

It Takes A Community To Stop Sodium Pollution

Next time you fill your water softener with a heavy bag of salt, stop to think about where it goes. Did you know that approximately 1 million pounds of sodium are added to the wastewater collected by the Sanitary District every year?

The Sanitary District recycles every drop of wastewater collected in Fountain Hills. All of the sodium from water softeners ends up in the recycled water supply, used for irrigation at our local parks and golf courses.

How does the 40-pound bag of salt used to refill a home water softener end up on the grass at local parks and golf courses?

When you add salt to your water softener, it is dissolved into the water for your home, used for drinking and washing, and then discharged into the sewer system. Once in the sewer system, it is collected, treated, and then sent to local parks and golf courses for irrigating the grass and landscaping. It is also used to refill Fountain Lake to irrigate the park grass and provide water for the fountain. In the end, every 40-pound bag of salt that a resident uses ends up applied to the grass at local parks and golf courses.

Benefits of using Potassium Chloride in your water softener:

- Provides needed potassium to your diet
- Reduces sodium intake
- Doesn't pollute the local water source
- Better for grass at local parks and golf courses
- Protects pipes and appliances from corrosion
- Safe for all softeners

It is more expensive, but is better for you and the environment.

Which Salt To Use?

	Sodium Chloride (Same as table salt)	Potassium Chloride
Size of Bag	40 lbs	40 lbs
Cost per Bag	\$7 at hardware store	\$34 at hardware store \$19 at Costco
Number of times to refill in a year	4x	4x
Annual Cost	\$28	\$136 (hardware store) \$76 (Costco)
Pollutes local water resources?	Yes	No
Annual amount of sodium that ends up watering local parks and golf courses per year	63 lbs per household	0 lbs

