



AUDIENCE: Town of Kearny Residents and Water Use Stakeholders

COMMUNICATION PLAN ID: S010

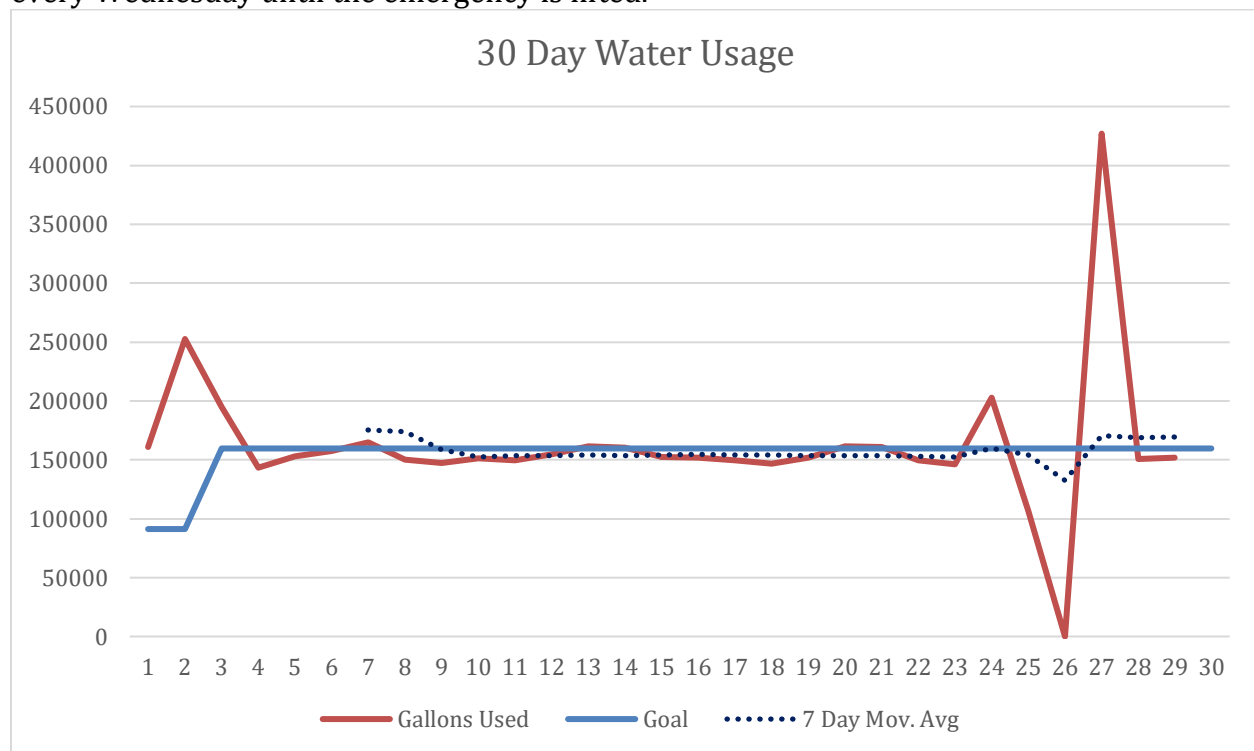
DISTRIBUTION METHOD: Social media, online website, posted communications, printed copies town hall

SUMMARY: The Town of Kearny has received a reduced allotment of water from the Gila River Water Commissioner based on the Globe Equity Decree of 1935 necessitating water restrictions. This weekly communication serves as a regular update to the residents regarding the situation.

5.17.2026

#### CURRENT USAGE RATES:

The data indicates we are holding steady. We will be updating these graphs and content every Wednesday until the emergency is lifted.



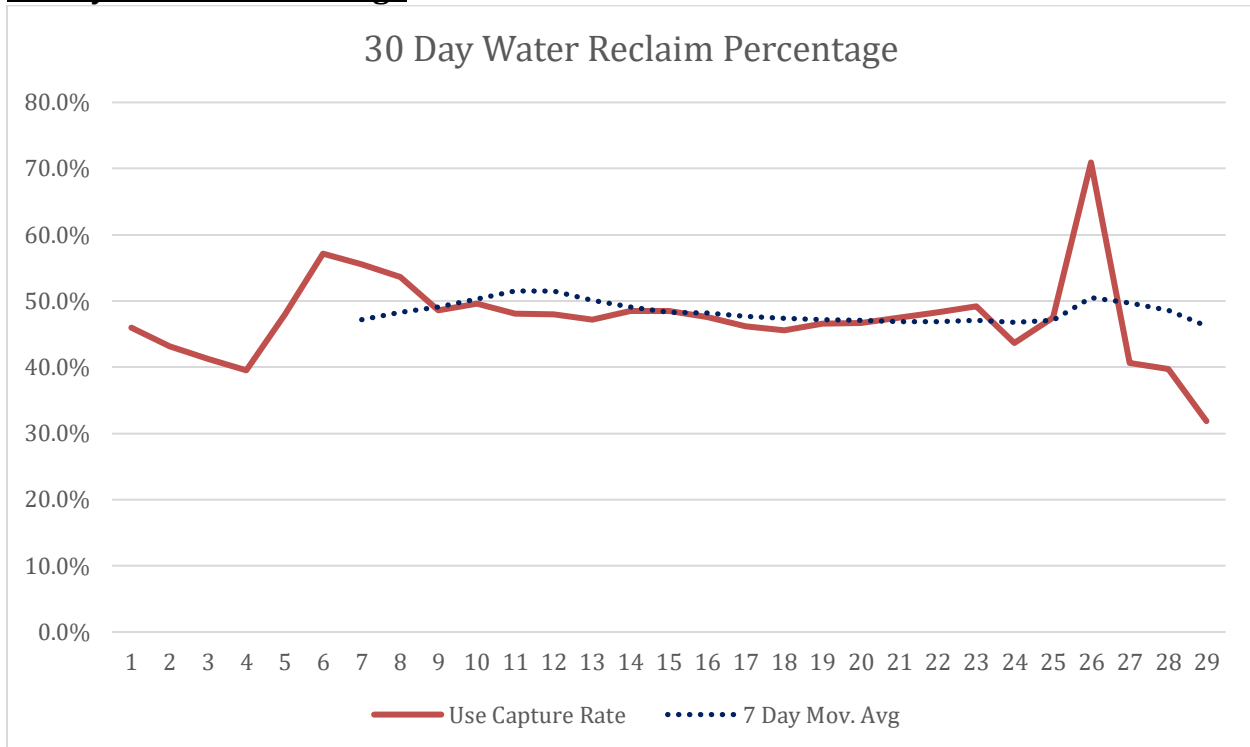
You may notice the spikes on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. On those days the town ran an experiment to determine how long it would take to drain the storage tanks were we to only use the well outside the decree area. To perform this test the wells inside the decree were shut down until the water level in the tank was reduced by 1/3. It took just over 24 hours for this level to be achieved indicating that should we be required to stop taking water from the wells within the decree area we will have 3 days of storage water at the current demand levels (how much we are using daily). It also shows that the well that is producing ~30GPM does not significantly extend the tank depletion time.

#### 30 Day Water Usage



The trend is holding steady at or below our goal level. Let's keep that average daily usage line below the "Goal" line. Thank you to everyone who is working to reduce their usage, what we are doing is working.

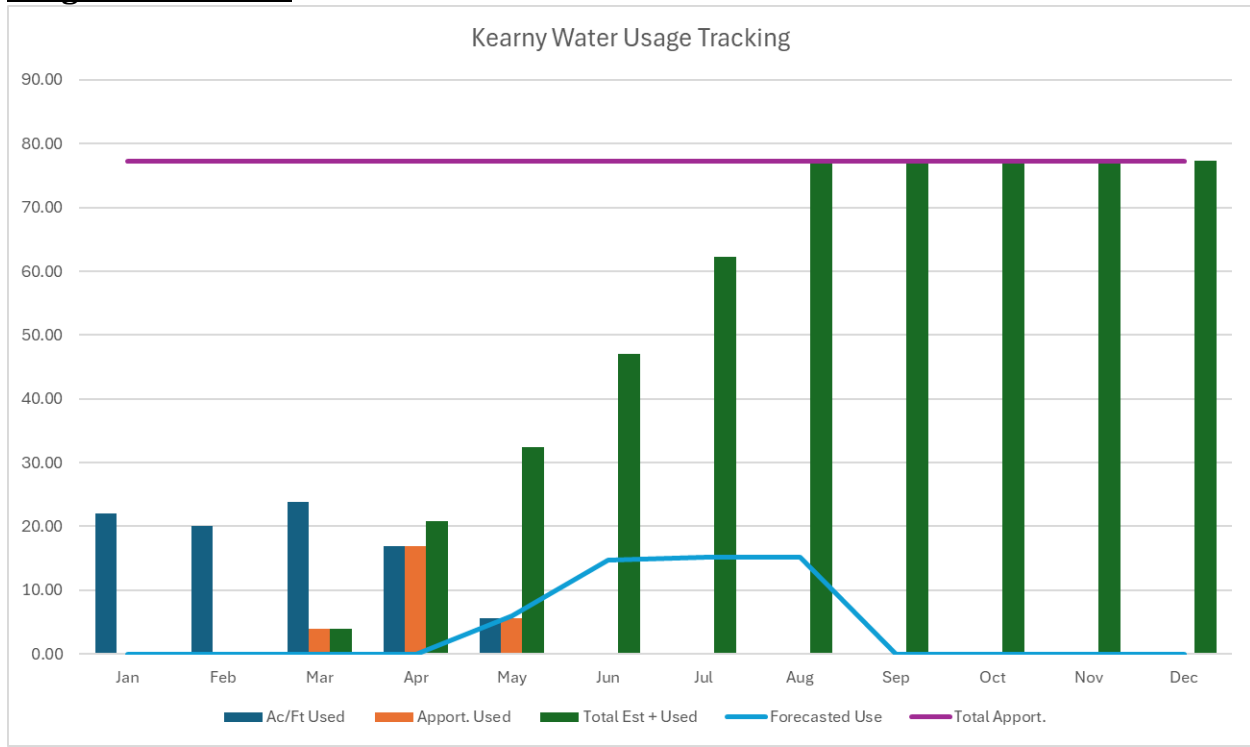
### **30 Day Reclaim Percentage**



The 30 Day Reclaim Percentage graph shows how much water we are re-capturing at the wastewater treatment plant vs how much water is being removed from the ground (supplied to residents). This percentage helps us understand how much water is being used for life sustaining activities vs other activities such as irrigation or outdoor washing, a good portion of it is also used at the corral area. This is not a perfect performance indicator as many of you are capturing grey water for use on your landscaping, an effort which we at the Town fully appreciate and encourage. Our goal for this measurement is 60-70%, we feel we are in full compliance with the emergency decree at those capture rates. Even though we are slightly below the 50% mark we feel that you are all doing what is necessary and are using a lot of your grey water for plants. The spike in the reclaim graph was caused by our pump and tank test described in the previous section.



## Long Term Outlook



Our continued reduction in water usage continues to move the needle. Based on the current usage rates we can now make it to September. I do expect this to fall back a little when the weather turns hot, usage will naturally increase. Last week we were at August 20<sup>th</sup> give or take a day or two, now we are into September. Please continue to do what you have been doing to stretch this as far as possible.

## 2026 OFFICIAL USAGE

Month	Unofficial Usage (ac/ft)	Official Usage (ac/ft)	Notes
March	7.5	4.0	<p>We had the total at 7.5 ac/ft based on the daily call sheets that are reported online, the daily call sheets are estimates based on historical usage. The official amount is based on our reporting of the actual amount of water used in the month and the amount of priority water available based on our water rights. We report our usage at the end of each month.</p> <p>For the month of March, we used more water than normal based on the last few years (it was hot), however there was enough priority water available to</p>



us to offset the additional usage. This resulted in a lower Official usage number.

#### What this Means:

The Official usage is what our apportionment is charged against. The Unofficial usage is based on the estimated usage provided by the GRWC on a daily basis. Any Official usage numbers that are lower than the Unofficial usage numbers are a good thing.

#### KEY EXTERNAL MEETINGS HELD THIS WEEK:

Little change in the landscape of stakeholders, all meetings continue weekly.

1. ASARCO – update on water usage data, ASARCO continues to seek a solution. Providing legal and technical support. ASARCO is currently reviewing some options we presented to them with their legal and leadership teams.
2. Resolution Copper – Resolution continues to seek Hydrologist support for the town.
3. Media interviews – Various media outlets.
4. Patrick Adams (Senior Advisor for Water Policy, Office of Governor Katie Hobbs) – working with GRIC on water issues facing Arizona, they will be discussing with GRIC if Kearny’s issues can be included and resolved through the ongoing water discussions. This work continues.
5. Representative Crane’s Chief of Staff – chasing down an EPA grant from 2022-2023 for water infrastructure, Congressman Crane has directly discussed the matter with Administrator Zeldin at the EPA who are responsible for administering those funds. This work continues, we expect to have an update by June.
6. County Attorney Miller – discussion regarding his office supporting any legal efforts we may pursue.
7. Senator Rogers – providing advocacy in support of Kearny among the constituents along the Globe Equity Decree as well as legislative support.
8. Gila River Water Commissioner – update on ToK water situation and usage. Please do not direct questions to her office, direct them to Town Hall.
9. County office of Emergency Management

#### ADDITIONAL MESSAGING:

##### PROGRESS –

This was another great week for town usage, please continue to do what you can.

##### WELL 4 TESTING:

Staff have been asked to shut down wells 2 and 2A until the water level in the storage tanks reaches a level they are comfortable allowing. This is being done to determine how long well 4 can supply water to the community without the use of wells 2 and 2A and to determine if this strategy could be used to further reduce our apportionment usage.

This testing was completed last week and the results can be found at the head of this document.



**ONGOING INFORMATION**

Reduction Goal: 30% +

Current Reduction (7-day average): **31.8%**

**WELL REHABILITATION (USDA PROJECT)**

**Background –**

The Town of Kearny owns wells outside the Globe Equity Decree. These wells have historically not produced enough water to sustain the community; they can however supplement water in times of drought. The Town of Kearny began a USDA project to rehabilitate the town’s storage tanks, booster pump station, and two wells numbered 3 and 4 which were historically the highest producers in the well field. The two wells being rehabilitated are 1200 feet deep. The wells have been in disrepair and out of service for 20 years. This year, because of the water emergency, the town reactivated well 4 which in its current state is producing 26 GPM, for prospect, wells 2 and 2A produce 500 GPM.

Well 3 is completely non-functional at this time and is the first to be rehabilitated as part of the USDA project.

Historically Well 3 has produced 30 GPM.

**Well 3 Project Status –**

Phase	Status	Notes
Engineering	Complete	
RFQ/Bid Process	Complete	
Bid Award	Complete	
Contract Signing	Complete	Completed week of 4.20.26
USDA Approval	Complete	Well 3 project approved
Procurement of Parts	90%	The Town pre-ordered long lead time components 2 months ago to reduce the project completion timeline  Contractor has on-hand stock for electrical components  New valve is being ordered
Work Begins	Started	Pull pump, piping and all electrical components
Well Rehabilitation	Started	Clean out existing well, install new casing, install new pump



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		Planned start 5.11.26
Electrical Rehabilitation	Not Started	Electrical equipment installation
Permitting	Started	Town staff is advancing the final permit with APS and County officials ahead of project completion
Commissioning	Not Started	
On-Line	Not Started	July



FAQ

Question	Response
May I water my lawn or landscaping?	No – strictly prohibited
May I wash my vehicle?	No – strictly prohibited using Kearny water
May I wash my driveway or outside surfaces like sidewalks?	No – strictly prohibited
May I fill my pool?	No – strictly prohibited
What about a small pool like a “kiddie” pool, can I fill that?	No – strictly prohibited
Can we use water for dust control, at the corrals or on dirt roads?	No – strictly prohibited Exception: Use of lake water is allowed for this purpose, you must pump it and haul it yourself
How can I reduce my water usage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fix all leaks</li> <li>- Shower smart, keep them short</li> <li>- Re-wear clothing to the extent possible to reduce laundry</li> <li>- Low flow shower heads</li> <li>- Flush less frequently</li> </ul>
Are other towns impacted by the shortage? Hayden, Winkleman, others?	Not at this time. Our water rights are junior (not as old) to those used by our neighbors. We feel the pain first.
How is our water allowance calculated?	The amount of water in San Carlos reservoir determines our water apportionment. The lake has less than 2% capacity as of 4.14.2026.
What is “the plan”?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce water usage at least 30%</li> <li>- Continue repairing wells located north of the town to supply some of the water we need</li> <li>- Stretch our apportionment to the monsoon season</li> <li>- Continue to work with our community partners like ASARCO, GRIC, Resolution Copper, SCIP, and others to find a solution</li> </ul>
What CAN we use the water for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sanitation, showering, dishes</li> <li>- Life supporting activities</li> </ul>
What is the Town doing about this?	This emergency is our entire focus. Water law is very complicated; our situation is similar to the Colorado River situation. They have been negotiating that deal for years and have no success. Any solution to our emergency is going to take time.