



Your source for all things water

Summer's here, y'all — time to 'Wrangle your water use'

Whether you're native to the Lone Star State or a transplant, you already know Texas is like a whole other country. But San Antonio's climate is extra special, and your landscape often needs some TLC — or Texas-loving-care.

While spring rains have greened things up, the drought isn't over and our hot, dry summer months are yet to come. So SAWS wants to help you tap into your inner Texan and "Wrangle your water use."

It's easier than you think. To get started:

- Make sure you're following Stage 2 watering rules — yes, they're still in effect. That means landscape watering with a sprinkler, irrigation system or soaker hose only from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m., one day a week, based on the last number of your street address.

- Rely on your trusty watering hose — it's your best friend when plants need a touch up and you can water with a hose-end nozzle any ol' time.


- Use our WaterSaver coupons and rebates to make your landscape Texas tough!



Native and low-water use plants make your life easier because they thrive in San Antonio's dry climate. SAWS residential customers can apply for up to \$400 in WaterSaver coupons to replace part of your water-demanding grass with lush, drought-tolerant garden beds.

You can also replace that pain-to-maintain grass with a new deck or patio! Use our Outdoor Living Rebate to help cover the cost of a wooden deck or hardscape made of pavers or stones.

Ready to garden like a Texan? Visit saws.org/wrangle for more tips to wrangle your water use. And visit GardenStyleSA.com/coupons for WaterSaver program details and to apply online.



Your 2023 Water Quality Report

SAWS is committed to preserving and protecting the drinking water quality of our community — from source water to the consumer's tap. Public water systems like SAWS are required by law to report every year on the type and quantity of substances in their water.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality conducts water quality tests and provides the results for the report.

To learn more about San Antonio's outstanding public water supply, view your 2023 Water Quality Report online at saws.org/waterqualityreport.

Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar 210-233-3546.

Shady garden suffering silently? Bexar County Master Gardeners will reveal the various shades of shade and plants that scoff at the shadows at San Antonio Botanical Garden, Wednesday, Aug. 9. Register at sabot.org.

Event Calendar

Second Saturday Habitat Day

July 8
Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road
mitchelllake.audubon.org

Texas Bird Walk Guided Tour

July 15
San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Wellness at the Tobin: Salsa Dance

July 29
Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org/wellness

Family Movie Night: Encanto

July 29
New Life Christian Center
6610 Hwy. 90 West
christiancenter.com

Family Night Hike

Aug. 4
San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

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

SAWS powers up for electric vehicle study

A baker's dozen of fully electric vehicles will be rolling among SAWS' fleet thanks to a partnership with CPS Energy on a fleet electrification study.

Six Chevy Bolts will be used by conservation staff to conduct free irrigation consultations throughout the community and two Ford E-Transit vans will transport field investigation teams this summer when main breaks are at their peak. An additional five Ford Lightnings are expected to roll out in 2024.

SAWS has already installed several



Level 2 charging stations for fleet use at its headquarters, as well as two charging stations for free public use, courtesy of a 2022 grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental

Quality. The stations are among SAWS' contributions to the SA Climate Ready, Action and Adaptation Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The study will also help SAWS identify where best to replace light-duty vehicles with electric ones and their supporting infrastructure.

SAWS owns and maintains more than 1,300 vehicles, including construction and other specialized equipment.

SAWS building named in memory of beloved leader



The SAWS family gathered at the East Side Operations Center, May 19, to celebrate the legacy of dedication and leadership of Gordon Mahan by unveiling a plaque in his honor — and naming the facility's administration building after him. Throughout his 38-year career with SAWS, Mahan served as a maintenance foreman, superintendent, manager and director, all the while putting his teammates first. "He was a true leader and always there for employees in all situations, whether it be weather, emergencies or crazy hours," recalled Steve Clouse, retired SAWS chief operating officer. Mahan retired in 2021 as senior director of Distribution and Collection Operations and passed away a short time later.

Always dispose of pesticides properly

Pesticides and herbicides can be a convenient way to protect plants from pests and weeds. But when used or discarded incorrectly, these chemicals pose great risks not only to our ecosystem and wildlife, but also to our water, soil, air and human health.

The best way to avoid the perils of pesticides and herbicides is to stop using them altogether. But if you must use them:

- Always carefully read the product label and follow the disposal instructions exactly.

- Only purchase what you need and use it until it's gone to avoid leftovers.
- Never discard these items in your trash bin for regular collection.
- Don't ever pour them down sink drains, toilets or storm drains.

Pesticides and herbicides must be disposed of properly at a household hazardous waste site. For a schedule of monthly drop-off events, visit sa.gov/swmd.