

Before



After



Case Study: Tonto Village

When Cactus State acquired the Tonto Village Water System in Gila County, it inherited a facility that had suffered from decades of neglect. The system was plagued by deteriorating assets that compromised the quality and safety of the community's drinking water. Over a span of more than two decades, the Tonto Village system had accumulated a persistent history of Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) regulatory compliance issues. These violations spanned critical areas including routine sampling, disinfection byproduct monitoring, bacteriological testing, public notification, consumer confidence reporting, and lead and copper sampling. The site itself was a significant hazard, strewn with debris, junk, and abandoned vehicles left by the previous owner. Wild animals freely roamed the area, and erosion and runoff negatively impacted neighboring properties. Additionally, the aging distribution system had a documented history of water loss, further jeopardizing the reliability of the water supply.

Cactus State quickly partnered with the residents of Tonto Village to understand their concerns and began implementing essential upgrades to the system. The cleanup effort included regrading both sites and adding aggregate rock to Site 3, which not only improved the aesthetics but also helped prevent potentially dangerous drainage backups. All junk, debris, and abandoned vehicles were removed, significantly enhancing the safety and appearance of the facility. To ensure a consistent water supply, the aging and failing equipment, including the air compressor in the hydropneumatic water storage tank, was replaced. This upgrade regulated consistent water volume and improved the system's overall efficiency.

To further protect the water system, Cactus State installed remote monitoring technology, allowing operators to rapidly respond to potential issues before they could escalate. Recognizing the frequent power outages that had long troubled Tonto Village residents, state-of-the-art backup generators were also installed, ensuring a reliable water supply even during power interruptions. For added security, more robust fencing was installed around the plant and wells, creating a secure barrier that both protects residents and preserves the integrity of their water supply.

Looking ahead, Cactus State has additional improvements planned for Tonto Village. These include the installation of new booster pumps, piping and fittings, as well as the recoating of storage tanks to preserve their integrity and further ensure the continued reliability of the water supply.

Through these targeted efforts, Cactus State has transformed the Tonto Village Water System into a safe, reliable source of drinking water, prioritizing the health and well-being of every resident. The community now benefits from a system that not only meets regulatory requirements but also enhances the quality of life in Tonto Village.