SURFACE IRRIGATION (GRAY WATER)

Surface irrigation of gray water is allowed in Yavapai County pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes Title 49, Section 204 (ARS 49-204) and Arizona Administrative Code Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 7 (AAC R18-9-D701). All best management practices and prohibitions are identified in AAC R18-9-D701.

The following is a section from the Arizona Administrative Code, Supplemental 17-4, TITLE 18. Environmental Quality
Chapter 09. Department of Environmental Quality - Water Pollution Control

R18-9-D701. Type 1 Recycled Water General Permit for Gray Water

A. Type 1 Recycled Water General Permit for Gray Water allows private residential use of gray water for a flow of less than 400 gallons per day if all the following conditions are met:

1. Gray water originating from the residence is used and contained within the property boundary for household gardening, composting, or landscape watering;

2. Human contact with gray water and soil watered by gray water is avoided;

3. Surface application of gray water is not used for watering of food plants, except for trees and shrubs which have an edible portion that does not come into contact with the gray water;

4. The gray water does not contain hazardous chemicals derived from activities such as cleaning car parts, washing greasy or oily rags, or disposing of waste solutions from hobbyist or home occupational activities;

5. The gray water does not contain water used to wash diapers or similarly soiled or infectious garments;

6. The application of gray water is managed to minimize standing water on the surface by using measures such as avoiding overwatering, distributing the gray water beneath a mulch or other cover, and using best practices to improve soil condition and increase filtration;
SURFACE IRRIGATION (GRAY WATER) Cont.

7. If blockage, backup, or overload of the system occurs, gray water distribution shall cease until the deficiency is corrected. The gray water system may include components to reduce blockage and backup and be operated using best practices to extend system lifetime;

8. Gray water surge tanks, if any, are covered to restrict access and to eliminate habitat for mosquitoes or other vectors, and holding time is minimized to avoid development of anaerobic conditions and odors;

9. The gray water system is sited outside of a floodway;

10. The gray water system is operated to maintain a minimum vertical separation distance of at least five feet from the point of gray water application to the top of the seasonally high groundwater table;

11. For a residence using an on-site wastewater treatment facility for black water treatment and disposal, the use of a gray water system does not change the design, capacity, or reserve area requirements for the on-site wastewater treatment facility at the residence, and ensures the facility can handle the combined black water and gray water flow;

12. Any pressure piping used in a gray water system that may be susceptible to cross connection with a potable water system clearly indicates the piping does not carry potable water; and

13. Surface application of gray water is only by flood or drip distribution methods. Flood distribution methods may include containment by horticultural mulch basins and swales.

B. Prohibitions. The following are prohibited:

1. Gray water use for purposes other than watering and composting, and

2. Application of gray water by a spray method.