRRC building will be closed to the public until further notice, our staff continue to work and engage as much as possible. You can reach us via email as listed on our [Directory](#). We wish you all the best - Stay safe and healthy!

UArizona Cooperative Extension [COVID-19 info page](#)
WRRC [COVID-19 Articles](#)

In this issue: [Corrosion Crisis](#) / [Supreme Court](#) / [APW](#) / [Pets](#)

The graphic is a virtual conference announcement for the WRRC Annual Conference 2020. It features a central signpost with two directional signs. The top sign points right and reads 'WRRC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020 WATER AT THE CROSSROADS: The Next 40 Years'. The bottom sign points left and reads '1980 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT'. To the right of the signpost, the dates 'JUNE 18 AND 19, 2020' are listed, along with the schedule: 'DAY ONE: 3 1/2-hour program (Followed by virtual happy hour)' and 'DAY TWO: 8 am - 12:30 pm'. A play button icon and the text 'VIRTUAL CONFERENCE' are at the bottom right. The top left corner contains the UA logo and the text 'COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER wrrc.arizona.edu'.

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**WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH CENTER**
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**WRRC ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2020**
**WATER AT THE
CROSSROADS:
The Next 40 Years**

**1980
GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT ACT**

JUNE 18 AND 19, 2020
DAY ONE: 3^{1/2}-hour program
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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

WRRC Annual Conference Goes Virtual

The WRRC Annual Conference, *Water at the Crossroads: The Next 40 Years*, has been transformed into a virtual event. Join us **June 18 and 19, 2020** for a program of notable speakers, in-depth panel discussions, audience Q & A, and more.

The original conference agenda has been modified for the virtual environment with half-day blocks scheduled over two days. We already have confirmations from many of our speakers, including **keynote speaker former Governor and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt**.

- The conference starts at 1 pm on Thursday, June 18 with a 3 1/2-hour program that segues into an hour of concurrent options for virtual "Happy Hour Networking."
- On Friday, panels and presentations resume from 8 am - 12:30 pm.

Join us from the comfort of your home as we look back at the last 40 years of Arizona water management and forward to the next 40 years.

[Register Today!](#)

WRRC EVENTS

Brown Bag Webinar Only - Developing Pathways to Solutions to Wicked Water Problems

May 6, 2020 / 12:00pm to 1:15pm

Presenter: Sharon B. Megdal, Director,
University of Arizona Water Resources Research
Center

Location: Webinar



Many regions across the globe face what are called wicked water problems, which are complex challenges that are too big for readily identifiable and/or "standard" solutions. The reasons for this are many and can relate to underlying societal or political issues and differing viewpoints as to the causes and/or potential pathways to mitigating the challenges. It is often stated that the obstacles to addressing wicked water problems may be related to public acceptance rather than technological or economic factors. Identifying and implementing pathways to solving big water challenges often require interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches; the involvement of stakeholders is extremely important. This seminar will focus on the similar but distinct wicked water issues faced in our region and the Middle East and approaches taken to solve them.

[Webinar Registration](#)

WRRC NEWS

A Corrosion Crisis Story Featured in WRRC Brown Bag

On Wednesday, April 29, the WRRC hosted Marie Pearthree for a Brown Bag Webinar to discuss her new book, *Tucson Water Turnaround: Crisis to Success*. The presentation provided an overview of Tucson Water's conversion from delivering groundwater to Colorado River water provided by the Central Arizona Project, which led to widespread corrosion issues in the early 1990s. Pearthree's excellent presentation revealed the extensive research she and her co-author Mike McGuire conducted in writing their book, which paints a picture of how Tucson Water managed the organizational, chemical, and infrastructure challenges it faced. The webinar concluded with lessons learned from a true turnaround story. For the full story, rich with context, *Tucson Water Turnaround: Crisis to Success* is available from the [American Water Works Association](#).



Watch the [recorded presentation](#)

US Supreme Court Recognizes GW-SW Link in CWA

It is axiomatic that US law distinguishes between groundwater and surface water despite their obvious connection. The Clean Water Act, for example, requires a permit for wastewater treatment plants to discharge pollutants into "navigable surface waters." On April 23, however, the US Supreme Court chipped away at the distinction by ruling that some discharges to groundwater may be considered "functionally equivalent" to direct discharge into navigable waters. The 6 to 3 decision in a case out of Hawaii took a middle road between extreme arguments. It returned the case to the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco with a new definition of discharges to groundwater subject to Clean Water Act permitting requirements that is narrower than the definition used by the lower court. Maui County, which operates the treatment plant, had argued that the law never applied to discharges into groundwater, a view reflected in current EPA policy. This absolute distinction was rejected.



Read the [full decision](#)

The Forming of Drippy



To strengthen water conservation outreach, the EPA created the Water Sense - A Day in the Life of a Drop - campaign and Arizona Project WET (APW) has brought the Drop to Life. Out of the passion for continuing to bring meaningful, playful, and strong educational content virtually to our community of learners, APW created a new character mascot. Meet Drippy! Drippy will guide learners through a Water Scene Investigation, searching for clues to improve water efficiency in our homes.

In the past month, the APW team evolved their skills to become project managers, website designers, game developers, video editors, print media specialists, social media gurus, marketing professionals, and even illustrators as we roll out new, innovative programming. Follow this [first](#)



[clue](#) to start your own Water Scene Investigation!

Drippy was created and illustrated by Program Coordinator Miriam Aleman then refined by AmeriCorps member Raul Bustamante

APW



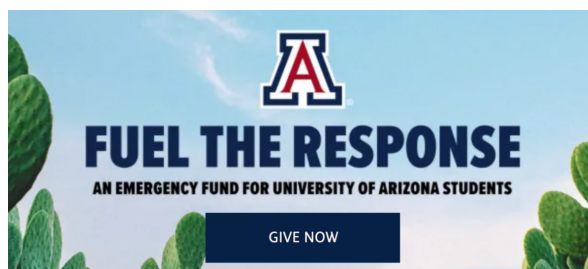
Coworker(s) of the Week

This week's coworker(s) share a workspace with WRRC Associate Director Claire Zucker. Meet Lab/Boxer/Pitbull mix Chloe and Blue Pitbull Mica. They enjoy lounging

the day away while eavesdropping on Claire's myriad Zoom meetings, sleepy cuddles, and eating . . . they really love eating. So if you want some face-time with these two pooches, you better bring a whole lot of kibble to the table. Chloe and Mica remind us that while there is no "I" in team, sometimes there are two Pitbulls.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



- [Various Dates: AWRA Awards and Scholarships - Nominations and Applications](#)
- [USGS Publications: "Hydrogeologic Characterization of the Hualapai Plateau on the Western Hualapai Indian Reservation, Northwestern Arizona" and "Geophysical Surveys, Hydrogeologic Characterization, and Groundwater Flow Model for the Truxton Basin and Hualapai Plateau, Northwestern Arizona"](#)
- [USGS Study Published: "Case Studies of a Grassroots Binational Restoration Collaborative in the Madrean Archipelago Ecoregion \(2014- 2019\)"](#)
- [May 2: 2020 National Water Policy Fly-In \(Water Week Continues as a Virtual Event\)](#)
- [May 4: 5th Management Plans Work Group Meeting - Webinar only](#)
- [May 11-12: Ben-Gurion University of the Negev International Water Summit - **POSTPONED**](#)
- [May 13: GRAC Webinar - Fate and Transport of Viruses in Groundwater - Registration Open](#)
- [May 14-15: Western Water Law Conference San Diego - **POSTPONED**](#)
- [May 15: The Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy - Call for Proposals on Indicators in the Colorado River Basin - Close of Application Period](#)
- [May 18: 5MP Agricultural Subgroup Meeting - Location/Format TBA](#)
- [May 18: IWA Women in Water Award - Call for nomination](#)
- [May 18: AWRA Annual Water Resources Conference, Nov. 9-12 - Abstracts Due](#)
- [May 29: IWRA: Call for mentoring early-career professionals to publish in a Special Issue of *Water International* - International Water Resources Association](#)

- [June 1: Central Arizona Project Award for Water Research - Abstracts Due](#)
- [June 1: NWRI Fellowship Deadline Extended](#)
- [June 4-5: Law Seminars International Conference - Tribal Water in the Southwest](#)
- [June 14-17: ACE20 Future So Bright - **RESCHEDULED - June 13-16, 2021**](#)
- [Oct. 7-9: BSMAR 17 Symposium](#)
- **October 14-15: 2020 Permanent Forum of Binational Waters - Save the Date**

[Visit Our Website](#)