



Pima County Gas Cap Replacement Program

Gila River Indian Community Grant
Final Report
9/13/07



Pima County
Department of Environmental Quality
150 W. Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Gas Cap Replacement Program

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A. NARRATIVE

1. Results/Outcome - Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) began implementation of the Gas Cap Replacement Program (GCRP) in FY 05/06 with a grant of \$27,000 from the Gila River Indian Community.

The goal of the program is to reduce volatile organic compounds from mobile sources in Southern Arizona.

The objective of this program is to test vehicles for leaking gas caps and provide gas cap vouchers for replacement caps at outreach events. In addition, we are attempting to locate those vehicles with faulty gas caps that are not required to take the state emissions test.

PDEQ held or participated in eighteen outreach events since the beginning of the program. The customer table accompanying this report are the vehicles tested during the eighteen outreach events. In addition, vouchers were made available through the three Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) emission test stations. No additions were made to the customer table from these efforts, as we do not have access to the ADEQ database. Nine thousand, five hundred thirty-six gas caps were tested by PDEQ staff in all, with three hundred fifty-four failures, which is a 3.7% failure rate.

Savings of air pollution per leaky gas cap replaced is figured at 11.2 pounds of volatile organic compounds and 4 pounds of benzene per year. Using these figures, this program will eliminate **5,381** pounds of air pollution per year. Additionally, with approximately twenty gallons of gasoline evaporating per leaky gas cap, **7,080** gallons of gasoline will be saved per year.

During this pilot program, we focused on the retirement community of Green Valley, AZ. Green Valley residents are not required to have their vehicles emissions tested for license renewal, therefore, no gas cap testing is provided either. Without this program, these residents would not know if toxic fumes were leaking from their gas tanks.

A bookmark was produced to provide information about gasoline and statistical data upon losing gasoline through spillage while filling up or through a leaky gas cap. This bookmark is available in English and Spanish and it is given to all participants of the GCRP, and other Pima County Clean Air Outreach events.

By all accounts, there was only positive feedback from our customers about this program and our focus to maintain and improve Southern Arizona's air quality. As important as replacing leaky gas caps, we had the opportunity to educate the public about air quality issues and the detrimental effects a leaky gas cap can have on the air we breathe.

2. Other Comments - PDEQ and Southern Arizona is very appreciative of the grant award from Gila River Indian Community and we are pleased to have had the opportunity to begin a partnership to improve air quality in our region. The grant making and reporting process is appropriate and attainable.
3. We would also like to recognize two Automotive Supply Companies for their efforts on behalf of the program and air quality in Southern Arizona. Both companies, Merle's Automotive Supply, Inc. and NAPA Auto Parts worked with us and our customers in Tucson and Green Valley to provide the replacement gas caps and support necessary to complete the process.

B. FINANCIALS

1.	<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
	Interdepartmental Salaries	\$11,316.00
	Operating Supplies	\$ 1,517.00
	Small Tools & Office Equipment	\$ 126.00
	General Professional Services	\$ 1,308.00
	Motor Pool	\$ 56.00
	Advertising	\$ 480.00
	Printing & Microfilming	\$ 2,130.00
	Interdepartmental Supplies & Services	<u>\$10,067.00</u>
	Total	\$27,000.00