



FROM SNOWFLAKE TO TAP

When you turn on the tap, do you think about where the water coming out starts its journey? In Arizona there are three sources for water – surface water (rivers and lakes), groundwater pumped from wells, and reclaimed or effluent used for agriculture and commercial operations.

TIPS:

Rainfall in Arizona usually is not sufficient to maintain a supply of water, whether it is surface or groundwater.

Most of our surface water comes from snowpack from mountains as far away as Wyoming and the Colorado Rockies to the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona.

Each water provider has a unique portfolio of water resources.

Examples:

Flagstaff – Lake Mary and groundwater

Phoenix – Colorado, Salt and Verde rivers and less than 5% groundwater

Tucson – Colorado River and groundwater

Douglas – Groundwater



Find out where your water comes from; contact your local water supplier.

RESOURCES:

Arizona Department of Water Resources <http://www.azwater.gov/CkWaterSupply2/>

Arizona Water Resource Research Center <http://cals.arizona.edu/azwater/awr/awrmain>

Central Arizona Project <http://cap-az.com/>

Salt River Project <http://www.srpwater.com/dwr/>

USGS Arizona Water Science Center <http://az.water.usgs.gov/>

www.waterawarenessmonth.com