

CAREFREE WATER FAST FACTS #3



Underground Water Reservoir

The Town of Carefree filed in the Arizona Superior Court on Friday, April 23rd, to acquire through condemnation the property required for the site of an additional water storage reservoir in Carefree.

An additional underground water storage reservoir was determined as being necessary to supplement the three existing water reservoirs in Carefree by the Water Company's engineers, Coe & Van Loo (CVL). This additional reservoir is required to 1) provide adequate water service throughout the Carefree Water Company's system when all of Carefree's residential and commercial accounts are integrated into the system and 2) to store a portion of the total system's water requirements for immediate use in the event of a structure fire or wildfire.

The site identified by CVL is immediately adjacent to Tom Darlington Road in a large open space tract owned by the Boulders Homeowners Association. This site was determined by CVL and the Water Company Management as the best location because it satisfied all of the system operating requirements.

CVL evaluated 32 potential sites for the reservoir using established criteria relating to system operating requirements and the impact a reservoir would have upon adjacent residents. The site selected already had an existing high volume water line running through it. Beyond that, this site also permitted site access without the requirement of Water Company vehicles transiting through residential neighborhoods.

The Town's offer to purchase the property and construct the reservoir in concert with the Homeowners Association Guidelines was not accepted, thereby requiring a condemnation action.

The Water Company will take all reasonable steps to minimize the visual impact of the reservoir. The reservoir will be placed underground as much as permitted by the sloping and irregular terrain in that area, and covered over with soil. It will be landscaped with native desert vegetation to minimize its visibility and to make the site, when construction is completed, in harmony with the surrounding desert vegetation and terrain.

