

June 2025

waternews



Your source for all things water

Working together for a water-secure San Antonio

Six years into a record-breaking drought and counting, San Antonians know their well-practiced, water-wise routines by heart: following once-a-week watering rules, getting rid of some grass (to prep for drought-hearty planting later) and being mindful of leaks.

To these water-savvy citizens we offer a heartfelt thank you. Our landscapes may look a little crispy, but your diligence ensures ample water for essential uses in our homes and businesses. Meanwhile, behind the scenes, here are some ways your city-owned water utility helps care for this precious resource.

Repairing main breaks faster than ever

In recent years SAWS has added more people, more equipment and better science to the task of repairing pipes when dry, shifting soils cause them to leak. Our repair times have never been faster — not an easy task for crews working in blistering heat. Please give a nod of thanks when you see SAWS workers out there.

Managing diverse water supplies

With Edwards Aquifer water availability cut 40% or more due to drought, our 12 other water projects from seven different sources are taking center stage. But there's no magic button to make that happen. It takes expert engineers and water operators working 24/7 to keep 8,000 miles of pipe flowing.

Industry-leading conservation

In addition to our popular landscape coupons and other rebates, SAWS is working directly with businesses and homeowner groups to reduce their landscape watering footprint. Our updated watering rules have yielded fewer repeat violations and faster issue resolutions.

Also, new outreach efforts help make sure everyone knows the current drought stage and how to manage through it. You can sign up to

get personalized water-saving advice at saws.org/subscribe.

ConnectH2O electronic meter program

Our ambitious effort to replace all 600,000 mechanical water meters is on track for completion by the end of 2025. ConnectH2O expands on our conservation success by letting each customer monitor and manage their own water use via the SAWS My Account website or mobile app.

Learn more at saws.org/connect.

Planning for our water future

Thirty years ago, 100 percent of our water came from the Edwards Aquifer. Today, thanks to investment in diverse water supplies, our community has been able to manage our current, extreme drought more effectively.

SAWS also regularly updates the city's Water Management Plan. This roadmap for forecasting our long-term water use and needs is revised about every five years to keep us water-secure for generations to come. Learn more at WaterPlanSA.com.



Your 2025 Water Quality Report

From source water to the consumer's tap, SAWS is committed to preserving and protecting the drinking water quality of our community. 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 2025 Water Quality Report online at saws.org/quality.

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

Join the MySAWS Conversation:



Event Calendar

Leon Valley 4th of July Celebration

July 4

Raymond Rimkus Park
6440 Evers Road
leonvalleytexas.gov

Second Saturday Habitat Work Day

July 12

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

Starlight Movie Series: Bee Movie

July 17

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org/events

Gardening Essentials

July 21

San Antonio Garden Center
3310 N. New Braunfels Ave.
gardeningvolunteers.org

¡Mas Museos! Museum Day for Educators

July 25

McNay Art Museum
6000 N. New Braunfels Ave.
mcnayart.org/events

Jumpstart Your Native Plant Garden

July 28

Mission Library
3134 Roosevelt Ave.
gardeningvolunteers.org

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

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

SAWS launches children's book based on real-life rescue

It was late 2023 when SAWS crews rescued a curious puppy from a sewer pipe. The dramatic event gained international media attention.

Fast forward to today and that pup, named Pipa — Spanish for pipe — is the star of her own children's book that's helping teach a new generation about sewer safety and responsible disposal habits.

"We created Pipa's Big Adventure to help kids understand what happens in our sewers — and why it's so important to keep grease and wipes out of the pipes," said Anne

Hayden, SAWS communications director.

The story concludes with "Pipa's Pledge" — a kid-friendly commitment to keep grease and wipes out of drains. SAWS' education team is already using the book for school visits and presentations.

Books are available for purchase for a limited time at SAWS payment centers for \$20.

Proceeds support Project Agua, SAWS' bill payment assistance program for neighbors in need, and Friends of Animal Care Services, which provides newspapers, blankets, treats and toys to the city's animal shelter.



Remember to pause planting

Intense summer heat is already here — don't stand outside with a hose all summer long.

Press pause on landscape planting projects and wait to plant in fall instead — AND get paid a \$25 rebate for waiting!

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.

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

SAWS Summer fun is sizzling!

There's no better way to kick off the summer season than with #SAWSSummer!

Every year our team brings cool vibes, fun times and freebies throughout the city via #SAWSSummer — so we can engage with our customers and answer any SAWS-related questions.

If you missed our kickoff June 6 at Nelson Wolff Stadium, rest assured there'll be plenty more fun to be had!



The SAWS Summer crew will be out and about handing out branded summer swag and sharing conservation tips to stay water-wise all season long.

Giveaways include reusable water bottles, trucker hats, T-shirts, tote bags and battery-powered fans to help you beat the heat and carry your essentials in style.

Follow @mysaws on Instagram, Facebook, Threads and X for event updates on all our #SAWSSummer happenings about town!

June 6
Kickoff Event
SA Missions
Wolff Stadium

June 21
Family Pride Picnic
Woodlawn Lake
Park

June 25
Garden Nights
SA Botanical
Garden

July 12
Pipa Book Story
Time
Barnes & Noble

July 16
Locals Day
San Antonio
Zoo

August 1
Free Paletas
Yanaguana Garden
at Hemisfair