

## Meeting Conducted Locally on Lower Colorado River Project

*Project Could Nearly Double City's Water Supply*

During the drought this summer, many San Antonio citizens wondered aloud why the city wasn't looking to other water sources. The truth is, SAWS has been planning for our water future for years, and we gave an update on a significant and ambitious project on September 12 at the Witte Museum.



*Dr. Jennifer Benaman, Vice President for Quantitative Environmental Analysis, discusses water quality for the project.*

The SAWS-LCRA joint project is currently at the midpoint of a six-year feasibility study. This multi-faceted, integrated water supply project will conserve agricultural water, and capture and store excess water flows from the lower Colorado River.

If approved, by 2020 the project could yield up to 150,000 acre-feet a year for San Antonio's long-term needs. In comparison, San Antonio currently uses about 180,000 acre-feet per year from the Edwards.

The project is a major component of SAWS 50-year water supply plan, and would provide a significant alternative source of water for San Antonio's future.



*The meeting at the Witte was well attended by residents from throughout the region.*

## San Antonio Stays in Stage One for Now

*Aquifer levels above 650', but region remains in serious drought*

We were all hoping recent rain and higher aquifer levels would end Stage One watering restrictions. But an extended dry spell that put our region in the most serious drought condition levels set by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has prompted SAWS to extend Stage One restrictions until at least November 2. SAWS will re-evaluate weather conditions and aquifer levels to determine whether Stage One can be ended.

Staying in Stage One for a bit longer will help the city stay within regulatory pumping limits set by the Edwards Aquifer Authority and allow the aquifer to recover from record high temperatures in our city's history.

See bottom right of page 2 for Stage one watering schedule.

## City Stormwater Fee Increase Starts Nov.1

Due to a recently-announced 6.8 percent increase in the City of San Antonio's federal stormwater fee, the average SAWS residential customer will see a \$0.19 cent increase in their water bill beginning November 1.

The stormwater fee is collected through SAWS bills and credited to the city's Stormwater Utility to support and manage the operation and maintenance of the stormwater infrastructure, as well as for engineering, design, and capital improvements.

San Antonio's Stormwater Utility works to solve drainage problems and improve surface water quality, to prevent future problems, and to repair, maintain, and enhance the storm water infrastructure.

The full stormwater fee rate structure is available at [www.sanantonio.gov/publicworks/stormwater/index.asp](http://www.sanantonio.gov/publicworks/stormwater/index.asp).

## SAWS Closing Salado Water Recycling Center

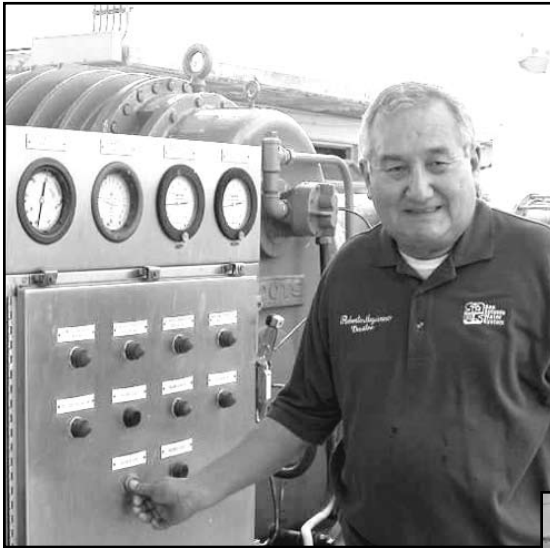
It may seem strange, but closing SAWS Salado Creek Water Recycling Center seemed like saying goodbye to an old – if somewhat stinky – friend.

For many years, the Salado site was key to San Antonio’s sewage treatment system. It went online in 1970 with an initial capacity of 24 million gallons. Over the years, several expansions and re-ratings increased the capacity to 46 million gallons per day.

While in operation, Salado Creek treated over 330 billion gallons of sewage. In 2000, it became the first facility to deliver recycled water through SAWS recycled water distribution system.

The Dos Rios Water Recycling Center was able to absorb the treatment capacity of the Salado plant, so SAWS officially closed the facility on September 16. A ceremony was held at the plant to recognize the important contribution made by the plant and its staff toward protection of public health and the environment.

Goodbye, old friend.



*Mr. Roberto Anguiano, a former supervisor at Salado and current SAWS Board Trustee, turns off the blowers for the last time*



*As with all SAWS facilities, safety and quality were always priorities at Salado.*



*SAWS employees Mike Villegas and Daniel Perez, joined in the barbecue feast that was served after the closing ceremonies.*

### Drinking, bathing, cleaning, cooking....



Many people take water for granted. But every day, families risk losing water service because they can't afford to pay their water bill. If you'd like to help keep water flowing to our neighbors in need, you can contribute to Project Agua, a non-profit program from SAWS helping customers pay their water bill. It's simple and no contribution is too small to help. Just look for the donation box on the return portion of your SAWS bill.

### Electronic Payment Processing: "Where's the Check?"



If you write a check to pay your residential SAWS bill by mail, you may soon be noticing something missing in your statement... your check!

SAWS is working to reduce business costs to keep rates low. Processing checks is an area that provides great new opportunities for savings thanks to improving technology.

SAWS will soon be converting to electronic payment processing. That means that we'll be converting your check to a scanned image, and processing the payment electronically through your bank. As a result, your cancelled check will not be included in your bank statement. The detailed transaction on your bank statement will identify a payment made to SAWS, check amount and the check number. A \$30 fee will be charged on all returned items

### Stage One Watering Schedule

Last Number of Street Address	Day for Watering
0 or 1	Monday
2 or 3	Tuesday
4 or 5	Wednesday
6 or 7	Thursday
8 or 9	Friday

*No watering on weekends. Water before 10 a.m. or after 8 p.m. Metered accounts without an address water on Wednesdays.*

Water News is published for customers of San Antonio Water System.

#### Numbers to Know

Customer Service 704-SAWS  
T.D.D. 233-3153  
CleanStream Hotline 212-5326

#### 24-Hour Emergency

Customer Service/  
Water Waste Reporting 704-SAWS

Visit our web site at [www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org)