

It's the 'bee's knees' of gardening: SAWS Spring Bloom is March 8

Get ready to “bee” the boss of your landscape when SAWS Spring Bloom bursts on the scene Saturday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to noon!

This year's event is all about “bee-ing” mindful of your water use — and learning how the plants you choose for your landscape can save water and help pollinators thrive. SAWS is ready to help you sweeten up your landscape for bees, butterflies and hummingbirds with the right plant selections.

Landscape plans based on San Antonio Botanical Garden's WaterSaver Community will be available to help guide your landscape transformation. Even better: You can use them with our WaterSaver Coupons to get a

discount on removing grass and installing new garden beds!



Saturday, March 8
9 a.m. – noon • SAWS Main Office
Hwy 281 at Mulberry Ave.

Hear the buzz about pollinator-friendly plants and how to “Garden Like a Texan” from local experts. Dig deeper into drought-resilient landscaping with interactive activities and practical tips, and get to know the new ConnectH2O electronic water meters and SAWS mobile app.

And as always, the first 1,000 adult guests will receive a free Texas-tough plant! Of course, you can also browse plants for sale — natives, herbs and drought-resilient ornamentals — offered by our water-wise partner organizations.

Join us in welcoming the unofficial start to spring! Get all the buzz and details at GardenStyleSA.com/SpringBloom.

Winter = lower water bills

The price of food and other necessities seem higher than ever these days. But one essential you should be paying less for this season is your water bill.

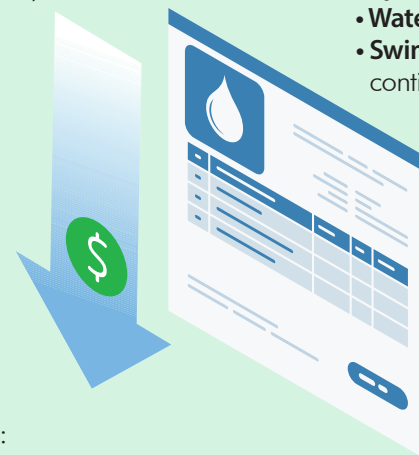
That's because when temperatures drop, so should your outdoor water use — and that makes winter water bills the lowest of the year.

If your January and February bills are not significantly lower than usual, consider these culprits:

- Leaking toilets
- Sprinkler systems (that are not turned off)
- Water softener tanks recharging daily
- Swimming pool auto-fill devices continuously refilling

Listen for hissing or dripping as you move about your house. Never ignore those sounds as they can alert you to a leak.

Visit saws.org/leak for help solving a high-water-use mystery.



Event Calendar

Guided Bird Tour

March 9

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

Hike to the Dino Tracks

March 11

Government Canyon State Natural Area
12861 Galm Road
tpwd.texas.gov/calendar

Garden Run Club

March 15 - May 31

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Mindful Flow Yoga

March 22

Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org/wellness

Nature's Gifts

March 29

Government Canyon State Natural Area
12861 Galm Road
tpwd.texas.gov/calendar

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

210-704-SAWS (7297)
saws.org/waternews

Help your landscape fend off a freeze

Just because it's February doesn't mean we're out of the woods yet when it comes to freezing temperatures.

Healthy, native and well-adapted plants in the ground with well-developed root systems stand a great chance of recovering after a frost.

Soft, woody plants, active bloomers, tropicals and potted plants tend to be the most vulnerable. Here are tips to help protect them:

- Relocate potted plants to a protected/sheltered space.
- Drape in-ground plants and shrubs with any fabric covering — bed sheets,



blankets, burlap or newspaper — to allow moisture to escape and keep cold air out.

- Cover smaller, low-to-the-ground plants with newspaper or small “volcanoes” of mulch or leaves.

Avoid using plastic as a covering. It doesn't insulate or breathe well and can trap moisture, compounding the freezing problem.

Whatever covering you use, remember to remove it

promptly after the freeze has passed.

Remember to visit **GardenStyleSA.com** for weekly watering advice and landscaping tips to keep your yard thriving.

Resilience and resolve keep MLK's spirit alive



Bitter cold temperatures and biting winds didn't keep SAWS employees and their families from joining thousands of their fellow San Antonians to march for the dream at the 2025 Martin Luther King Day March, Monday Jan. 20. Last year's march was canceled due to icy roads. But this year, the warmth of togetherness illuminated the spirit of justice and hope that Dr. King envisioned. San Antonio's annual MLK Day proceedings are among the largest in the U.S.

Smoke alarms save lives

Did you know working smoke alarms can reduce your risk of death from a home fire by half? That's why the American Red Cross is joining forces with fire departments, community partners, and dedicated volunteers to Sound the Alarm!

Join the Red Cross Saturday, March 1, to help install free smoke alarms throughout San Antonio. Be part of this

impactful day — connect with fellow volunteers and make a difference for families in need.

To request a smoke alarm installation or sign up as a volunteer, visit **SoundTheAlarm.org**. Just look for “Help your family prepare for home fire” and enter your ZIP code for details.

No internet? Call 210-582-1962 to leave a message with your name, phone number and address.

