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ADEQ Announces \$163,396 Grant to Watershed Group to aid Two Tucson Neighborhoods Control Storm Water Pollution

PHOENIX (July 22, 2010) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that a \$163,396 grant has been awarded to Watershed Management Group to help control pollution from storm water runoff through training and education in two Tucson neighborhoods.

The watershed group will work with the Barrio Kroeger Lane neighborhood, located east of the Santa Cruz River, and Barrio Centro, located in the Upper Tucson Arroyo watershed, to develop a plan of action to keep storm water pollutants like automobile grease and oil, landscaping chemicals, fertilizers and pet waste from entering area arroyos.

The grant money will be used to increase awareness of storm water issues and develop best management practices to address problems and to build a corps of community volunteers to educate others living in the neighborhoods about those storm water runoff problems.

“Environmental stewardship and education about storm water go hand-in-hand. ADEQ is pleased to provide seed money to Watershed Management Group to increase awareness and prevent pollution in these communities,” ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles said.

Watershed Management Group completed a highly successful water pollution education program in the Rincon Heights neighborhood of Tucson in 2008 after receiving a \$103,240 grant from ADEQ.

ADEQ's program is funded through a partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act.

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