

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality protects public health and the environment by promoting awareness of Arizona's environmental concerns and ensuring compliance with laws and rules that prevent pollution of our air, water and land.

– Henry R. Darwin, Director

What We Do

- Protect, assess and monitor the quality of Arizona's air, water and land
- Promote statewide conservation, recycling and pollution prevention
- Advocate Arizona's unique environmental needs at the national level
- Ensure compliance with environmental laws and rules
- Clean up sites with the potential to adversely affect public health or the environment
- Inform and educate the public through a variety of seminars, workshops and presentations
- Provide technical support and assistance to individuals, businesses and municipalities to help them comply with environmental regulations



Office of Children's Environmental Health

ADEQ is working to reduce the risks to children's health from environmental contaminants in Arizona.

As part of the Office of Children's Environmental Health, ADEQ is cutting harmful diesel emissions by limiting school bus idling, curtailing exposure to pesticides through integrated pest management, helping schools monitor for lead in drinking water and working to limit air pollutants that trigger asthma attacks and other respiratory problems in children.

Contacts for Further Information

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Southern Regional Office

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Community Liaisons

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For more information about ADEQ, please visit our Web site at: azdeq.gov

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Janice K. Brewer, Governor
Henry R. Darwin, Director

AT A GLANCE

AIR
QUALITY



WATER
QUALITY



WASTE
PROGRAMS



ADEQ People

ADEQ has three major program divisions: Air Quality, Water Quality and Waste Programs, and an Administrative Division.

Employees are primarily engineers, hydrologists and geologists, as well as administrative support staff.



Air Quality

The *Air Quality Division* is dedicated to controlling sources of air pollution to protect the environment and the health and general welfare of Arizonans.

Regulates

- 59 major air pollution sources (power plants, refineries, cement plants, mining operations, landfills)
- Almost 700 minor air pollution sources (sand and gravel operations, crematoriums, portable sources, dry cleaners)
- Vehicle emissions in Phoenix and Tucson through the technologically advanced Car Care inspection and maintenance program

Conducts

- More than 140 performance tests of pollution control equipment a year
- 350 hazardous air emission inspections yearly

Monitors

- Carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide and visibility



Water Quality

The *Water Quality Division* is dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing public health and the environment by ensuring safe drinking water and reducing the impact of pollutants discharged to surface and groundwater.

Regulates

- The safety of more than 1,700 public drinking water systems
- The discharge of wastewater in more than 1,000 sewage treatment plants, mines and other industrial facilities

Monitors

- The quality of surface water (streams and lakes) and groundwater
- To identify pollution problems and determine probable sources and solutions to protect and improve water quality

Pro Active Management

- Work with watershed partnerships and other stakeholders to develop water quality improvement plans
- Provide grant funds to control nonpoint source pollution and implement improvement projects



Waste Programs

The *Waste Programs Division* is dedicated to protecting the environment and ensuring the health and general welfare of Arizona citizens by assuring the proper handling, storage, treatment and disposal of wastes; promoting statewide pollution prevention and recycling efforts; regulating operation of underground storage tanks (UST); ensuring the safe and efficient cleanup of contaminated sites to protect the environment and ensure the health and general welfare of Arizona citizens; and administering the UST State Assurance Fund to help pay the costs of cleanup activities.

Regulates

- More than 3,000 hazardous waste generators
- More than 250 solid waste facilities
- More than 2,500 UST facilities (primarily gasoline stations) with nearly 8,000 tanks

Remediates or Oversees

- More than 50 state and federal Superfund sites with contaminated soil and/or groundwater
- Over 70 voluntary remediation program sites
- More than 40 hazardous waste sites
- Cleanup of more than 500 leaking UST sites

Promotes Education, Outreach and Waste Reduction

- Awards more than 20 recycling education and assistance grants per year
- Approves more than 230 pollution prevention plans per year
- Conducts over 160 public education and outreach events per year to ensure the public is provided opportunities to participate in decisions that affect the community