



Enviro-Mindz

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Volume 1, Issue 1

How can I help the
Environment?



Clean up of old cattle feed lot

Do you remember about twenty years ago, driving along Mesa Drive and McDonald Drive and seeing hundreds of cattle? The old site used to be a part of the 160 acres formerly operated by Texzona Cattle Feeders from 1963 to 1990.

At peak capacity, the feedlot held up to 60,000 head of cattle.

Although the feed lot closed in 1990 and most of the facility was dismantled in 1991.

There were many tanks, accumulated manure and buildings that remained on site.

For many years, this site was in need of remediation and through federal grants, over half the site is fully remediated.



Images on the right show tanks and old buildings left behind.

Inside this issue:

Clean up of old cattle feed lot ¹

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Clean up pictures ²

The dangers of household waste ³

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Conserve the Earth!

Clean up of Old Cattle Feed Lot funded by EPA's Brownfields Clean up grant

In 2006, the Community was awarded \$550,000 through the US EPA Brownfields Program to assess, characterize, clean-up, and remediate the site. The Project effort began in 2007 and was planned for completion by the end of 2011. The Assessment Phase was conducted from 2007 –2009 and included structural, groundwater, and soil assessments. The clean up, removal, and demolition of buildings and structures began in 2011. The Community Development Department's (CDD) Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Division (EPNR) has successfully completed the clean up and removal of the tanks and old buildings that were left behind. The southern part of the feed lot site has been cleaned and will soon be available for reuse, as directed by landowners.



After clean up

Area where old scale house used to be.



Area where shed used to be.

Area where tanks used to be.



Many thanks to Engineering & Construction Services (ECS), Public Works (PW) and the Human Resources (HR) Apprenticeship Program.

Let's make our Community a better place! -The dangers of household waste.

Ever wonder what you could do to help the environment and protect your loved ones?

Simply disposing of waste properly around the home can have enormous benefits for everyone.

Trash not stored properly in bins can quickly become roadside litter; allowing stray dogs or wild animals to get to it and create a bigger mess. Other times animals or the wind overturns our bins scattering debris everywhere.

Regardless of the reason, it is recommendable to try to keep the trash bags inside the home until its closer to the trash pick up day.

Whatever the reason for the trash being scattered, it is time that we do something about it. The bigger problem with this scenario is that this waste can become a health and safety concern.

The first concern about scattered trash are the kids in the Community who are often

playing outside. The accumulated household waste may become a hazard to them. As parents, we can not control what our kids will pick up to play and can't always prevent an infant from accidentally drinking or eating things they find.

Secondly, the accumulation of trash will encourage dogs, rats, birds and flies to be around the area, bringing diseases closer to your home and family. These animals may bring rabies, fleas, avian infections, bacteria and parasites.

Another danger of the household waste is that wildlife may get hurt. Lizards may become trapped in bottles or bags, small wildlife may cut their feet on glass, and birds may become trapped in trash.

For all these reasons, it is very important that we are cautious with storing our waste. The health of our family, neighbors and environment is dependent upon it.



Tips for storing household waste

- ◆ Try to keep the trash inside the house until the pick up day.
- ◆ Be careful with containers of hazardous materials and make sure they are bagged or labeled for disposal at the Semi-Annual SRPMIC Household Hazardous Waste Days (October/April).
- ◆ Try to tie your trash bags and always place them inside a bin.

CDD/EPNR

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WE ARE ON THE WEB

www.saltriverenvironmental.org

The Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Division (EPNR) is a Division of the Community Development Department (CDD). This Division was established to enhance the quality of life within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community by protecting and preserving the land, ecosystems, wildlife, history, and natural resources of the Community.



"PROTECT, RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE EARTH"

EPNR HOTLINE 480-362-7500

Do you have any environmental questions?

CDD/EPNR strives to provide the Community with the most important topics to provide them knowledge about environmental health and safety. We hope that this newsletter serves to be an educational guide to all the readers. CDD/EPNR would like to get your feedback and comments about this new issue in order to help us better serve the Community with information that is most useful to them. If there are any topics of environmental awareness and health that you would like discussed in the next issue, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate the information.

Feel free to e-mail, or write us to ask questions and we will do our best to address them .

Please send your questions or comments to:

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or

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