

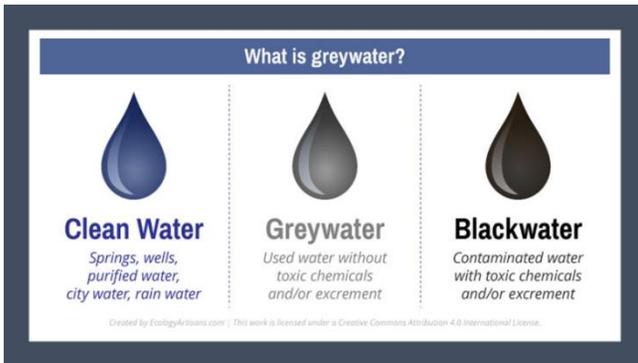
# What is Greywater?

Greywater is most household water that has been used once & does not contain dangerous chemicals for reuse. Therefore, any water from your laundry machine, bath/shower, and bathroom sink “throw away” greywater that is in great quality to be diverted towards your landscape.

## Estimates of Water Use

“The average American family uses more than 300 gallons of water per day at home. Roughly 70 percent of this use occurs indoors.” – EPA

“Estimates vary, but each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day.” – USGS



Our homes are *rarely* designed to be efficient with water-use and until we can incorporate greywater systems in our initial home constructions, we have to renovate existing piping to allow for greywater use. This can make it difficult if your bathtub is on the first floor on a concrete foundation, but whenever possible, these are extremely valuable modifications that are important especially in drylands like Arizona.

*“Greywater is one of the best investments for Arizona water.”*  
- Andrea

# Let us Introduce Ourselves!

**G-Force Gaia Services, LLC** is dedicated to providing restorative design & practices in order to best serve our community, water, & land.

Our focus is on greywater systems, rainwater catchment & management, and ecological landscaping with our region, hydrology, and food systems in mind.

Certified as a Sustainable Business at the Silver/Innovator level by the Sustainability Alliance



## Contact Us

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Serving the Verde Valley

Greywater Systems  
Rainwater Catchment  
Ecological & Edible Landscaping  
Irrigation, Gardening,  
& Consulting



**G-Force Gaia Services, LLC**

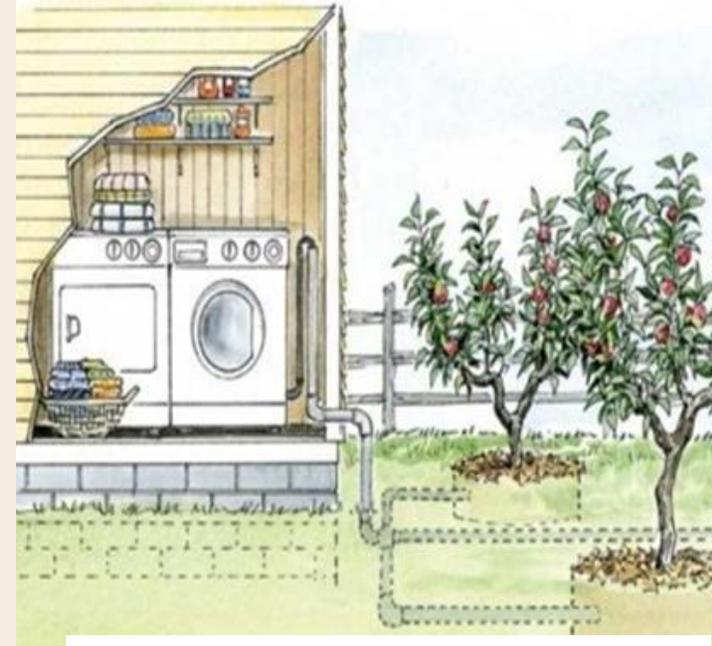


Illustration by Elayne Sears



**G-Force Gaia Services, LLC**

## Why a Laundry to Landscape System?

# Greywater is Legal and Vital!

Arizona Law and the Department of Environmental Quality (AZDEQ) allow citizens to install up to 400 gallons per day's worth of greywater systems through a Type 1 General Permit – as long as you follow Best Management Practices.

### Type 1 General Permit

The basic requirements to use grey water at your home are simple:

~ Residents must adhere to the guidelines for a Reclaimed Water Type 1 General Permit. A Type 1 General Permit requires **no** formal notification to the department, **no** review or design approval, and **no** public notice, reporting or renewal.

~ Although you don't have to apply to receive a formal permit for permission to use gray water, you must abide by the 13 best management practices (BMPs), which were developed to protect public health and water quality.

### Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- ~ Under 400 gallons per day
- ~ Non-spray irrigation, keep it on-site and avoid direct human contact
- ~ Do not surface irrigate any plants that produce food, except for citrus and nut trees and avoid surface accumulation.
- ~ If you have a septic or other on-site wastewater disposal system, your gray water use does not change that system's design requirements for capacity and reserve areas.
- ~ Avoid hazardous materials, grease, oil, & diapers.
- ~ The general permit is meant for private residential use only.
- ~ Groundwater must be at least 5' below grade.
- ~ The area of use cannot be accessible by the public.
- ~ Only drip or flood irrigation with graywater is allowed.
- ~ Label pipes carrying gray water under pressure to eliminate confusion between gray water and drinking water pipes.
- \* We **never** recommend using storage for greywater



In general, no city, town or county may limit the use of gray water if the use is allowed by this general permit (ARS §49-204)

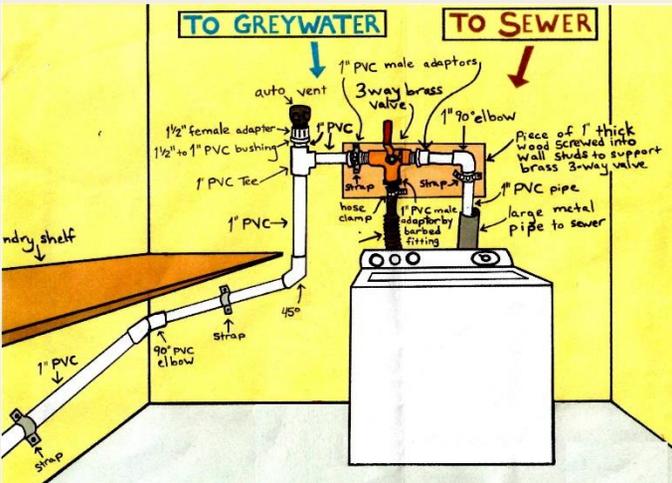


Photo from The Urban Farm Store

- Converting your washing machine is one of the **simplest and most affordable** installations.
- Diverts 20-50 gallons per load of laundry greywater straight to your landscape.
- The plumbing very accessible.
- The washer already has a pump allowing us to move the water longer distances.
- Fruit trees love this amount of greywater, so they grow much better and produce more fruit!
- Can take only a day or two to install.
- A 3-way diverter allows you to divert water to your garden or to your sewer/septic at any time.



### Consider other water management best practices

#### Rainwater Catchment – Tanks:

Just from an inch of rain, you can capture over 600 gallons off of 1,000 sqft of roof. A tank of any size can fill up easily during our rainy season and give us a chance to spread that water easily using gravity during our drier times.

#### Rainwater Catchment – Natural Drainage:

Simply by designing attractive and effective dry creeks, rain gardens, and other earthworks, you can sequester the rainfall from your gutters, tank overflows, and the landscape and direct it to benefit your yard.

#### Ecological/Regional Gardening:

Selecting plants that have been growing in the area will allow for stronger adaptations and a deep reliability in thriving in a climate that is otherwise quite challenging. Ensuring the species are regionally appropriate and any food seeds have been collected from locally grown plants will empower your landscape with a flourishing ecosystem. Food crops are also exciting and draw you to your garden more!

### Following the Greywater Rules:

For a copy of the greywater rule, call the nearest ADEQ office or download it at <http://legacy.azdeq.gov/envirom/water/permits/download/graybro.pdf>

The greywater rule can be found in Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 7