The Ways of Water
Purified Water for El Paso: A Sustainable Water Future
The Water Cycle Never Ends

The earth has always had the same amount of water.
Colorado

New Mexico

Texas

United States

Mexico

Mexico

Colorado

New Mexico

United States

Mexico
Helping the Water Cycle

- EPWU has been treating wastewater and reusing it for irrigation, industrial, and construction uses since 1963.

- It’s known as “purple pipe” or reclaimed water.
Since 1985, EPWU has been using reclaimed water treated to drinking water standards to recharge the aquifer.
Daily Peak Without River Water

2014 Supply Forecast
2014 Peak Demand Forecast

Underground Water
What is the Alternative?

- Increased mining of aquifers
- Increased desalination $$
- Drastic conservation
- Build massive pipelines = $$$$$

Only purified water is sustainable
Water used for irrigation will be treated AGAIN in a rigorous four step process to create high quality, purified water.
Advanced Purified Treatment Process

Source: Treated Water

STEP 1: Membrane Filtration

STEP 2: Ultraviolet Light

STEP 3: Filters

STEP 4: Disinfect

Storage
How It Works

STEP 1

- First, the water goes through membrane filtration, the same technology that is used at our desalination plant.
How It Works

STEP 2

- Water is treated with ultraviolet light, the same technology that is used at some of our plants that treat river water.
How It Works

STEP 3

- Then, the water goes through a filtration process, used at all of our treatment plants.
STEP 4

- Then, the water is disinfected again.
The Result

- This is a proven technology that works.
- Purified water is safe to drink.
- Purified water is some of the highest quality drinking water produced.
Wastewater Treatment Plants

NEW MEXICO

- Northwest WWTP: 0 acre/feet
- Haskell Street WWTP: 60 acre/feet
- Bustamante WWTP: 8,000 acre/feet

EL PASO, TEXAS

- Fred Hervey WRP: 0 acre/feet
- Ci:udad Juárez
- Fort Bliss
- Franklin Mountains
It’s Already Happening

- Israel
- Africa
- Singapore
- Cloudcroft, NM
- Big Spring, TX
- Wichita Falls, TX
- Brownwood, TX
- Abilene, TX
- El Paso, TX

- Completed
- In Design
84% favor the Advanced Purified Water Treatment Plant
Getting Support

Public Outreach
- Speakers Bureau
- Media Relations
- Videos

Advisory Panel
- Health Experts
- Scientists
- Engineers
Timeline

- **2014**: Public Outreach
- **2015**: Expert Panel, Pilot Plant Design & Testing
- **2016**: TCEQ approves results, Plant Design
- **2017**: TCEQ approves design of plant, Plant Construction, Delivery to Customers
Water reuse has been happening in El Paso for decades. Advanced technology makes purified water safe to drink. Purified water is a drought-proof, sustainable supply for our community.
WORKING TOGETHER = WATER FOREVER

Sustainable water is totally do-able. Working together, we can balance these resources to make sure we have water for today and tomorrow.

H20TOGETHER.ORG