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waternews

Your source for all things water



Create the Oasis of Your Dreams With New Outdoor Living Rebate

Tired of staring at that crunchy brown patch of grass? The new SAWS Outdoor Living Rebate is a great incentive to just let it go — and put a new deck or patio in its place!

The rebate will help with the cost of a wooden deck or hardscape feature made of flagstone, stepping-stones, or pavers, or a combination of both. Previously constructed or current under-construction decks and patios are not eligible. The rebate ranges from \$300 to \$1,000, depending how much grass is removed (minimum 200 square feet required). After work is complete and approved, you'll get a cash rebate!

The process is simple. Submit an application and a photo of the area to be transformed, along with a request for a pre-inspection visit. Pre-inspection and approval are required

before any work begins. Once your plan is approved, you can start shopping for project materials wherever you can find the best deals for your budget.

If you have an irrigation system where the new outdoor living space will be, you will have to remove it. A free SAWS irrigation consultation will also be scheduled to see if you qualify for our irrigation design rebate, too.

In fact, you can combine all four programs — Outdoor Living Rebate, Irrigation Design Rebate, WaterSaver Landscape Coupon and Rewards Coupons — to stretch your budget and make significant landscape transformations to save water and money!

Get all the details and apply online at GardenStyleSA.com/OutdoorLiving.



We're Still Under Stage 2 Watering Rules

Extreme heat and dry conditions are expected to dominate the summer — and so are Stage 2 watering rules.

Under Stage 2, landscape watering with a sprinkler, irrigation system or soaker hose is allowed only from **7-11 a.m.** and **7-11 p.m., one day a week**, based on the last number of your street address. You can still hand-water with a hose-end nozzle any time you want.

Keep this in mind: If you've been watering once a week (and twice a day) with an

irrigation system or sprinkler, your landscape may look great — but your wallet may suffer severely.

Huge water bills happen, but they're unnecessary. That's because they can be prevented by simply not running your irrigation system or sprinklers every week. Your landscape simply doesn't need it.

Remember to visit GardenStyleSA.com for weekly watering advice and landscaping tips to reduce outdoor water use while still keeping your yard thriving.

Join the MySAWS Conversation:





Calling all Texas educators: August is **Teacher Appreciation Month** at the San Antonio Zoo! Enjoy free standard admission to the zoo and half-off admission for up to four guests through Aug. 31. Details at sazoo.org.

Event Calendar

Storytime in the Garden

Aug. 4

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Cinema on Will's Plaza: Ratatouille

Aug. 12

Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org

Celebrate Shade!

Aug. 20

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Guided Bird Tour

Aug. 28

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road
mitchelllake.audubon.org

Ford Parade of Lights

Sept. 2-4

River Walk (starting at the International Center)
203 S. St. Mary's St.
thesanantonioriverwalk.com



Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency
210-704-SAWS (7297)
saws.org/waternews

Don't Worry About Your Plants — They Will Survive

Texas native plants are way tougher than they look. They can withstand brutally hot and dry conditions with very little help.

That means even though you can water once a week, you don't have to — even if your landscape is brown.

St. Augustine, Bermuda and zoysia grass have been rigorously tested and found to survive without water for three to five weeks. Buffalo and other bunch grasses can go up to 75 days without water. And woody native plants usually scoff at drought.



So once-a-week watering is more than enough, but in most cases totally unnecessary. Brown doesn't equal dead.

Watering just twice a month will ensure plant survival and maybe even modest growth.

Trees and shrubs benefit from a monthly soaker hose application (one quarter turn on the hose bib) around the drip line. But only on your designated watering day.

Try alternating sprinklers and soaker hoses on your watering day. Soaker hoses are inexpensive and easy to place to deliver water right where it's needed.



H2Oaks Center Wows Washington Water Boss

Here in Texas, San Antonio Water System's H2Oaks Center is a pretty big deal. Now the bigwigs at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency know it too. SAWS President/CEO Robert R. Puente welcomed Radhika Fox, EPA's assistant administrator for water, to the state-of-the-art facility that is home to three different water sources — desalinated groundwater, aquifer storage and recovery, and local Carrizo Aquifer. Fox toured the H2Oaks desal plant and lab during her visit for the American Water Works Association Annual Conference & Exposition in June.

CPS Energy Color Coding Aims To Lower Energy Use

CPS Energy is launching a new conservation notification program to help customers conserve energy, manage their bills, and support state grid reliability.

The notification scheme consists of four color-coded conservation levels to help residents lower energy use this summer.

Green days call for everyday conservation actions while yellow days recommend additional actions during peak demand. Orange and red alerts will only be issued if the statewide power grid manager declares grid reliability is at risk.

Learn more and find energy-saving tips at cpsenergy.com.

	GREEN DAY Everyday Conservation
	YELLOW DAY Peak Energy Demand
	ORANGE ALERT Energy Grid Reliability Risk
	RED ALERT Controlled Outages in Progress