



# WATER NEWS

## Saving Water is Focus of Rate Plan

### Proposed Changes Will Promote Water Conservation Among High Users

San Antonio Water System works hard for you every day to provide sustainable, affordable water services.

Thanks in part to your nationally recognized conservation efforts and increased efficiencies, SAWS did not raise customer rates in 2010. In fact, SAWS rates remain among the lowest in Texas and the nation.

After more than a year of careful study, a citizens' committee has recommended adjustments to the SAWS rate structure, making additional water conservation a priority.

Here are some of the ways this will be accomplished:

- Reduce bills for lower water use while raising bills for higher, discretionary water use, like heavy summer lawn watering.
- Establish a tiered rate structure for the water supply fee.
- Extend higher seasonal summer rates by two extra months.
- Charge a higher monthly fee for larger water meters.
- Establish a tiered rate structure for irrigation-only accounts.

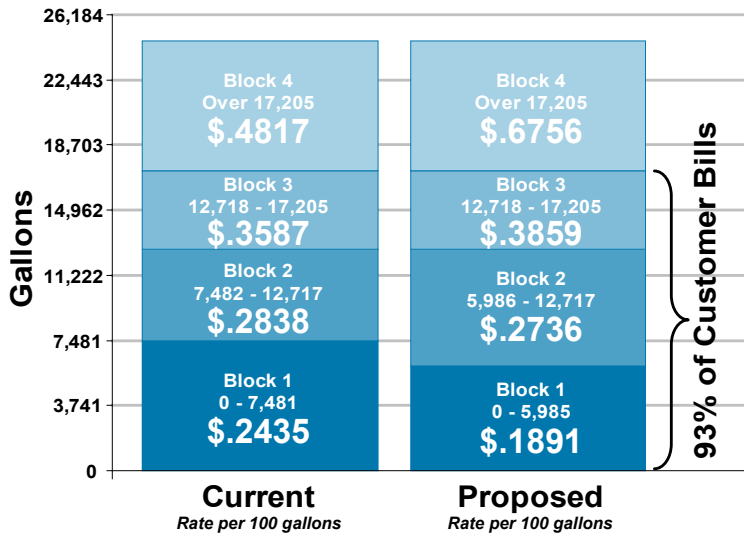
This proposal was presented to San Antonio City Council, which recommended that the rate structure change be combined with a possible rate adjustment later in the year. Under this recommendation, changes in the rate structure and the rate adjustment would take effect at the same time. Both changes would require approval by SAWS Board of Trustees and San Antonio City Council later this year.

### Lower Water Use = Lower Rates

The average San Antonio household uses between 7,000 and 8,000 gallons per month. Even in a dry summer, with some reasonable lawn watering, that number can easily stay below 15,000 gallons.

It's not fair to ask all of our customers to pay more just to meet the lawn watering needs of a few customers. With the new rate structure, the cost of more expensive alternative water supplies is paid by those using that water. Lower water users are rewarded for their conservation efforts through lower rates.

### Proposed Residential Water & Water Supply Rates



As before, the new rate structure will have four pricing blocks. The more water you use, the higher the price. With proposed changes, only 7 percent of customer bills will be higher. Those all reach Block 4, where consumption is more than 17,205 gallons a month.

### Public meeting on rate structure:

March 31, 6:30 p.m.  
SAWS Headquarters, 2800 U.S. Hwy. 281 North

# PUBLIC NOTICE

DECLARATION OF INTENT TO CHANGE WATER SERVICE,  
WATER SUPPLY, AND WASTEWATER RATES



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## Implementation of new water service, water supply, and wastewater rates on or after June 1, 2010 is hereby declared.

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Pursuant to the notification requirements of Title 30, Section 291.22 of the Texas Administrative Code and applicable City regulations, the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Board of Trustees announces its intent to seek approval from the City of San Antonio City Council for the implementation of new water service, water supply, and wastewater rates.

The new rates, as proposed by SAWS staff, were presented for review at the January 25, 2010 meeting of the SAWS Board of Trustees; final consideration will be given at the April 6, 2010 meeting of the SAWS Board. The water service, water supply and wastewater rates ultimately approved by the SAWS Board are scheduled for review and consideration by the San Antonio City Council on April 15, 2010. Upon approval by City Council, the new rates will become effective on or after June 1, 2010, and will be reflected in the July billing statements.

These changes only affect your SAWS-provided services.

The charts on page 3 represent samples of comparisons of current and proposed billing amounts for 10,000 and 30,000 gallons of water and wastewater service for varying customer classes. More information is available at 210-704-SAWS (7297) or on SAWS Web site at [www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org).

***Para información en español, por favor lláme al 704-7297.***

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## Definitions:

**Seasonal Period** Existing: Time of year between July 1 and October 31  
Proposed: Billings beginning on or about May 1 and ending after six complete billing months (on or about October 31)

**Standard Period** Existing: Time of year between November 1 and June 30  
Proposed: Billings other than during seasonal period, beginning on or about November 1 and ending after six complete billing months (on or about April 30)

**ICL** Inside City Limits

**OCL** Outside City Limits

**General Class** Includes Commercial, Industrial, and Apartment Customers

**Base Consumption** Existing: 90% of average monthly consumption of prior year  
Proposed: 100% of average monthly consumption of prior year

**Average Winter Consumption** The period of service beginning on or after November 15 of each year and ending on or after the completion of three full billing cycles in March of each year. Residential wastewater bills are based on this average.

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

## DECLARATION OF INTENT TO CHANGE WATER SERVICE, WATER SUPPLY, AND WASTEWATER RATES

### Changes to Combined Residential Water Delivery & Water Supply Bills

Residential Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 10,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
Standard	ICL	\$32.14	\$29.06	-\$3.08	-9.6%
Standard	OCL	\$37.16	\$34.27	-\$2.89	-7.8%
Seasonal	ICL	\$32.42	\$29.52	-\$2.90	-8.9%
Seasonal	OCL	\$37.53	\$34.86	-\$2.67	-7.1%

Residential Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 30,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
Standard	ICL	\$117.58	\$140.26	\$22.68	19.3%
Standard	OCL	\$139.05	\$161.30	\$22.25	16.0%
Seasonal	ICL	\$131.15	\$153.63	\$22.48	17.1%
Seasonal	OCL	\$156.69	\$178.69	\$22.00	14.0%

### Changes to Combined General Class Water Delivery & Water Supply Bills

General Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 10,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$36.13	\$35.53	-\$0.60	-1.7%
All Year	OCL	\$41.45	\$41.61	\$0.16	0.4%

General Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 30,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$88.77	\$87.83	-\$0.94	-1.1%
All Year	OCL	\$100.68	\$100.43	-\$0.25	-0.2%

### Changes to Combined Irrigation Class Water Delivery & Water Supply Bills

Irrigation Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 10,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
Standard	ICL	\$40.36	\$40.41	\$0.05	0.1%
Standard	OCL	\$46.94	\$47.65	\$0.71	1.5%
Seasonal	ICL	\$40.36	\$41.65	\$1.29	3.2%
Seasonal	OCL	\$46.94	\$49.26	\$2.32	4.9%

Irrigation Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 30,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 5/8" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
Standard	ICL	\$125.80	\$172.00	\$46.20	36.7%
Standard	OCL	\$148.84	\$197.98	\$49.14	33.0%
Seasonal	ICL	\$125.80	\$190.97	\$65.17	51.8%
Seasonal	OCL	\$148.84	\$222.64	\$73.80	49.6%

### Changes to Residential Class Wastewater Bills

Residential Class Wastewater Service  
Charge for 10,000 Gals. Monthly Avg. Winter Consumption

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$25.25	\$25.25	\$0.00	0.0%
All Year	OCL	\$30.31	\$30.31	\$0.00	0.0%

Residential Class Wastewater Service  
Charge for 30,000 Gals. Monthly Avg. Winter Consumption

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$66.39	\$66.39	\$0.00	0.0%
All Year	OCL	\$79.67	\$79.67	\$0.00	0.0%

### Changes to General Class Wastewater Bills

General Class Wastewater Service  
Charge for 10,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$25.25	\$25.25	\$0.00	0.0%
All Year	OCL	\$30.31	\$30.31	\$0.00	0.0%

General Class Wastewater Service  
Charge for 30,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$66.39	\$66.39	\$0.00	0.0%
All Year	OCL	\$79.67	\$79.67	\$0.00	0.0%

### Changes to Combined Wholesale Class Water Delivery & Water Supply Bills

Wholesale Class Water Delivery and Water Supply  
Charge for 1,000,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption, 6" meter

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$2,534.39	\$2,554.69	\$20.30	0.8%
All Year	OCL	\$2,836.64	\$2,862.50	\$25.86	0.9%

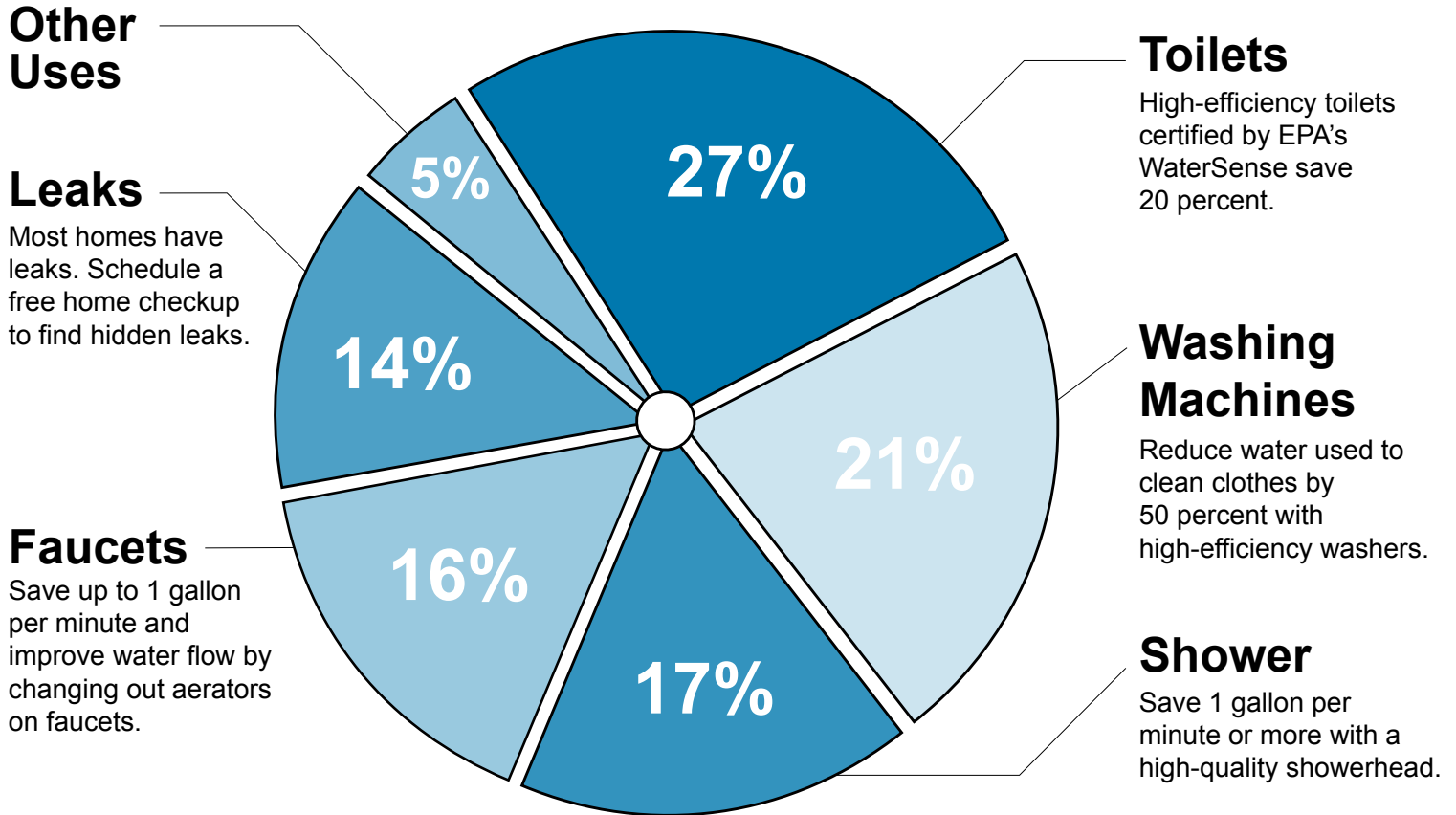
### Changes to Wholesale Class Wastewater Bills

Wholesale Class Wastewater Service  
Charge for 1,000,000 Gals. Monthly Consumption

Period	Location	Existing Rates	Proposed Rates	Change	% Change
All Year	ICL	\$1,854.00	\$1,854.00	\$0.00	0.0%
All Year	OCL	\$2,317.11	\$2,317.11	\$0.00	0.0%

# Home Indoor Water Use

Drop your home usage by 20 percent



Source: 1999 AWWA Residential End Uses of Water Study  
Percentage totals may exceed 100 due to rounding.

## Conservation: Managing, Not Rationing to Keep Rates Affordable

San Antonio is the best in the nation at water conservation.

In 2008 and 2009, our community not only survived, but thrived through the driest two years in history, thanks to your conservation efforts.

San Antonio's 50-year water management plan calls for aggressive water conservation to continue. It's not only the right thing to do for our

long-term water needs. It's also a great way to keep water affordable.

Using less water means a lower monthly bill. And, by saving water today, we delay the need to find and buy more expensive water supplies in the future.

That's good for your pocketbook, and good for economic development and

businesses seeking to bring jobs to San Antonio.

To learn more about how SAWS can help you or your business save money and water, call 210-704-SAVE or visit [www.saws.org/conservation](http://www.saws.org/conservation).

## CONTACT US

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
704-SAWS (7297)

**T.D.D. 233-3153**  
[www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org)

**24-HOUR EMERGENCY**  
704-SAWS (7297)

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