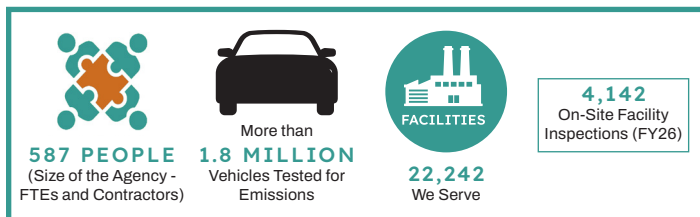




OUR MISSION AND VISION

- To protect and enhance public health and the environment in Arizona.
- Through consistent, science-based environmental regulation; and clear, equitable engagement and communication;
- With integrity, respect, and the highest standards of effectiveness and efficiency;
- Because Arizonans treasure the unique environment of our state and its essential role in sustaining well-being and economic vitality, today and for future generations.

STATE OF THE AGENCY



- To fulfill our mission and meet our state and federally mandated responsibilities, it is critical that the agency receives adequate state funding in addition to federal fund sources by establishing permit fees that cover direct and indirect permitting costs, and securing other long-term funding sources to fund agency activities unrelated to permits, e.g., setting quality standards, rulewriting.
- ADEQ's budget is comprised of 22.5% federal funds, 70.9% non-appropriated state funds, and 6.6% appropriated state funds.

Created in 1987 by the Arizona State Legislature, ADEQ is the state's cabinet level environmental agency and administers the state's environmental laws and delegated federal programs to prevent air, water and land pollution and ensure cleanup.



AIR, WATER, WASTE

- ADEQ has three environmental programs: Air Quality, Water Quality, and Waste, with functional units responsible for technical, operational and policy support.
- We help oversee compliance with these federal environmental laws: Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and Safe Drinking Water Act. We also implement 14 state-level programs, including: Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund, Aquifer and Surface Water Protection, Voluntary Remediation, Recycling, Brownfields, Drinking Water Monitoring Assistance, Voluntary Vehicle Repair and Air Quality Flag.
- Our core functions include planning, permitting, compliance management, monitoring, assessment, cleanups and outreach.

DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY

ADEQ works to sustain well-being and economic vitality for Arizonans by protecting and enhancing public health and the environment. Our work includes tackling long-standing water quality challenges by investing in solutions that deliver safe, reliable drinking water for Arizona communities. In FY26, using federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, we advanced a critical project at the San Simon Domestic Water Improvement District in Cochise County to install a new well and treatment system that reduces high, naturally-occurring fluoride, bringing attention to ongoing challenges like the sky-high cost of infrastructure improvements in rural areas and the need for qualified operators to sustain systems. Strengthening water system technical capacity and expanding sustainable solutions for rural systems struggling to serve clean drinking water remains a top priority. To understand why ozone concentrations in Maricopa and parts of Pinal County are not declining despite reduced emissions, we convened top air quality experts to launch the Ground Level Ozone Research Project, to help inform future planning and policy changes. We gathered data from dozens of known contaminated sites, and are evaluating statewide data regarding potential abandoned mine land (AML) and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) sites to support actuarial assessments of estimated cleanup costs and ensure long-term solvency. We are dedicated to delivering science-based environmental regulation effectively and efficiently, while building trust among those we regulate and communities throughout Arizona.

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOMES, ANNUAL OBJECTIVES & INITIATIVES



CLEAN AND HEALTHY DRINKING WATER

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOME 1

By June 2029, 100% of public drinking water systems (PWS) will serve water meeting federal safe drinking water standards.

To date, 93% of PWS are meeting federal safe drinking water standards. ADEQ restored safe drinking water to 41 PWS, and prevented 14 PWS from exceeding standards, protecting 80,809 Arizonans. ADEQ also assisted six PWS with ARPA funding protecting a total population of 11,157.

FY27 ANNUAL OBJECTIVES

By June 2027, restore water to federal safe drinking water standards at 22 PWS.

By June 2027, prevent 10 PWS from exceeding standards.

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

- Assist PWS in pursuing replacements for current federal funding to resolve exceedances
- Develop and implement a strategy to notify and get action from newly predicted PWS with the potential to exceed standards within the next 12 months
- Complete 500 Technical, Managerial and Financial 2.0 surveys for PWS



CLEAN AIR

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOME 2

By June 2029, increase the percentage of people breathing air that meets National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) by submitting all required plans and documentation to achieve attainment with NAAQS to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ADEQ continued progress towards attaining and maintaining the NAAQS through air monitoring, planning, stakeholder engagement, and developing State Implementation Plans (SIPs). The additional resources from the Air Quality Fee Fund helped facilitate the submission of the Hayden Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) and Lead SIPs. To date, ADEQ has submitted 43% of the required plans and documentation.

FY27 ANNUAL OBJECTIVES

By June 2027, submit to EPA the Yuma PM₁₀ moderate SIP.

By June 2027, submit to EPA the Miami SO₂ Nonattainment Area SIP.

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

- Submit the Notice of Final Rulemaking for control measures to be included in the Yuma PM₁₀ moderate SIP to the Governor's Regulatory Review Council
- Submit the Notice of Final Rulemaking for control measures in Yuma PM₁₀ moderate SIP to the Secretary of State
- Submit the Yuma PM₁₀ moderate SIP to EPA
- Submit the complete Miami SO₂ SIP to EPA



SUSTAINABLE WATER

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOME 3

By June 2029, ADEQ will identify 100% of transmission paths from onsite wastewater systems and AML that are causing safe drinking water exceedances.

To date, ADEQ has partnered with Gila County to replace 11 cesspools using ARPA funding, and identified 588,494 septic systems statewide. ADEQ received the AML site inventory survey data on June 30, 2026. Following a content review, ADEQ can now confirm the survey to identify AML sites is 100% complete. In FY27 ADEQ will visit sites and develop the methodology to identify the transmission paths.

FY27 ANNUAL OBJECTIVES

By June 2027, complete 10% of data verification of the inventory of documented statewide septic systems.

By June 2027, complete 17% of AML field verifications of prioritized areas with the most impact to human health and the environment.

By June 2027, develop a process to understand the connection between inventories and drinking water exceedances.

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

- Develop a seamless process for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Facility (OWTF) data gathering and data updating to ensure inventory is accurate and complete
- Complete survey to identify potential cesspools
- Develop the field verification tool and process to confirm AML sites
- Develop methodology for determining how AMLs and OWTF are impacting surrounding aquifers and drinking water sources



SCAN ME



bit.ly/ADEQstratplanFY27



SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOME 4

By June 2029, develop and deploy a comprehensive funding strategy to mitigate known Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) sites and emerging PFAS and AML sites.

ADEQ conducted remediation at 12 AML sites using state and federal funding. ADEQ is using ARPA funding to better characterize PFAS contamination at six high priority WQARF sites to collect data needed to develop a comprehensive funding strategy to mitigate known WQARF PFAS sites. This work represents 35% of the overall strategy deployed to date. Upon review of assessment scope, it became clear that ADEQ could only complete one of the three assessments this year. PFAS and AML site actuarial assessments have been reprioritized to FY27.

FY27 ANNUAL OBJECTIVES

By June 2027, complete PFAS site actuarial assessment.

By June 2027, complete AML site actuarial assessment.

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

- Evaluate available statewide data to assess sufficiency to inform an actuarial assessment related to potential PFAS sites
- Evaluate available statewide data to assess sufficiency to inform an actuarial assessment related to potential AML sites

FIVE-YEAR OUTCOME 5

To ensure the continuation of key ADEQ programs, ADEQ will increase the number of program funds that are sustainable from 57% to 100% by June 2029.

Currently, 73% of ADEQ's funds are sustainable. ADEQ sustained mandated Solid Waste program operations using the \$1.3M appropriated in the FY26 executive budget for the Solid Waste Fee Fund. Correspondingly, ADEQ restarted the recycling grant program using the approximately \$2M appropriated in the FY26 executive budget for the Recycling Fund. ADEQ continued to address the growing environmental concern of PFAS and mitigation of illegal cesspools across the state using \$5.5M in ARPA funding to fulfill the general fund request. In FY27, ADEQ will implement the remaining components of the revenue sustaining strategy.

FY27 ANNUAL OBJECTIVE

By June 2027, continue implementation of revenue sustaining strategy.

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

- Monitor and reevaluate revenue strategy to identify necessary changes
- Continue and strengthen annual fee inventory and audit



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

ADEQ prioritizes listening to and serving Arizonans, where they are and how they prefer.

- Community Liaisons bridge the gaps between Arizonans, local communities, non-profit organizations and ADEQ.
- A Tribal Liaison facilitates communication and consultation with Tribal interests related to potential impacts from ADEQ's actions.
- The Border Team works closely with environmental and public health partners on both sides of the border.
- AZ Community Science Alliance provides comprehensive training and resources for volunteers to gather high-quality, credible data that is crucial for environmental protection, as well as environmental educational opportunities and curriculum.

ACHIEVEMENTS

30 active volunteer groups | 290 volunteers
\$5,582,000 total cost savings to ADEQ
14 waterbody segments delisted | 98,500 pounds of trash removed



We're commemorating the 40th anniversaries of the Environmental Quality Act and the establishment of our agency. Visit the ADEQ website to learn about our history.



azdeq.gov/history