

TUESDAY



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Council OKs law for water use during crisis

By Enric Volante
The Arizona Daily Star

The City Council yesterday approved Tucson's first mandatory conservation measure if water supplies start to run dangerously low this summer.

The council voted 6-1 to adopt an emergency ordinance that authorizes city officials to temporarily prohibit outdoor irrigation and certain other water uses.

Violators could be fined at least \$200 or have their water service cut off.

Tucson Water Director Kent McClain said he does not anticipate an emergency this summer, but wants to be prepared to curtail water use if necessary to maintain fire-fighting pressure in reservoirs.

He said the restrictions might be imposed if Tucson faces an unusually hot, dry

Councilman Tom Saggau voted against the conservation ordinance, complaining that only city residents would be subject to fines even though many Tucson Water customers live outside the city.

summer like last year - when water use exceeded the amount of ground water Tucson Water could pump for 26 sweltering days - or if the water system has a catastrophic failure.

The most likely failure would be Tucson's Avra Valley transmission main, a 42-inch pipeline that carries ground water 25 miles from the city's Avra Valley well field to the Martin Reservoir at East Valencia Road and South Park Avenue.

Crews are working seven days a week

and 10 hours a day to repair a severely eroded, 4.8-mile segment of the pipeline by March 31.

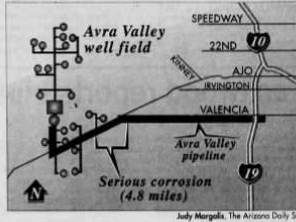
Councilman Tom Saggau voted against the conservation ordinance, complaining that only city residents would be subject to fines even though many Tucson Water customers live outside the city.

"I don't see how we're going to have fair enforcement," Saggau said during a recess.

City Manager Mike Brown said he will approach Pima County, Oro Valley and Marana officials about adopting similar ordinances.

If they don't, the city can still cut off service to violators, Brown said.

Council members rejected Brown's recommendation that they authorize him to declare a water emergency. They left that to the



Serious corrosion (4.8 miles)
Judy Margolis, The Arizona Daily Star



Running men, running water

Leonard Lucero leads his brother-in-law, Ken Nelson, through a stream during a jog on the Saguaro National Park East loop

drive. They crossed two washes with running water during their 8-mile run, which came hours before spring arrived in Tucson.

The season actually started at 7:14 last night. Look for the first full day of spring to be windy today with a high in the mid-80s.

Test detects spreading of male cancer

ATLANTA (AP) - A new blood test can tell whether prostate cancer has spread beyond the gland, enabling patients who are going to die anyway to avoid ineffective and disabling surgery, a study suggests.

The test, announced yesterday by the American Cancer Society, could be available to doctors by the end of the year, said Dr. Carl Odsson, an author of the study. It still needs approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

Once prostate cancer has spread, it is fatal. A test to learn whether the disease has spread would allow such men to avoid prostate-removal surgery and its side effects, which can include impotence and incontinence.

Currently, the only way doctors can know for certain that the cancer has spread is through surgery to remove the gland.

Prostate cancer is the nation's second-leading cancer killer of men. The cancer society predicts it will strike 244,000 American men this year and kill 40,400.

To detect it, doctors use the blood test PSA and the digital rectal exam. The PSA test looks for elevated levels of prostate-specific antigen, a substance the prostate gland makes to carry sperm.

Cancer can push readings up. If those tests turn up suspicious results, the patient undergoes a biopsy. If the biopsy shows cancer, doctors may perform other tests, such as a bone scan, to try to learn whether it has spread outside the prostate. But such tests are not generally reliable.

Odsson, head of Columbia University's urology department, said about 20 percent of the men who undergo surgery will die later because the cancer had already spread.

In a study in the April issue of Cancer, the journal of the Atlanta-based cancer society, Columbia researchers described the new test, called enhanced reverse transcriptase-PCR for PSA. It was made by Daan Systems of Stratford, Conn.

Test proves reliable
In the study, researchers used a technique called polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, to amplify the genetic material in the PSA and find it in the blood. If the test finds that the PSA is being produced by prostate cancer cells, then the cancer has escaped from the gland, the researchers said.

With the test, the researchers correctly diagnosed that prostate cancer had spread in 72 percent of the cases later confirmed through surgery. The test was also accurate 88 percent of the time in predicting those patients whose cancer had not spread. The study was based on 94 patients.

Subway nerve-gas attack spurs huge probe in Japan

TOKYO (AP) - Police seized five packages of the nerve gas that spread death yesterday through Tokyo's crowded subway system as they hunted for clues in a chilling new chapter in urban terrorism: the use of chemical weapons.

By this morning, the attack had killed eight people and sickened nearly 4,700 others. There were no credible claims of responsibility, but there was growing speculation that the incident may have been politically motivated.

The Tokyo Shinbun newspaper reported that police had identified one man hospitalized for nerve gas poisoning as a possible suspect. Police refused to confirm the report.

Several people saw the man place a plastic bag wrapped in newspaper on a train, the report said. When he got off at

Kodenmacho station, a passenger kicked the object onto the platform and it began to emit white fumes. Two people died at that station.

The attack paralyzed one of the world's busiest subway systems and alarmed the Japanese, who consider their country among the world's safest.

The attack drew new attention to earlier, unexplained cases of chemical poisoning, including the deaths of seven people in the central Japanese city of Matsumoto in June. As in the subway attack, authorities blamed sarin, a nerve gas developed by the Nazis in World War II.

The threat of chemical or biological terrorism has worried governments increasingly in recent years, as the technology began to spread.

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Mass-transit agencies worldwide step up anti-terrorist precautions

1995 The New York Times
NEW YORK - Authorities in major cities around the world are taking precautions against incidents similar to the poison-gas attack in the Tokyo subway.

While playing down the possibility of such an attack in their own cities, they said that they had tightened security and issued statements seeking to allay commuters' fears.

The London Underground issued a statement to try to calm riders, saying it has "long practiced anti-terrorist measures and emergency evacuation procedures which are regularly reviewed in the light of events and updated."

In Moscow, security has been beefed up since the Chechen war began last December. Patrols have been increased in subway

stations, accompanied by searches under seat benches in subway cars for hidden weapons and gas bombs. Special "safe rooms" have been set up in each subway station to defuse unexploded bombs.

In New York, the Long Island Rail Road and the Metro-North Railroad issued procedures to their employees on how to deal with suspicious people and packages. The New York City transit police chief, John S. Pritchard III, placed the 1,500 transit police officers on daily patrol on heightened alert and notified the 43,000 transit employees to be on the lookout for strange packages, particularly those unattended or wrapped in vinyl or newspapers.

While conceding that there is little the authorities can do to defend against such

See PRECAUTIONS, Page 2A

How nerve gas attacks the body

Sarin is a colorless, odorless nerve gas 25 times stronger than cyanide. It affects the body within 10 seconds.



The nervous system:

- Nervous system transmitters fail muscles to contract.
Enzymes in body dissolve transmitters; muscles relax.
Nerve gas breaks down enzymes; muscles cramp.

SOURCE: Naum Katsura, NBC/ABC/News



A suited chemical expert is hoisted out after checking subway car

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