Don't let your lawn mislead you

Scorching temperatures are nothing new this time of year. But thanks to some much-needed rain this spring, things were a little greener than usual heading into the dog days of summer.

Now that record heat has settled in and is expected to dominate this summer, your Bermuda or zoysia grass is likely losing its lush green hue — and that's OK!

There's no need to panic-water.

These grasses respond to hot, dry weather by "leaf firing," or cutting off activity to leaves and causing them to lose their color. This is Mother Nature using fewer resources. The roots of these grasses remain healthy, and they will green up as soon as it rains again.

In the meantime, remember to "Wrangle your water use." Stage 2 watering rules are 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. Feel free to hand-water any ol' time you want though.

Visit **saws.org/wrangle** for more tips to wrangle your water use. And visit **GardenStyleSA.com** for weekly watering advice and landscaping tips to reduce outdoor water use while still keeping your yard thriving.



Give up some grass now, Plant by Numbers later

The summer heat is on and that makes it the perfect time to get rid of some water-guzzling grass.

Here's how:

- Measure the area to eliminate (aim for at least 200 square feet).
- Mow grass down to the dirt.
- Rake up top layers of stems and roots.
- Cover the area with cardboard or newspaper and secure with stakes or rocks.

 Layer mulch over the top and let the summer sun do its thing.

Come fall — when temperatures are much better suited for gardening — use SAWS WaterSaver coupons to purchase drought-hardy plants. Our Plant by Numbers designs make it easy-peasy to plant like a pro. There are now 16 plans to choose from for sunny and shady areas!

Learn more at GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumbers.















Consider your Wednesday nights booked. Enjoy savory fare and live music during Summer Nights in the Garden, 5-9 p.m. through Aug. 30. Extended hours included with San Antonio Botanical Garden membership and regular daily admission.

Event Calendar

Cinema on Will's Plaza: Puss in Boots-The Last Wish

Aug. 11
Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org

Meditation in the Garden

Aug. 12

San Antonio Botanical Garden 555 Funston Place

sabot.org

Beginner Bird Walk

Aug. 26

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center 10750 Pleasanton Road

mitchelllake.audubon.org

Little Sprouts Hike

Aug. 29

San Antonio Botanical Garden 555 Funston Place

sabot.org

Labor Day River Walk Artisan Show

Sept. 1-4

602 E. Commerce St. (near Chamber of Commerce)

thesanantonioriverwalk.com

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

Be safe, beat the heat

Dehydration is a big concern on super-hot days. It can lead to heat exhaustion, and in more serious cases, heat stroke.

Stay indoors if possible. But if you must be outside for work or other reasons, especially in the hottest part of the day, follow these tips to stay safe.

- Stay hydrated with water and electrolyte drinks. Drink before you feel thirsty.
- Wear sunscreen, lightweight clothing and a hat.



- Plan strenuous activity early in the morning or late evening when it's cooler.
- Avoid alcohol and sugary or caffeinated drinks.
- Eat plenty of fruits (berries, apples) and veggies (dark leafy greens, peppers, tomatoes).

Persons over the age of 65, those on heart or blood medication, and overweight people are most susceptible to heat stroke. Be sure to check on family and friends who may be vulnerable to the extreme heat.

Remember to reapply for SAWS bill payment assistance

Reapply at saws.org/myaccount. For in-person help with your application, visit one of these locations:

117	' ' '	11 '	
SAWS Las Palmas Customer Center	803 Castroville Road	Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	9 a.m1 p.m.
City Council District 2 Field Office	Claude Black Center 2805 E. Commerce St.	Aug. 2, 16	1-4 p.m.
SAWS Headquarters Tower 2	2800 U.S. Hwy 281 N.	Aug. 5	9 a.m1 p.m.
City Council District 6 Field Office	5800 Enrique Barrera Pkwy	Aug. 10, 24	10 a.mnoon
City Council District 4 Field Office	Pearsall Park 5102 Old Pearsall Road	Aug. 16	10 a.mnoon
City Council District 9 Field Office	Walker Ranch Senior Center 835 W. Rhapsody Drive	Aug. 28	10 a.mnoon
City Council District 3 Field Office	3315 Sidney Brooks Drive	Aug. 30	10 a.mnoon

Remember to bring proof of income.

- Income tax return (2022).
- W-2 forms.
- Paycheck stub (last 30 days).
- 1099 form.
- Social Security award letter.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) award letter.
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) award letter.
- Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance (RSDI) award letter.
- Veterans benefits letter.
- Unemployment benefits letter.



Conserve energy, save money on your electric bill

The summer of 2022 was one of hottest on record in our community — and this summer is looking to compete.

CPS Energy customers can save money on their energy bills and support state grid reliability this summer by using the utility's easy four-color-coded conservation notification program.

Green days call for everyday conservation actions while



yellow days recommend additional actions during hours of peak energy demand. Orange and red alerts will only be issued if the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the statewide power grid manager, declares grid reliability is at risk.

To see the current energy conservation level, learn more about the program, and find tips to save energy and money, visit cpsenergy.com/conservation.