9th Annual Homescape Harvest Tour

Saturday, October 17, 2020 In-person 10am-2pm Virtual panel 3:30pm-5pm





Proceeds support WMG's Green-Living Co-op program. Watershedmg.org

Arizonans Know the Power of the Sun



JUST + EQUITABLE ENERGY TRANSITIONS

To Energize Our Cities Renewably. Efficiently. Reliably.



9th Annual Homescape Harvest Tour

Our individual and collective actions are the foundation for creating resilient communities. Each time we choose to make our homes, schools, neighborhoods, and the way we live more aligned with the natural systems of the Sonoran Desert, we're choosing a future where people and the environment thrive together—a future that has flowing desert rivers and diverse desert life.We've always believed that this future can be accomplished through simple, low-cost changes that you can implement on your own or with the help of friends and neighbors.

To spark your sustainable living inspiration, we're showcasing 16 homes, two schools, and one neighborhood restoration site, and, of course, the Watershed Management Group's Living Lab and Learning Center. This year, more than 70% percent of the sites harvest solar energy, and 100% of the sites harvest water. Tucson and Phoenix are the third and fourth fastest warming cities in the US, so now is the time to learn and adapt, to plant native trees and shrubs that support local wildlife and cool our homes, to envision our streets and yards as part of the larger watershed, to reduce our energy use through smart design, and to end dependence on Colorado River water and dirty energy.

The majority of the sites on the tour are hosted by people who participated in WMG's Green Living Co-op. The Green Living Co-op works with homeowners and renters to install waterharvesting systems and native and edible gardens at their homes. We hope that you see how integrating water and solar installations can greatly reduce water consumption and carbon emission while creating spaces that are more livable, enjoyable, and suitable for our desert climate.

A huge thank you to our tour sponsors who make this event possible and support our vision of restoring our watershed, ending reliance on dirty energy, and restoring desert rivers! We hope that you'll share your appreciation with them the next time you use their services. You can find their ads throughout the program, and a resources guide on page 26.

With gratitude and optimism, Watershed Management Group and The Grand Canyon Chapter of the Sierra Club welcome you to the 9th Annual Homescape Harvest Tour.

Let's harvest together!

FAQs

How does it work?

This is a self-paced tour, so whether you're participating virtually or in-person you can visit the sites in any order. In-person locations can be visited between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, October 17. A virtual panel discussion with site hosts and industry experts will run from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on October 17

Access to the virtual listings will be available from Thursday, October 15 until Thursday, October 22. Simply click the photo in the program book to be taken to the YouTube video for each site. You can also visit our sponsor's webpages by clicking the advertisement.

How will I know I'm in the right place?

All the in-person sites on this tour will post a sign reading: "Watershed Management Group Homescape Harvest Tour site," so you'll know you are in the right place.

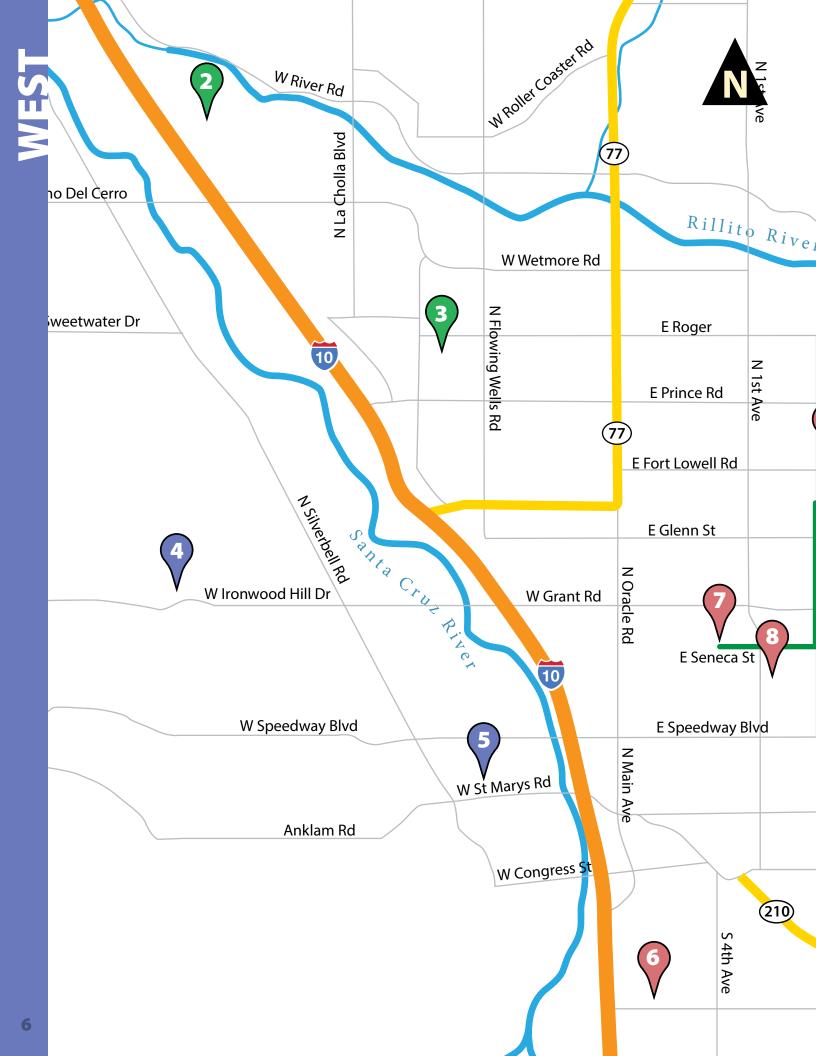
What do I need to bring?

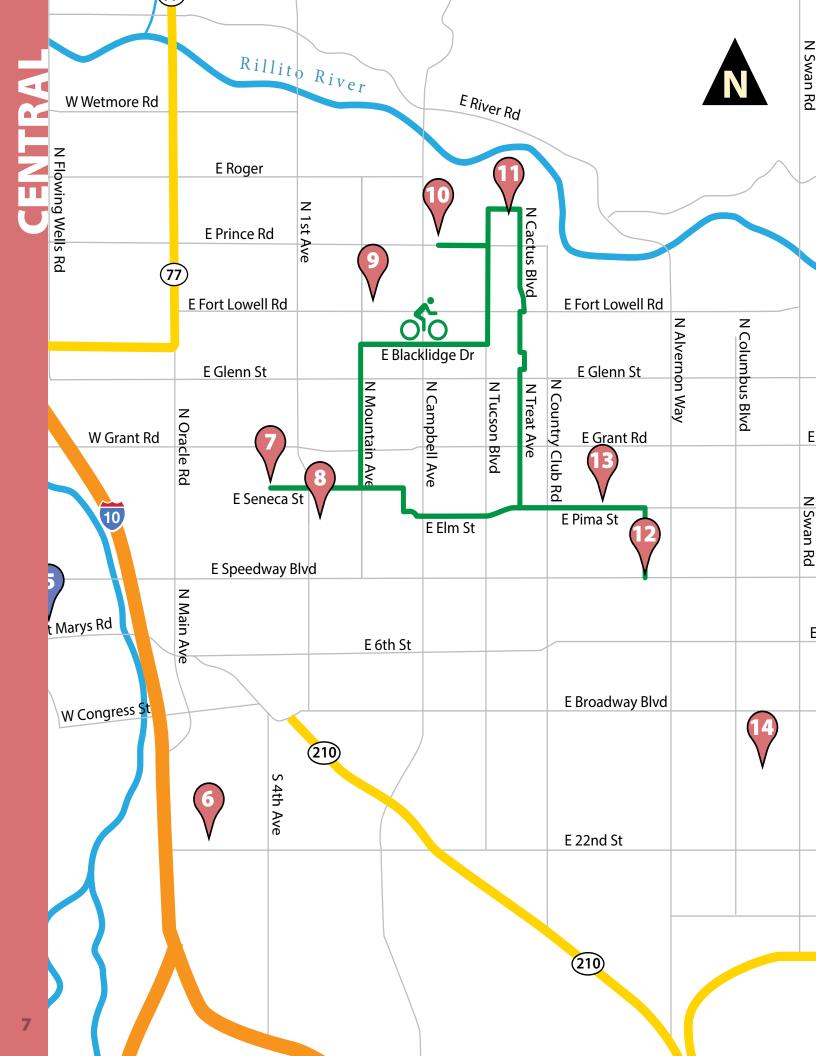
You don't need to show a ticket or sign-in. Each site will have a WMG volunteer ensuring that all participants are using masks to cover both their mouth and nose, that no more than 10 participants (including site hosts) are at a site at once, and that physical distancing is followed. A limited number of masks will be available for those who may have forgotten to bring one. Prepare to be outside: Bring water, don a hat, and wear sunscreen. This year, sites will not be offering refreshments.

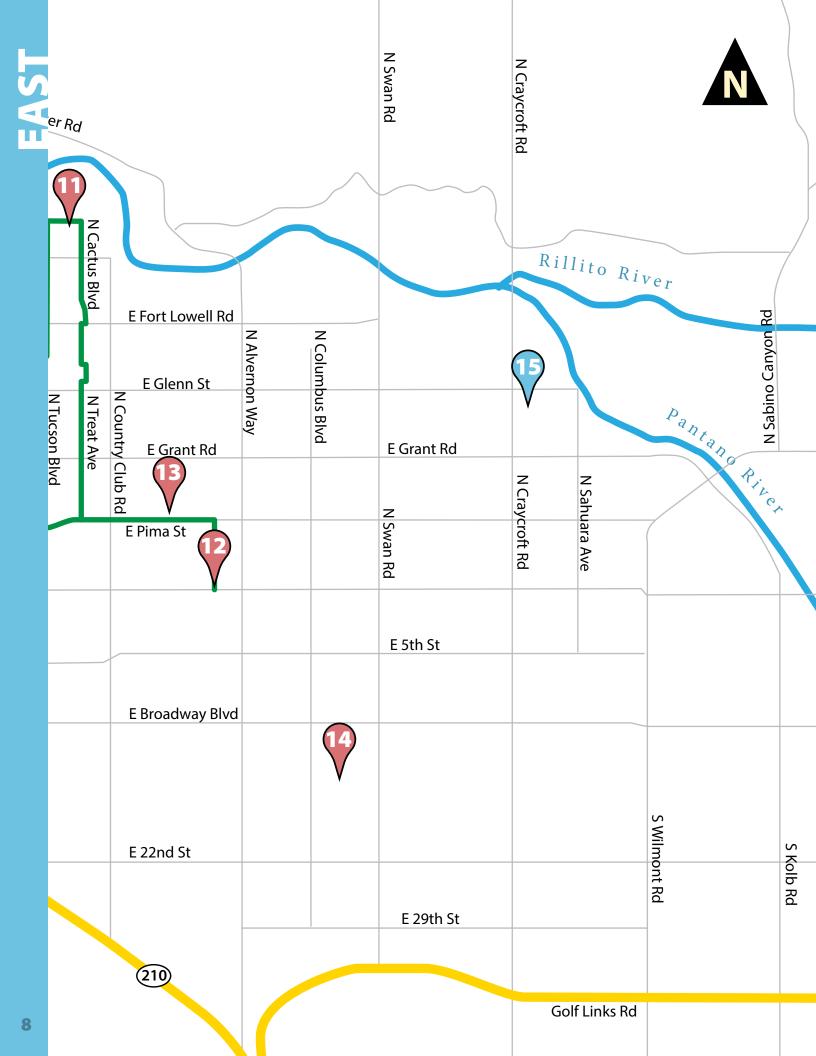


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1. Bill & Betsy Virtual & In-Person



2470 W La Cresta Rd • No bus service

Bill and Betsy have been implementing water harvesting systems over the last several years at their home just north of Tucson, and they love to show off those features to the public. The rain gardens and laundry-to-landscape greywater system installed by WMG are just a part of it. The solar PV panels and rainwater tank have transformed their home into something even the neighbors talk about! Bill says, "Many of the ideas we have implemented have come from our experiences at other WMG Co-op Workshops. Now our yard is a great place to enjoy a cup of coffee while reading the morning paper!"

Features: Rain Tank, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Trees, Pollinator-Friendly Plants



2. Flowing Wells Gardens (Shannon, **Emerald**, Curtis) **In-Person Only**



2926 W Curtis, 2901 W Palmyra, & Corner of N Emerald & W Curtis • Bus Route 10

The Flowing Wells Green Infrastructure Block in the right of way of N Shannon Road, W Curtis Road, and N Emerald Avenue are three large scale green infrastructure projects completed along the right of way in the Flowing Wells Neighborhood. Funded by Pima County Community and Workforce Development, the project focused on flood mitigation and beautification for the surrounding

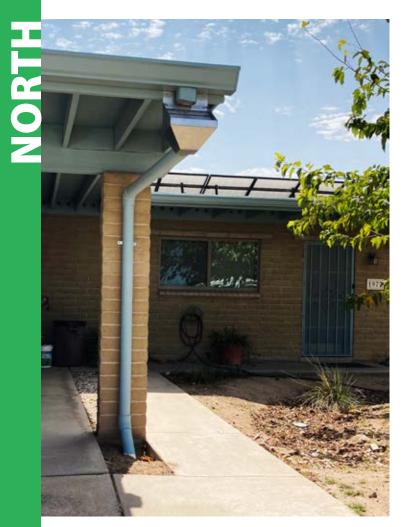
limited income community. The project converted over an acre of barren right of way property into a native plant filled corridor, with a series of basins collecting stormwater from the adjacent street. Collaborating with the local neighborhood association, the project was completed with the help of local volunteers. Connecting a local park, a church, and an elementary school, the project supports the neighborhood's Revitalization Plan, in particular its goal for utilizing green infrastructure to create a safer, cooler, and more connected Flowing Wells Neighborhood.

Features: Rain Gardens, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop

91.3

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3. Vicki

Virtual & In-Person



1977 W La Osa • Bus Route 61

The thing that I love the most about my site is hearing the water go where it has been routed to! For example, the rain in the gutters, or the greywater going to my thriving plants. I have enjoyed working with the WMG co-op immensely. The planning was great, they even planned my whole front yard around a beloved mulberry tree! All of the members of the co-op that I worked with were absolutely delightful (you know, back when we did in-person workshops). Everything about my experience has been fabulous, now if only we would get some rain.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Passive Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop

Go Solar, Save Water

The average solar powered Tucson home saves 6,750 gallons of water every year.

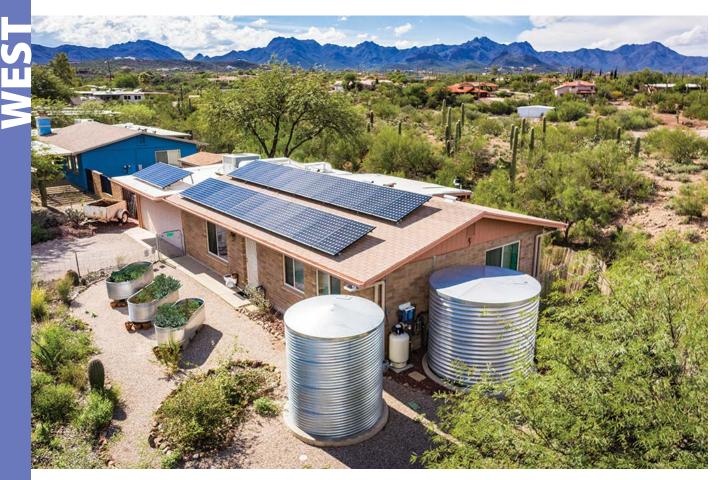


1 bottle = 1,000 refills



TFSsolar.com 520.740.0736





4. David





3112 W. Avenida Cresta • Bus Route 20

This west-side home of a long-time WMG supporter and Co-op member beautifully showcases sustainable desert living. With projects installed through WMG's Water Harvesting Certification Course and Co-op workshops, a number of DIY projects, and extensive solar energy, David's site is also off the water grid! In addition to all the water-harvesting features, tour participants can learn about pumping and purifying cistern rainwater and generating electricity from the sun. David says, "I like working with WMG on projects because the projects teach other students and community participants about water harvesting so they can do projects, too." Over the last eight years, David's vegetation has matured nicely with his water-harvesting love.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Composting Toilet, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop, Outdoor Shower, Rainwater on Tap, Tippy Tap, Powerwall Batteries





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5. Carol & Duane

Virtual & In-Person



511 N. Cuesta Ave. • Bus Route 3 Se habla Español

In October 2015, our property was a Bermuda grass and Goathead infested pancake yard, and a greenhouse-gas-hogging house, with lots of potential. This urban yard is now verdant with fruit trees and desert natives watered by rain saved up for dry times and protected by mulch. And the house produces more energy than we use! In May 2016, WMG's Co-op brought friends to join in digging basins and installing two 2,500-gallon rainwater cisterns. We've also added laundry-to-landscape and other greywater features, an outdoor shower, composting for everything the chickens don't get first, and solar photovoltaic generation with battery storage to power electric appliances and a car.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Passive Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop, Outdoor Shower, Chickens

Let WMG design your water harvesting oasis!

Both in-person and virtual consultations are available, and everyone who purchased tour tickets will get 20% off our residential consultation price.

Our designers will answer all your questions and identify hidden opportunities for water harvesting. We'll blend water-harvesting features, native and edible gardens, and sustainable living features into your landscape design.

Set up an appointment at Watershedmg.org/services/home or call 520-396-3266 x3.





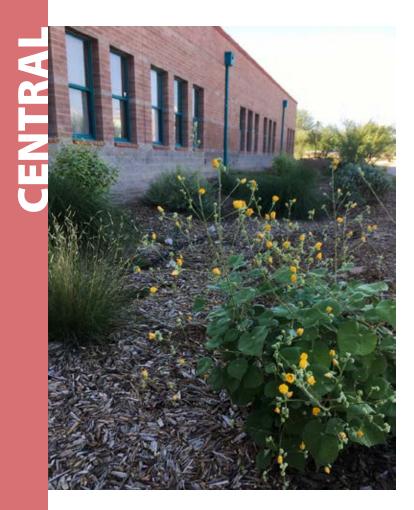




TanksGreenStuff.com 1-800-270-TANK







6. Drachman Montessori K-8 Magnet School



In-Person Only 1085 S. 10th Ave. • Bus Routes 4, 12

"This part of our school is ugly and it's hot!" students at Drachmann Montessori told WMG staff one of the first times we met with them. "Yes it is!...would you like to transform this into a beautiful cool spot?" was our response. The students stated a resounding "YES!" Using the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) approach, the students studied, designed, and transformed a bare landscape area of the campus – which borders a residential neighborhood - into a beautiful place for humans and nature. Now students enjoy an outdoor living lab and the neighbors are thrilled with the beautification process and outcome. The school's rain garden can capture over 15,000 gallons of rainwater from five rooftop downspouts. The harvested water supports pollinator plants and shade trees that cool the building and shade the sidewalk. Students are monitoring pollinators and differences in temperatures from the street, sidewalks, and different surfaces of the rain garden.

Features: Rain Gardens, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Active Solar, Schoolyard program



7. Martha

Virtual & In-Person



415 E. Seneca St. • Bus Routes 6, 9, 19 Se habla Español

When I first moved in, my house was surrounded by a yard that consisted of crushed rock out front and a formidable crop of Bermuda grass in back. Even worse, the neighborhood grapevine told me that previous owners had experienced backyard flooding. Including water that flowed into the house. I tried to solve this problem by building a drainage swale, but it never worked well. Fortunately, Tucson is blessed with WMG. Among other things, WMG operates a Green Living Co-op that offers learning-by-doing workshops. I joined this co-op when it started in 2008, and I've since hosted four water-harvesting workshops. Three were devoted to building earthworks and the fourth installed greywater harvesting from the washing machine. The greywater system irrigates three fruit trees, native grass, and a small vegetable garden.

Features: Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop





8. Todd

Virtual & In-Person

848 E Elm St. • Bus Routes 1, 6

I have volunteered at WMG events for several years, and I am excited to put what I have learned into action. I have always wrestled with how to balance home design, yard space, functionality, and water storage, and I was never happy with the results.

So, I designed a modular rainwater storage system called Rain Blocs to address these concerns. It allows anyone to build water storage into walls, sheds, and benches, just to name a few possibilities.

Each Rain Bloc holds 50 gallons of water. Multiple Blocs can connect into a network of beautiful and functional water storage. For this tour, I have installed 20 Rain Blocs in my backyard as a dividing wall for my duplex. This gives me 1,000 gallons of water storage and still leaves me a ton of yard space. The Bloc design also allows me to mount a beautiful rusted corrugated metal covering to match my house. If you visit, the big surprise is that my water storage is invisible. Looking forward to seeing you on the tour!

Features: Rain Blocs

9. Susan

Virtual & In-Person

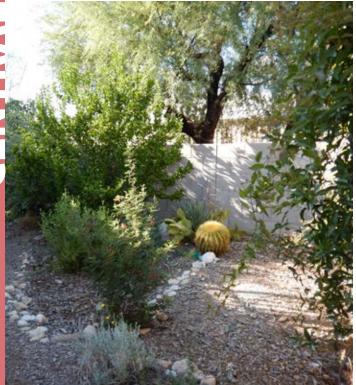


1328 E. Lind Rd. • Bus Route 34

Here is an example of how the WMG Co-op transformed a big one-acre lot. In early 2020, we installed gutters to gather rainfall from our roof, and WMG reworked our yard to retain and distribute the water. Now, this passive water harvesting system captures about 20,000 gal/year just from the roof, and many more gallons that flush from the neighborhood into our yard during big storms. In turn, the new landscape supports flowering desert plants and native grasses to provide shade, privacy, and beauty. During a 2" storm in July 2020, rivers ran through the swales, and the basins filled to near capacity, just as we had hoped. We are particularly pleased with the rockwork that lines waterways and defines a cactus garden near the back porch. Please watch for one-way street in the neighborhood and avoid parking in front of mailboxes. Parking on Vine and Lind Street provides easy access to home.

Features: Rain Gardens, Active Solar, Passive Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop

CENTRAL



10. Kathy & Michael Virtual & In-Person



3686 N Prince Village Pl • Bus Routes 15, 17

These long-time WMG supporters and Co-op members had big plans for transforming their little yard. Kathy says, "The WMG staff were key players in the design and success of our backyard project. In the initial discussion, they listened to our ideas and gently made suggestions for better pollinator-attracting native plants. The grand-pets enjoy the grasses best and I love the native chiltepin." Through the Green Living Co-op Program, they installed a variety of water-harvesting features including a laundry-to-landscape greywater system and two 530-gallon Bushman cisterns. Earthworks were also created to catch and retain rainwater and tank overflow. This site is complete with a composting system, fruit trees, an array of native plants, and solar panels.

Features: Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop



11. Lisa & Catlow Virtual & In-Person



2611 E. Allen Rd. • Bus Route 17

We live on the edge of the Rillito River floodplain, so we are focused on harvesting as much stormwater as possible to irrigate our native shade trees and habitat plants while recharging the aquifer. Our home is retrofitted with 7,500 gallons of rainwater storage for indoor and outdoor uses, an outdoor shower, laundry and sink greywater supporting fruit trees and veggies, and a composting toilet that reduces city water demand to less than 12 gallons per person per day. We moved into our current home in the spring of 2017, and, at the same time, became a car-free household. This year we have committed to a zero-waste lifestyle as well as expanding our food production in response to COVID-19. Even though we may be considered "experts" in this field, we are still learning a lot in our own yard, including how to restore native habitat while competing with all native wildlife looking for food.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Composting Toilet, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop, Outdoor Shower, Chickens, Veggies, Fruit Trees

Join the Flow!

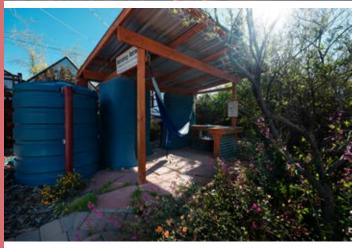
Help us restore our rivers! Become a monthly donor and sustain our education, restoration, and policy work. By making regular monthly gifts, you can give more over time, create continuity for our program work, and invest in our community's future.

Set up your monthly gift at: Watershedmg.org/Flow













12. Living Lab & Learning Center

Virtual & In-Person Video 2



1137 N Dodge Blvd • Bus Routes 4, 11

WMG's Living Lab and Learning Center is the cream of the crop and beats the pants off LEED standards! WMG docents will be giving tours so you can learn about all the systems in detail. WMG's educational center is also our office headquarters – 12 staff are on campus regularly using the composting toilet, outdoor shower, and solar oven. Bring kids to enjoy the Raindrop Retreat, a children's playhouse featuring a rain tank, play kitchen with greywater, and sandbox. And don't forget to visit our flock of laying hens. Factoid: did you know WMG is off of city water most of the year? That's right, WMG's Living Lab is mostly water self-sufficient! We have rainwater on tap and generally meet 100% of our indoor and outdoor water needs with rainwater.

Features: 10,000-gallon underground cistern, Rainwater on Tap, Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Composting Toilet, Outdoor Shower, Fruit Trees, Solar Oven, Chickens

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Text TUCSON WATERWISER to 468311





13. Elizabeth & Drew

2810 E Lester St • Bus Route 5, 17

Virtual & In-Person



When we bought our house a year ago, the backyard was mainly just a dirt lot with an oleander hedge. The only redeeming features were three beautiful, mature saguaros. This past November, we were lucky enough to host the students of WMG's Water Harvesting Certification Course. They installed a 1,500-gallon tank, shaped several basins to catch the runoff from our shed, installed a greywater system from our washing machine to a dwarf Meyer lemon tree and a keyhole garden, and planted about 40 native plants. Although we didn't get much rain at our house over the summer, many of the plants are doing well on the city water that we scoop from our daughter's kiddie pool after she swims.

We really enjoyed working with WMG on our project and were able to attend several Co-ops at other properties giving us the confidence that we could undertake a project at our house. We are looking forward to watching our landscape mature and are hoping for some winter rains!

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop





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14. Joaquin & Christian SRI

Virtual & In-Person

4419 E. 15th St. • Bus Routes 1, 11 Se habla Español

WMG's Cultural Ecologist Joaquin and WMG Docent Christian love to watch the rain "do its thing" on their site as it slowly spreads and infiltrates into their rain gardens.

These homeowners have seen their landscape come to life with the installation of passive water-harvesting systems, and they are passionate about educating others. Additionally, these wildlife enthusiasts have installed a pollinator garden to increase monarch habitat in the Sonoran Desert. Joaquin says, "It's been great to see the full monarch life cycle from larvae to pupa to butterfly, right in front of the house." They recently installed a patio area with an interesting Mexican brick design, expanded their vegetable garden, and they claim they have the most beautiful outdoor shower and composting toilet in Tucson! In the backyard, you can say hello to their desert tortoise named "Tortuga," explore their vibrant chicken coop and enjoy the straw-bale seating area.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Passive Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Outdoor Shower Composting Toilet, Outdoor Shower, Tippy Tap, Chickens, Laundry to Landscape, Streetside Stormwater Harvesting

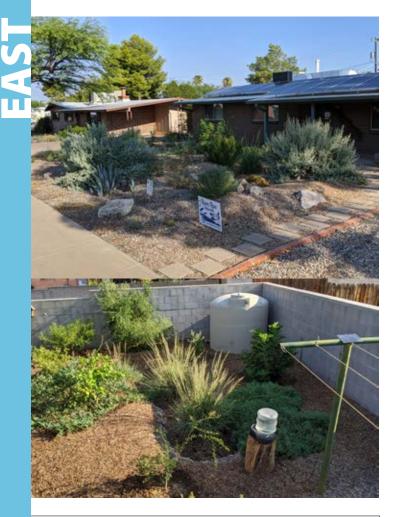


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15. Brian & Kathy Virtual & In-Person



5561 E. Kelso St • Bus Route 34

After attending WMG's rainwater harvesting class, we knew we wanted to transform our property to incorporate as many water harvesting features as possible to make living in the desert a little more sustainable. Last year, we hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop that installed passive harvesting earthworks, native plants, and a cistern. Since then, we've also added additional basins, more native plants, another cistern, a laundry-tolandscape system, and an outdoor shower. Thanks to the Co-op program, we not only learned the skills to do it ourselves, but we met some great people along the way!

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop, Outdoor Shower



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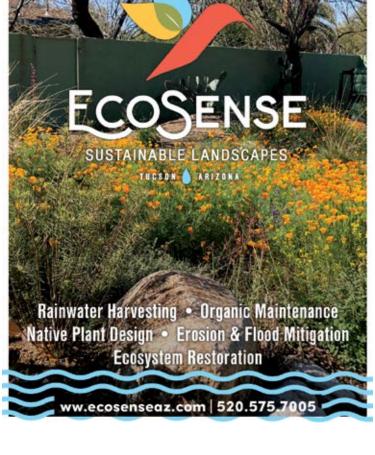
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16. Melanie

Virtual Only



Large rainwater basins and earthworks have transformed my backyard from a flat patch of dirt into a landscape full of native plants and full of wildlife. Lizards and birds were present before, but a much greater number of lizards and greater variety of bird species are here now. Even small mammals that were not here before come around, and I had monarchs in the yard exactly one year after planting the vegetation which included three varieties of milkweed. Also, watching the trees and bushes grow has been enjoyable, and the fruit from the trees (growing near greywater infiltration basin) has been delightful to eat. But, the highlight has been the wildflowers; there is something blooming almost every month of the year, and I am always excited to see what will bloom next! I could not be happier with the yard design from WMG and how extremely well the plants have worked out.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Active Solar, Passive Solar, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Compost, Hosted a WMG Co-op Workshop, Composting Toilet



17. Richard & Susan Virtual Only



In 1990, we moved into our home and began planting fruit trees. We now have 14 mature fruit trees in our yard designed to provide organic food for our family every month of the year, as part of what we jokingly call our "fruit of the month club." In 1995, we began watering our trees with greywater from the washing machine. After volunteering with WMG in 2008, we installed our first cistern that same year. Thanks to WMG, we now have 3,400 gallons of rainwater storage in cisterns and more storage in basins. Combining the rainwater with greywater from the laundry and an indoor shower/bathtub, and curb cuts harvesting street runoff into two basins, we are able to water the landscape and a small garden using only rainwater, greywater, and street runoff for most of the year. In 2010, we began collecting desert plants that could thrive and produce food without added water for installation along the Broadmoor neighborhood's six blocklong Treat Walkway. As the Treat Walkway and neighborhood medians became filled with maturing plants, our collection gradually became the Treat Walkway Nursery, a source of tough desert plants at reasonable prices for the Tucson community, open on occasional weekends and during the Homescape Harvest Tour.

Features: Rain Tanks, Rain Gardens, Greywater, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat, Fruit Trees, Veggie Garden



18. Chris & Em

Virtual Only



I love the oasis our rainscape offers us every day! When we moved in five years ago, there was a driveway through the front yard, despite the home's sizable carport on the side. Amazing how society prioritizes the automobile. Through their design-build program, WMG helped us plan out our entire property. We have completed the work in the front and will begin our backyard soon. Our front yard is now enclosed by a gorgeous masonry wall which allows us to let our dogs outside when we are enjoying the front yard. We have ironwoods that have grown in, native grasses, hackberries, jojoba, creosote, milkweeds, mesquites, palo breas, chiltepin, peach,



and night-blooming cereus to name a few. I've been blown away by how quickly the plants have grown. We are using passive rainwater harvesting features, laundry-to-landscape, and limited irrigation to establish the plants. WMG showed us how to completely re-grade the property to keep water from flowing back towards the front door. Now the water flows to the basins! As a bonus, back at an early WMG homescape tour, a gentleman from Technicians for Sustainability let us know about the soon-to-expire "net metering" clause in Tucson Electric Power's rooftop solar policy. We got in just under the deadline and our active solar will soon be at a break-even in terms of the investment.

Features: Rain Gardens, Native Plants & Urban Wildlife Habitat

19. Sergio

Virtual Only



Spanish

Sergio created a solar oven using recycled materials about ten years ago and has enjoyed home baking using energy from the sun ever since. The solar oven is a wood box lined with insulation and with a top made of tempered glass allowing light into the oven. A metal plate collects the sun rays and helps the oven get to 250 degrees Fahrenheit or more on a sunny day. Beans, calabacitas, and sugar cookies are all made using the power of the sun at his home!

Features: Passive Solar, Solar Oven

Sponsor Resource Guide

 BICAS (Bicycle Inter-Community Art & Salvage) Nonprofit educational bicycle center. Bicas.org, 520-628-7950. See ad page 21.

 Desert Living Inc. Professional services to help transform spaces into livable landscapes. DesertLivingTucson.com, 520-907-2072. See ad page 22.

 EcoSense Sustainable landscapes. EcoSenseAZ.com, 520-575-7005. See ad page 22.

 KXCI Tucson's Community Radio station. KXCL.org, 520-623-1000. See ad page 10.

 Net Zero Custom solar systems. NetZeroSolar.net, 520-207-4053. See ad page 23.

 Originate Natural & recycled building materials. OriginateNBM.com, 520-792-4207. See ad page 4.

 Pioneer Water Tanks Residential, rural, commercial water tanks. PioneerWaterTanksAmerica.com, 877-223-7784. See ad page 12.

 Rainblocs Stackable, hackable water storage. Rainblocs.com, 520-261-0177. See ad page 22.

 Southern Arizona Rain Gutters Design & installation of rainwater harvesting systems. SouthernArizonaRainGutters.com, 520-299-7426. See ad page 20.

 Sierra Club One of the oldest & most influential grassroots environmental organizations in the U.S. SierraClub.org/Arizona. See ad page 2.

 Tank's Green Stuff Natural and organic garden and landscape products. TanksGreenStuff.com, 520-389-6697. See ad page 14.

 Technicians for Sustainability Specializing in renewable energy & sustainable technologies. TFSSolar.com, 520-740-0736. See ad page 11.

 Tucson Water Providing high quality water & excellent service in a safe, reliable, efficient, environmentally responsible manner. TucsonAZ.gov/water. See ad page 19.

WMG's Green Living Co-op Water-harvesting landscape consults, project designs, and project creations, implemented in a Sonoran-style, barn-raising fashion. Watershedmg.org/Co-op, 520-396-3266 x3. See ads on pages 13 and 26.

WMG's Schoolyard Program Hands-on, curriculum-based transformation of schoolyards. Watershedmg.org/services/school, 520-396-3266 x13

Create Your Desert-Friendly Yard with WMG's Green Living Co-op!

We'll help you design and install your dream landscape. Water harvesting and native and edible gardens are constructed with WMG staff, a small group of volunteers, and our recommended contractors. Visit **Watershedmg.org/Co-op** to get started today!



JOIN THE RIVER RUN NETWORK & HELP US **RESTORE THE FLOW!**

Join a growing movement to restore Tucson's heritage of flowing creeks and rivers. Membership is free and gives you access to a variety of virtual and physically distanced events including creek walks, restoration activities, river clean-ups, and educational workshops.



Sign up at Watershedmg.org/RRN