

May 2025

# waternews



Your source for all things water

## Hit the 'pause' button on your landscape (and get paid to do it!)

The multi-year drought has been hard on home landscapes. You're probably eyeing unsightly grassy areas wishing for a solution.

Well, SAWS has one for you – and it doesn't involve standing out there with a hose all summer!

Pause.  
Prep.  
Plant.

Pause spring and summer planting. Prep beds this summer. Then wait to plant in fall — AND get paid a \$25 rebate for waiting!

This limited time program will help you save water this summer and enjoy planting in the fall when the weather is better.

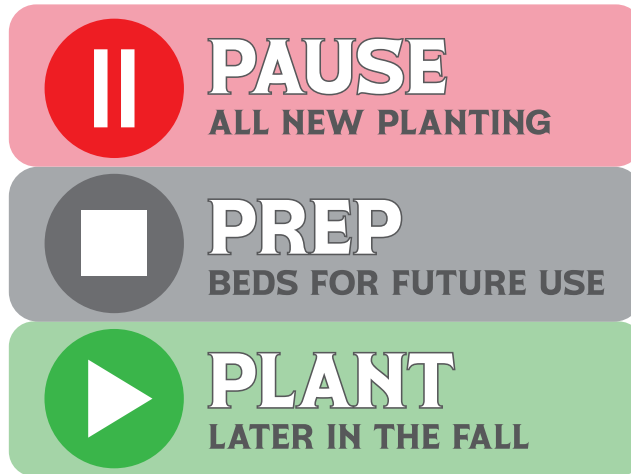
Participation is simple:

1. Select a 200 square foot section of struggling lawn to convert to a planting bed.
2. Apply for our WaterSaver Landscape Coupon by June 20.

3. Cut grass super close to the ground.
4. Put down a layer of newspaper and cardboard.
5. Apply 2 inches of mulch over the cardboard.
6. Submit photos of your prepped bed by July 1.

If you complete the beds and upload photos by July 1, SAWS will credit \$25 per coupon to your SAWS account in August. Then in September we'll send your \$125 coupons to buy plants for the new bed!

The new plants will have all fall, winter and spring to establish their roots before the heat of next summer.



Not sure what to plant? We have 20 free landscape plans for those trouble spots you want to beautify at [GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumbers](https://GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumbers).

Get all the details and apply online now at [GardenStyleSA.com/pause](https://GardenStyleSA.com/pause).

## Homeowner and neighborhood associations: SAWS wants to work with you!

From individual yards to whole neighborhood landscapes, the drought is affecting everyone.

That's why SAWS wants to work with homeowner and neighborhood associations to promote balanced, beautiful landscaping options that will help get us through the challenging summer season.

SAWS is hosting five meetings for neighborhood associations to talk about drought and home landscapes —

and how we can help you promote your landscape expectations, and the programs SAWS offers to homeowners.



In exchange, associations can earn \$250 by helping homeowners learn how to save water and beautify their landscapes at the same time!

Let's all work together to weather the ongoing drought!

For program details, meeting dates and to sign up, visit [GardenStyleSA.com/HOA](https://GardenStyleSA.com/HOA).

Join the MySAWS Conversation:





So, you want to sow seeds? Learn how during the free **Native Plants: The Seedy Reality** event at Mission Branch Library, Monday, June 16. Get all the details at [GardenStyleSA.com/events](http://GardenStyleSA.com/events).

## Event Calendar

### Little Sprouts Hike

**June 10**

San Antonio Botanical Garden  
555 Funston Place  
[sabot.org/events](http://sabot.org/events)

### Guided Bird Tour

**June 15**

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center  
10750 Pleasanton Road  
[mitchelllake.audubon.org](http://mitchelllake.audubon.org)

### Night Crawlers

**June 28**

Government Canyon State  
Natural Area  
12861 Galm Road  
[tpwd.texas.gov/calendar](http://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar)

### San Antonio's Official Fourth of July Celebration

**July 4**

Woodlawn Lake Park  
1103 Cincinnati Avenue  
[saparks.org/events](http://saparks.org/events)

### Film Screening: West Side Story

**July 5**

McNay Art Museum  
6000 N. New Braunfels Ave.  
[mcnayart.org/events](http://mcnayart.org/events)

Customer Service and  
24-hour Emergency  
**210-704-SAWS (7297)**  
[saws.org/waternews](http://saws.org/waternews)

## Enjoy the harmony of music, nature and water!

You're invited to join SAWS at San Antonio Botanical Garden for Make Music Day, Saturday, June 21!

Explore 38 acres of lush gardens, enjoy live music across multiple stages, and discover how SAWS programs — ConnectH2O, the SAWS My Account app and WaterSaver programs — can help you create a more sustainable home landscape.

Visit the WaterSaver Garden and WaterSaver Community to see a showcase



of native and adapted plants chosen for their resilience, beauty and ability to thrive with less water. These gardens feature practical designs for every budget, style and environment.

Discover water-smart landscaping and eco-friendly water management techniques that slow, capture, and clean water — keeping both your landscape and local wildlife healthy.

The event is free with garden admission. Learn more at [makemusicday.org/sanantonio](http://makemusicday.org/sanantonio).

## SAWS ranks among 'top energy savers'



CPS Energy's demand response program pays individuals and businesses to voluntarily reduce energy use during peak demand. "2024 was our best year yet by far," said Chris Wilcut, SAWS energy strategy director. "Our average power reduction was roughly 8 megawatts — enough power for 2,000 homes on a hot summer day."

CPS Energy Chief Customer Strategy Officer DeAnna Hardwick presented SAWS with a "very well deserved" rebate of \$748,020 at the April 1 SAWS board meeting. SAWS has been part of the program for over a decade and is its largest participant.

SAWS' energy-conserving efforts also earned the utility the Program Design & Implementation energy award from the Association of Energy Services Professionals. SAWS was honored for its innovative approaches to energy efficiency in the industrial sector.

Pictured (l-r): Mayor Ron Nirenberg, SAWS Chairwoman Jelynn LeBlanc Jamison, CPS Energy's DeAnna Hardwick and Chris Wilcut, SAWS energy strategy director.

## KNOW THE NEW STAGE 3 WATERING HOURS

**5-10 AM & 9 PM-MIDNIGHT**

ON YOUR ONCE-A-WEEK WATERING DAY

[WateringRules.com](http://WateringRules.com)

