



At the present time, groundwater is Buckeye's sole source for water. The city's Water Resources Department (WRD) carefully manages how much water is pumped from the ground to ensure compliance with permits. The Arizona Department of Water Resources requires specific limits on how much water can be pumped from wells each year. This safeguards that we do not adversely affect other wells in and near our service area by significantly lowering the water table.

Buckeye's water portfolio also includes non-groundwater supplies including its own allocations of Colorado River water as well as reclaimed water supply from its water reclamation facilities (WRFs). When available, nearly all the Colorado River water is used to recharge the groundwater. The reclaimed water produced is sent to customers such as schools and golf courses for landscaping, farmers, or is used to recharge the groundwater supply.

## HARQUAHALA

Harquahala is one of the most exciting things we've done for our water future. The city purchased water rights in Harquahala to secure nearly 600,000 acre-feet of water for the next century.

That supply will take several years to transport and integrate into our system, but it's a critical long-term investment — one that ensures Buckeye has a sustainable supply for generations.

## OUR WATER PORTFOLIO

Like a financial portfolio, the city's Water Portfolio consists of several different classes of water assets, including:

- Groundwater
- Long-term Storage Credits
- Extinguishment Credits
- Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Colorado River Water
- Non-Indian Agricultural (NIA) Colorado River Water
- Harquahala Irrigation Non-attainment (INA) Water (Non-AMA Groundwater)
- Reclaimed Water from city WRFs



## POSSIBLE FUTURE WATER SUPPLIES

Like a financial portfolio, the city's Water Portfolio consists of several different classes of water assets, including:

- Brackish groundwater from the Buckeye Waterlogged Area.
- Acquisitions or leases of other Colorado River water from entitlements from public or private owners. The water could be transported through the Central Arizona Project canal to Buckeye.
- Instate Surface Water supplies. This water could be transported to Buckeye through the canal systems owned by the irrigation districts operating in Buckeye.



## SURFACE WATER SUPPLIES

Surface water from rivers like the Salt, Gila, Colorado and Hassayampa all have specific criteria that must be met before the city can use them.

- **Salt River** – Buckeye is not able to access water from the Salt River as we are not in the Salt River Project service area.
- **Gila River** – The Gila River has been completely allocated. The City of Buckeye does not possess any Gila River water rights. The city is able to utilize Gila River water through agreements with entities that are willing to partner with the city for use of their rights.
- **Colorado River** – There are several types of Colorado River Water rights an entity can own. The city of Buckeye has two types of water allocations:
  - Municipal and Industrial (M&I) contract: 68 acre-feet per year, which decreases to 25 acre-feet per year after 2034. This right has been earmarked to the Sun City Festival golf course.
  - Non-Indian Agricultural (NIA) allocation: 2,786 acre-feet per year. In the event of shortage calls on the Colorado River, each of these rights are subject to temporary reductions or eliminations.
- **Hassayampa River** – The Hassayampa is a dry river in Buckeye. The city is able to access groundwater in the Hassayampa basin only.