

Most of us know the importance of having an adequate water supply in our lives. How many of us actually take into consideration the amount of water we need to take care of ourselves and consume on a daily basis?

In today's world we are so accustomed to having an easy and ready supply of water. We just need to turn the faucet and by magic water appears. We shower, wash the dishes and clothes and have a good old time filling up the pool, spa, washing the car(s) and doing basically whatever we feel like doing with water. It is hard for most of us to imagine and understand that in many countries today people are still without running, accessible water.

The fact is that in most modernized countries we take this incredible, vital source of life for granted. When was the last time you had a flash and said....what if I turned that magic faucet today and nothing actually came out? Have you ever had this experience?

(Excerpt from "Street Articles" by Edward B Safe)

Here in the Gila Valley this is a very real threat that Gila Watershed Partnership and its partners are working hard to educate the local public regarding our very near future. This month to educate us on the essential need for water for our survival Gila Watershed Partnership has invited a speaker who is new to our midst and has firsthand knowledge of survival needs.

We are privileged to have Afton Whitmer owner of Paladin Survival Solutions to give us expert information from a new perspective.





## November 2014

# **Current Project Updates**

#### FOR MORE INFO, SEE WWW.GILAWATERSHEDPARTNERSHIP.COM

#### **Upper Gila Watershed Riparian Restoration**

- ...funded by The Walton Family Foundation (WFF)
- Will replace invasive tamarisk with native species to restore natural habitats
- Greenhouse irrigation upgrades in place
- Sites have been scouted and design plans have begun
- The permitting process with USFW has begun

#### **Clifton Restroom**

- ...funded by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)
- Is installing restroom facilities in a recreational area just outside of Clifton

#### San Francisco River Restroom

- ... funded by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)
- Will install a second restroom for recreation on the San Francisco River Greenlee County and reduce the E.coli levels on the river and make river recreation safer for our community

## **Eagle Creek Riparian Restoration at Filleman Crossing**

- ...funded by the Arizona Water Protection Fund (AWPF) and the U.S. Fish and the USFW Partners program
- Will construct a river crossing to stop frequent wash-outs, benefiting both residents and wildlife
- Planning meeting to be set for forward move on construction

#### Developing Greenlee County as a Bird Watching Destination

- ... funded by Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.
- Benches have been purchased for the Duncan
  Birding path and the path will soon be completed

#### **Youth Pathway**

- ...from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Great American Outdoors Grant, and USFW Partners program
- To encourage careers in conservation and land management through on-the-ground activities for school age kids high school through college
- Curriculum has been packaged and overall program is currently being packaged and final report written

#### **Water Conservation**

- ... funded by Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.
- This project is performing home and business water evaluations to help us all save water and money
- Call and set up a free appointment today!

#### **Water Conservation Fixes**

- ... funded by United Way
- This project takes the performed home water evaluations to assist users in saving water and money
- To date 13 low income fixes have been completed

#### **Upper Gila Water Appraisal Study**

- ... funded by the US Bureau of Reclamation, with the study to be completed by the WRRC
- The WRRC will help us to better understand the water demand and supply in our watershed

#### **WRRC Water Needs Assessment and Planning**

- ... funded by the BOR Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- The WRRC has completed the scenarios assessment and is moving into the next phase



Every well-run home is teeming with tricks and shortcuts to keep it humming along. We're sharing our best quick tips — for cleaning, organizing and repairing stuff at home — to save you time and money.



# vents

**November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – Afton Whitmer owner of Paladin Survival Solutions will present on The Survival of Man: Water

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – New Mexico Gila Diversion Issues Presentation

**January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – TBD (need suggestions)

### **Our partners include:**

Arizona Department of Agriculture Arizona Department of

Environmental Quality Arizona Department of

Transportation

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Arizona Geological Survey Arizona State Land Department

Bureau of Land Management

City of Safford Eastern Arizona College

Farm Bureau

Freeport McMoRan Copper

and Gold Inc.

Gila Valley Irrigation District Gila Valley NRCD **Graham County** 

Graham County Chamber of Commerce

Greenlee County

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Town of Clifton

Town of Duncan

Town of Pima

Town of Thatcher

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Forest Service - Apache-Sitgreaves and

Coronado Forests

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension University of Arizona NEMO Project

And many community members

## **Get involved in your watershed**

For more information, contact Steve Eady at the Gila Watershed Partnership,

P.O. 1614, Thatcher 85552, or email gilawatershed@gmail.com Join us on Facebook "Facebook.com/gilawatershedpartnership"

www.gilawatershedpartnership.com