

Water in Arizona – Is My Property in an AMA or INA?

The 1980 Arizona Groundwater Management Act dictates groundwater uses in Arizona.
<https://new.azwater.gov/news/articles/2016-18-11>

What is an AMA?

Active Management Area: Assured Water Supply rules are in place and used to manage water supply. Subdivision developers must demonstrate a 100-year Assured Water Supply to the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Wells are monitored and registered. Exempt Wells are private, domestic wells that pump 35 gal/minute or less.

There are 6 AMAs in Arizona: Prescott, Phoenix, Pinal, Tucson, Douglas and Santa Cruz. AMA goals vary throughout the state. Each AMA has its own goals. See the WeSERV flyer *Water in Arizona - Arizona Groundwater Management*

Map of AMAs:
<https://azwatermaps.azwater.gov/aaws/>

What is an INA?

Irrigation Non-Expansion Areas: These are areas where insufficient groundwater exists to provide new agricultural land irrigation at the current rate of groundwater withdrawal. The purpose of an INA is to preserve the existing irrigation of cultivated lands.

There are 3 in AZ: Joseph City, Harquahala and Hualapai Valley.

Map of INAs:
<https://azwatermaps.azwater.gov/aaws/>

What is Assured Water Supply?

The Assured Water Supply is a measure to sustain the state's economic health by preserving groundwater resources.

There are 7 elements required to obtain a certificate of Assured Water Supply.

- ✓ Physical, continuous, and legal Water Availability
- ✓ Water Quality standards are met
- ✓ Financial Capability to construct a delivery system, storage or treatment facilities
- ✓ Consistent with AMA Management Plan and Goals

You can read more about AMA Assured Water Supply elements at <https://new.azwater.gov/aaws/>.

Use this map to determine if your property has and Assured Water Supply:
<https://new.azwater.gov/aaws/maps-resources>

Use this interactive map to determine if your property is in an AMA or INA:

<https://new.azwater.gov/aaws/maps-resources>

AMAs and INAs are unique geographical areas.



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What is Adequate Water Supply?

Outside an AMA: Water supplies are not assured. State law provides that water adequacy or inadequacy must be disclosed to a property buyer.

To receive a determination of Adequate Water Supply 5 elements are required:

- ✓ Physical, continuous, and legal Water Availability
- ✓ Water Quality standards are met
- ✓ Financial Capability to construct a delivery system, storage, or treatment facilities

Some local governments require a developer receive a determination of 100-year water adequacy. You can find a list of Mandatory Adequacy Jurisdictions at <https://new.azwater.gov/aaws>

Some areas have designated water providers. Developments with a written letter of service commitment from a designated water provider do not need to prove assured or adequate water supplies.

Use this map to determine if your property has an adequate water supply: <https://gisweb3.azwater.gov/aaws>

Find a list of Designated Water Providers
<https://new.azwater.gov/ama/municipal-program>

or Contact the Az Dept. of Water Resources at
602-771-8500

What Happens if I don't have water on my land?

Visit the AZ Department of Water Resources website to determine if there are grandfathered water rights tied to the land and what the source of the water is.
<https://new.azwater.gov/news/articles/2019-04-01>

Identify potential water sources:

Call the Arizona Department of Water Resources or visit the website.

Contact local authorities to determine access to water.

AZ Groundwater Information

Az Dept. of Water Resources – Glossary of Terms
<https://new.azwater.gov/dictionary?page=1>.

Arizona Groundwater Management Act (1980) – ARS Title 45
<https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=45>

Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR):
<https://new.azwater.gov/>

ADWR Contact Us Page:
<https://new.azwater.gov/adwr/contact-us>

Ground Water Rights Interactive Map:
<https://gisweb3.azwater.gov/igfr>

Arizona Water Blueprint – Interactive map
<https://azwaterblueprint.asu.edu/feature/blueprint>
Find Hydrology, AMAs, INAs, infrastructure, storage facilities, watersheds, CAP canals and more

Guide to the Well Cadastral or Legal Description:
<https://www.azwater.gov/azdwr/documents/township-section-rangecolor.pdf>

Well Registry Handbook:
<https://gisweb.azwater.gov/WellRegistry/WellRegistryHandbook.pdf>

Arizona Well Registry Map:
<https://gisweb3.azwater.gov/WellReg>

Assured and Adequate Water Supply Map (AAWS):
<https://gisweb2.azwater.gov/AAWS#>

Water Document Registry:
<https://infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/HomePage>

Designated Water Providers List
https://new.azwater.gov/sites/default/files/media/List_of_Designated_Providers_2-19-2020.pdf

Groundwater Permitting & Wells Section - ADWR
[http://infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-11792/Practical_Guide_Rev_09-23-2019_for_Web\(2\).pdf](http://infoshare.azwater.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-11792/Practical_Guide_Rev_09-23-2019_for_Web(2).pdf)

A Well Owner's Guide to Ground Water Resources
<https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/az1451.pdf>

A Well Owner's Guide to Water Supply – U of A 2009
<https://wrrc.arizona.edu/sites/wrrc.arizona.edu/files/az1485.pdf>

A Well Owner's Guide to Water Supply – U of A 2017
https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/az1485-2017_0.pdf