

# CAREFREE WATER FAST FACTS #4



## Reasons to Consolidate

Water is a primary component of a quality lifestyle and economic prosperity for every community, particularly in the arid Southwest. Without an assured supply of quality water, life, as we know it in Carefree, would require dramatic changes.

While most of the water accounts in Carefree are currently serviced by the Carefree Water Company system, the remaining 20-25 percent of residential properties plus a very important future commercial parcel, are serviced by Cave Creek. There are differences in the water services provided to Carefree residents and businesses depending upon which water provider they have. And, while the Town of Carefree has supported those accounts on the Carefree Water Company system through such initiatives as making interest-free loans and co-signing on Water Company loans, Carefree residents currently receiving water service from Cave Creek have not received any such benefits. A number of reasons support integrating all Carefree residents and businesses into the Carefree Water Company system at this time.

**Lack of Representation:** Representation provides all residents with an avenue to raise concerns and problems, and have them addressed and rectified. The Town Councils elected by the citizens of Carefree and Cave Creek are each responsible for their respective town's water system. Those Carefree residents receiving their water service from Cave Creek cannot vote in the selection of Cave Creek Town Council members and, therefore, have no such person or group in either Carefree or Cave Creek to whom they can express their grievances, have them addressed and hold those responsible accountable.

**More Assured Quality Water Supply:** The Colorado River, which supplies the water for use by the Central Arizona Project (CAP), is the source of the majority of the water used by both the Carefree and Cave Creek water systems. Our area is at the 20-year mark of what many weather experts predict could be a 50 year or longer drought. Cutbacks to CAP water in future years are likely. Carefree has a greater relative supply of CAP water, and additional water available from the large aquifer which lies beneath Carefree, to supply its current and future accounts than does neighboring Cave Creek. In times of water shortages and cutbacks, this could make a very meaningful difference in our quality of life.

**Control of Water = Better Management of Development:** Control of the water supply throughout Carefree will enable the Town to better manage residential development and attract quality merchants which will add to sales tax revenues. Without an assured water supply throughout Carefree, future development could be severely restricted.

**Increased Economies of Scale:** Adding an additional 550 or more accounts, an approximately 30% increase in the number of accounts serviced by Carefree Water Company, will yield better economies of scale given the relatively fixed overheads with which water systems operate.



For more information visit [Carefree.org](http://Carefree.org)

